TOMVS II.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ Florentini, V. C. operum,

in quo continentur, quæ uersa pagella recitantur.

ELENCHVS TRACTATVVM, QVI in hoc Tomo II. continentur.

Nota quæ in alijs æditionibus falsò authori tribuuntur.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ V. C. IN EPISTOLAS FAMILIARIUM RERUM AD Socratem suum,

Præfatio.

QVID uero nunc agimus frater? ecce iam ferè omnia tentauimus, & nusquam requies, quando illam expectamus? Vbi eam quærimus? Tempora (ut aiunt) inter digitos effluxerunt, spes nostræ ueteres, cum amicis sepultæ sunt. M. CCC. XLVIII. annus est, qui nos solos atque inopes fecit. Neque enim ea nobis abstulit, quæ Indo, aut Caspio, Carpathioue mari restaurari queant, irreparabiles sunt ultimæ iacturæ, & quodcunque mors intulit, immedicabile uulnus est. Vnum est solamen, sequemur & ipsi quos præmisimus, quæ quidem expectatio, quam breuis futura sit, nescio, hoc scio, quod longa esse non potest, quantulacunque sané est, non potest esse non molesta. Sed à querelis saltem in principio temperandum est. Tibi frater quænam tui cura sit, quid de teipso cogites ignoro, ego iam sarcinulas compono (ut qui migraturi solent) quid mecũ deferam, quid inter amicos patiar, quid ignibus mandem circumspicio, nihil enim uenale mihi est, sum sané ditior (seu uerius) impeditior quàm putabam, multa mihi scriptorum diuersi generis suppellex domi est sparsa quidẽ & neglecta, perquisiui situ tam squallentes arculas, & scripturas carie semesas puluerulentus explicui, importunus mihi mus noc[illegible] atque edacissimum tineæ uulgus, & Palladias res agentẽ, Inimica Palladis turbauit aranea. Sed n[illegible] quod non frangat durus & iugis labor Confusis itaque circumuentus literarum cumulis & inform[illegible] pyro o[illegible]tus, primum quidem cœpi impetum cuncta flammis exurere, & laborem in[illegible] Deinde (ut cogitationes é cogitationibus erumpũt) & quid (inquam) prohibet uelut r[illegible]um longo itinere uiatorem, in terga respicere, & gradatim adolescentiæ tuæ curas meti[illegible] Vicit hæc sententia. Sicut enim non magnificus, sic non iniamœnus labor uisus est: [illegible] tempore cogitassem, recordari, sed temeré congesta, nullo ordine uersanti, mirum dictu, qu[illegible] color, & quam turbida rerum facies occurrerit, ut quædam non tàm specie illorum, quàm intellectus mei acie mutata uix ipse cognoscerem, alia ueró, sine uoluptate quadam, retroacti temporis memoriam excitarent, & erat pars soluto gressu libera, pars frenis Homericis astricta (quoniã Isocratis habenis raró utim[illegible]) pars autem mulcendis uulgi auribus intenta, suis & ipsa legibus utebatur, quod genus apud Siculos ut fama est non multis ante sæculis renatum, breui per omnẽ Italiam ac longius manauit. Apud G[illegible]rum olim ac Latinorum uetustissimos celebratũ, siquidem & Romanos uulgares [illegible]mico tan[illegible] mine uti solitos accepimus. Hæc itaque uariarum rerum tanta colluuies, aliquot [illegible]ebus occu[illegible] habuit, & licet dulcedine non parua, atque amore ad proprias inuentiones infixo ret[illegible]herer: uicit tamen charitas maiorum operum, quæ iam diutius interrupta, non sine expectati[illegible] multorũ de manibus meis pendrat, uicit recordatio uitæ breuis, timui (fateor) insidias. Q[illegible]d en[illegible] quæso, fugatius uita est? Quid morte sequacius? Subijt animum quæ iecissem fundamenta, quid m[illegible]borum, uigiliarumque restaret, temeritas (imo ueró insania) uisa est, in tàm breui, & incerto tempore, tot lõgos, certo [illegible] labores amplecti, & uix ad singula suffecturũ ingenium, in diuersa distrahere, præsertim cum (ut n[illegible]) labor alius me maneat, tantó præclarior, quanto plus solidæ laudis est in auctoribus, quàm in uerbis. Quid multa? Incredibilem forté rem audies, ueram tamen, mille uel eo amplius, seu omnis generis sparsa poémata, seu familiares epistolas, non quia nihil in eis placuisset, sed quia plus negotij, quàm uoluptatis inerat, Vulcano corrigendas tradidi, non sine suspirio quidem. Quid enim molliciem fateri pu[illegible]d occup[illegible]to animo, quamuis [illegible] remedio succurrendum erat, & tanquã in alto prægrauata na[illegible]nda pretiosarum etiam iact[illegible] rerum. Cæterum illis ardentibus, pauca quidem animaduerti in [illegible]centia, quæ uel casu magis, quàm consilio seruata, uel pridem à familiaribus transcripta, run[illegible] senio restiterant. Pauca dixi, uereor ne lectori multa, scriptori autem longé nimia uideantur [illegible]o indulgentior fui, ut uere passus [illegible]m, non illorum dignitati, sed labori meo consulens, nihil [illegible]gotij præferebant. Ea ueró duorum amicorum librandi ingenia, hac lance partiri uisum est, ut pro[illegible], carmen barbato nostro cederet, sic enim & uos olim optare solitos, & me pollicitum esse memineram. Itaque cuncta passim occursantia, uno impetu uastanti, & ne his quidem ut tunc erat an mus p[illegible]ro Vestrum alter ad læuam, alter ad dexteram adesse uisus, & apprehensa manu, ne fidem meam & [illegible] uestras uno igne consumerem, familiariter admonere. Hæc illis euadendi præcipua causa fuit, alioquin (crede mihi) cum reliquis arsissent. Hæc ergo, quæ nunc tibi de uirili reliquarum illarum parte o[illegible]nt, qualiacunque sunt, non solum æquo uerum etiam auido animo perleges. Non audeo illud [illegible]lei Madauren[illegible]n commune actare, Lector intende lætaberis. Vnde enim mihi id fiduciæ ut [illegible] delectationem, lætic[illegible] pollicear, leges tamen ista Mi Socrates, & ut es amantissimus tuorum, fortassé lætabere, cuiusque animum probas, delectaberis stylo. Quid [illegible] refert quanta sit forma,

ELENCHVS TRACTATVVM, QVI in hoc Tomo II. continentur.

Nota quæ in alijs æditionibus falſò authori tribuuntur.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ V. C. IN EPISTOLAS FAMILIARIVM RERVM AD Socratem suum,

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Tibi frater quæ nam tui cura sit, quid de teipso cogites ignoro, ego iam sarcinulas compono (& quod migraturi solent) quid mecū deferam, quid inter amicos partiar, quid ignibus mandem circumspicio, nihil enim uenale mihi est, sum sanè dition (seu uerius) impeditior quàm putabam, multa mihi scriptorum diuersi generis suppellex domi est sparsa quidē & neglecta, perquisiui situ iam squallentes arculas, & scripturas carie semesas puluerulentus expliciui, importunus mihi mus noc[illegible] atque edacissimum tineæ uulgus, & Palladias res agentē, inimica Palladis turbauit aranea. Sed ni[illegible] quod non frangat durus & iugis labor. Confusis itaque circumuentus literarum cumulis, & informi [illegible] pyro obsitus, primum quidem cœpi impetum cuncta flammis exurere, & laborem in[illegible]. Deinde (ut cogitationes è cogitationibus erumpūt) & quid (inquam) prohibet uelut [illegible] um longo itinere uiatorem, in terga respicere, & gradatim adolescentiæ tuæ curas metientē[illegible]cere? Vicit hæc sententia. Sicut enim non magnificus, sic non iniamœnus labor uisus est: [illegible] tempore cogitassem, recordari, sed temerè congesta, nullo ordine uersanti, mirum dictu, q[illegible] discolor, & quàm turbida rerum facies occurrerit, ut quædam non tàm specie illorum, quàm intellectus mei acie m[illegible]tata uix ipse cognoscerem, alia uerò, sine uoluptate quadam, retroacti temporis memoriam excitarent, & erat pars soluto gressu libera, pars frenis Homereis astricta (quoniā Isocratis habenis rarò utim[illegible]) pars autem mulcendis uulgi auribus intenta, suis & ipsa legibus utebatur, quod genus apud Siculos (ut fama est) non multis ante sæculis renatum, breui per omnē Italiam ac longiùs manauit. Apud G[illegible]um olim ac Latinorum uetustissimos celebratū, siquidem & Romanos uulgare [illegible] rithmico tan[illegible] mine uti solitos accepimus. Hæc itaque uariarum rerum tanta colluuies, aliquor[illegible]ebus occu[illegible] habuit, & licet dulcedine non parua, atque amore ad proprias inuentiones insito re[illegible]herer: uicit tamen charitas maiorum operum, quæ iam diutiùs interrupta, non sine expectat[illegible] multorū de manibus meis pendeat, uicit recordatio uitæ breuis, timui (fateor) insidias. Quid enim [illegible] quæso, fugatius uita est? Quid morte sequacius? Subijt animum quæ iecissem fundamenta, quid m[illegible]borum, uigiliarumque restaret, temeritas (imo uerò insania) uisa est, in tàm breui, & incerto tempore, tot lōgos, certosque labores amplecti, & uix ad singula suffecturū ingenium, in diuersa distrahere, præsertim cum (ut n[illegible]) labor alius me maneat, tantò præclarior, quanto plus solidæ laudis est in auctoribus, quàm in uer[illegible]. Quid multa? Incredibilem forte rem audies, ueram tamen, mille uel eo amplius, seu omnis generis sparsa poemata, seu familiares epistolas, non quia nihil in eis placuisset, sed quia plus negotij, quàm uoluptatis inerat, Vulcano corrigendas tradidi non sine suspirio quidem. Quid enim molliciem fateri pu[illegible]d occup[illegible]to animo, quamuis a[illegible] remedio succurrendum erat, & tanquā in alto prægrauata na[illegible]nda pretiosarum etiam iactu cērum. Cæterum illis ardentibus, pauca quidem animaduerti in [illegible]centia, quæ uel casu magis, quàm consilio secusta, uel [illegible]dem à familiaribus transcripta, run[illegible] senio restiterant. Pauca dixi, urreor ne lectori m[illegible] scriptori autem longè nimia uideantur [illegible]o indulgentior fui, uiuere passus sum, non illorum dignitati, sed labori meo consulens, nihil [illegible] negotij præferebant. Ea uerò duorum amicorum librantí ingenia, hac lance partiri uisum est, ut prosa t[illegible]bi, carmen barbato nostro cederet, sic enim & uos olim optare solitos, & me pollicitum esse meminerâm. Itaque cuncta passim occursantia, uno impetu uastanti, & ne his quidem ut tunc erat an[illegible]mus parsuco Vestrum alter ad læuam, alter ad dexteram adesse uisus, & apprehensa manu, ne fidem meam & spes uestras uno igne consumerem, familiariter admonere. Hæc [illegible] euadendi præcipua causa fuit, alioquin (crede mi[illegible]) cum reliquis arsissent. Hæc ergo quæ nunc tib[illegible] de uirili reliquarum illarum parte [illegible]niunt, qualia[illegible]que sunt, non solum æquo uerum etiam auido animo perleges. Non audeo illud [illegible]le[illegible] Madauren[illegible] in commune iactare, Lector intende lætaberis. Vnde enim mihi id fiduciæ? ut [illegible] del[illegible]ctationem, i[illegible]mile pollicear, leges tamen ista mi Socrates, & ut es amantissimus tuorum, fortassè lætabere, cuiusque animum probas, delectaberis stylo. Quid [illegible] refert quanta sit forma,

non nisi amantis subitura iudicium: Superuacuo cominetur, quæ iam placet, si quid hic sanè meum placet, non id meum fateor, sed tuum, hoc est, non ingenij mei, sed amicitiæ tuæ laus est. Nulla hic equidem magna uis dicendi, quippè quæ nec mihi adest, & quam si planè afforet, stylus iste non recipit, ut quam nec Cicero ipse, in ea facultate præstantissimus, Epistolis suis inseruit, certè nec libris, in quibus est æquabile quoddam (ut ipse ait) & temperatum, orationis genus. Eximiam illam uim, lucidumq;, & rapidum, & exundans flumen eloquentiæ, in orationibus suis exercuit. Quo genere, pro amicis sæpè aduersus Rempub. suosq; hostes usus est Cicero, quo pro alijs sæpè, pro se quater, & quadragies Cato, quod quidem genus inexpertũ mihi est. Nam & à Reipub. muneribus absfui, & fama mea, tenuit murmure forsan interdum, & sibilis lacessita clandestinis, nullum hactenus, quod ulciscerer, uel uitarem, iudiciarium uulnus excepit, & uerbalem ferre opem alienis uulneribus, non est nostræ professionis. Neq; enim, aut tribunal ambire, aut locare linguam didici, aduersante penitus & reluctante natura, quæ me silentij, ac solitudinis amatorem fecit, fori hostem, pecuniæ contemptorem. Sed benè habet, quando me eius rei non egentem fecit, cuius forte inopem fecisse egerem. Omissa igitur illa oratoria dicendi ui, qua nec egeo, nec abundo, & quam si exuberet, ubi exerceam non habeo. Hoc mediocre, domesticum & familiare dicendi genus, Amice leges ut reliqua & boni consules, his quibus in communi sermone utimur, raptum, accommodatumq; sententijs. Sed non omnes tales iudices habeo, neque enim aut idem omnes sentiunt, aut similiter amant omnes. Quomodo autem omnibus placerem, cui placere paucis semper studium fuit. Triplex est profectò, ueri iudicij uenenũ. Amor, Odium, Inuidia: illud autem uide, ne nimium nos amando uulgare cogeris, quæ melius latuissent. Vt enim tibi amor, sic alijs fortè aliud officiet. Inter amoris autem & inuidiæ cæcitatẽ, causa quidem plurimum, effectu nihil interest. Odium quod medio loco numerauéram, nec mereor certè, nec metuo, sed fieri potest, ut nugas meas tibi habere, tibi legere, nilq; in eis aliud, quàm nostros, ac nostrorum casus meminisse cogites, in quo rem mihi pergratam feceris. Sic enim & petitio tua non neglecta uidebitur, & fama mea tua erit, alioquin nihil superuacuo nosmetipsos fauore decipimus quónam modo amicum, licet nisi sit idem, alter ego, lecturum hæc sine fastidio arbitremur: Diuersa inuicem & aduersa, in quibus non idem stylus, non una scribentis intentio, quippè cum pro uarietate rerum uariè affectus animus illa dictauerit, rarò quidem lætus, mœstus sæpè. Epicurus Philosophus uulgò infamis, sed maiorum iudicio magnus, epistolas suas duobus, aut tribus inscripsit, Idomeneo, Polyæno, & Metrodoro. Totidem penè suas Cicero, Bruto, Attico & Ciceronibus suis Fratri scilicet ac filio. Seneca perpaucas, præterquàm Lucilio suo scribit. Promptum opus, & fœlicissimi successus, nosse colloquutoris sui animum, unius assueuisse ingenio. Scire quid illum audire iuuet, quid te loqui deceat. Mihi autem sors longè alia, nempè cui usq; ad hoc tempus uita penè omnis in peregrinatione consumpta est, Vlysseos errores erroribus meis confert. Profectò si nominis & rerum claritas una foret, nec diutius errauit ille, nec latius. Ille patrios fines iam senior excessit, cum nihil nulla ætate longum sit, omnia sunt in senectute breuissima. Ego in exilio genitus, in exilio natus sum, tanto matris labore, tantoq; discrimine, ut non obstetricum modò, sed medicorum iudicio diu exanimis haberetur, ita periclitari cœpi antequam nascerer, & ad ipsum uitæ limen suspicio mortis accessi. Meminit haud ignobilis Italiæ ciuitas Aretiũ, quò pulsus patria. Pater magna cum bonorum acie confugerat, inde mense septimo sublatus sum, totaq; Custia circumlatus, præualidi cuiusdam adolescentis dextera, qui (quando iuuat laborum, discriminumq; meorum tecum primitias recordari) linteo obuolutum, nec aliter, quàm Methabus Camillam, nodoso de stipite pendentem, ne contactu tenerum corpus offenderet gestabat. Is in trãsitu Arni fluminis lapsu equi effusus, dum onus sibi creditum seruare nititur, uiolento gurgite propriè ipse perijt. Finis Tusci erroris Pisæ. Vnde rursus ætatis anno septimo diuulsus, ac maritimo itinere transuectus in Gallias, hybernis Aquilonibus, haud procul Massilia naufragium passus, parum absfui, quin ab ipso rursus nouæ uitæ uestibulo reuocarer, sed quo rapior, oblitus propositi. Inde nimirum usq; ad hanc ætatem, aut nulla prorsus, aut rarissima subsistendi, respirandiq; facultas fuit, & quot interr errandum periculorumue species pertulerim, præter me unum nemo te melius nouit, quæ idcirco memorare nunc libuit, ut meminisses me inter pericula natum, inter pericula senuisse (si modò iam senui) & non grauiora mihi in senio reseruantur. Hæc autem, & si communia sint omnibus intrantibus in hanc uitam (neq; enim militia solum, sed pugna est uita hominis super terram) sunt tamen alia alij, & longè diuersum pugnæ genus, & quamuis quemque sua prægrauent, tamen reuera, inter eas quibus præmimur sarcinas, multum refert. In his ergo uitæ tempestatibus (ut ad rem redeam) nullo portu ancoram longum in tempus iaciens, quot ueros amicos nescio (quorum & iudicium anceps, & penuria ingens est) notos autem innumerabiles quæsiui. Multis itaq;, multumq; animo, & conditione distantibus, scribere contigit tam uariè, ut ea nunc relegens, interdum pugnantia locutus ipse mihi uidear: quod propemodum coactum me fecisse fatebitur, quisquis in se simile aliquid expertus est. Prima quidem scribentis cura est, cui scribat attendere, una enim, & quid, & qualiter, cæterasq; circumstantias intelliget. Aliter uirum fortem, aliter ignauum decet alloqui, aliter iuuenem inexpertum, aliter uitæ muneribus functum senem, aliter prosperitate tumidum, aliter aduersitate contractum, aliter denique studiosum, literisq; & ingenio clarum, aliter uerò non intellecturum si quid altius loquaris. Infinitæ sunt uarietates hominum, nec maior mentium similitudo, quàm frontium, & sicut non diuersorum modò, sed unius stomachum, non idem cibus omni tempore delectat, sic idem animus non uno semper nutriendo stylo est, ut geminus fiet labor. Cogitare quis nam ille sit, cui scribere propositum est, qualiterue tunc affectus, cum ea quæ scribere instituis, lecturus est, quibus ego difficultatibus multum à meipso differre compulsus sum. Quod ne mihi ab iniquis iudicibus uitio uerteretur, partim beneficio ignis obtinui, partim tu mihi præstiteris, si clanculum, suppressoq;

[illegible] ista posfederis: quæ si inter paucos superstites amicos occultare non potes [illegible] bet amicorum usui imperuum est) admone, ut siquid horum apud eos [illegible] um abnuerit, ne qua in eis rerum [illegible] mutatione iubeantur: ita enim accidit, ut quæ [illegible] congeriem redigi, nunquam au[illegible], ut peteres, aut mi[illegible] assentier, uenturum in [illegible] labor in [illegible] fugiens, passim in una [illegible] epistola, in altera repeterem, meisq; ut ait Terentius [illegible] uterer. Nouissimè cum multis annis edita, & ad diuersas mundi plagas [illegible] sparsa, unum in [illegible] locum iam conuenissent, facilè desormitas uniti corporis apparuit, quæ per membra tegebatur, & uerbum quod semel in una Epistola positum delectabat, in toto opere [illegible] repe[illegible] fastidio esse cœpit. Vni itaq; reliquendum, de reliquis eradendū fuit. Multa quoq; de familiaribus curis, tunc [illegible] cum scriberentur cognitu non indigna, nunc quamuis cupido lectori, grauia detraxi, memor in [illegible] Seneca Ciceronem, quanquam in his Epistolis, magna ex parte Ciceronis, potius quam [illegible] morem sequar. Seneca enim quicquid moralitatis in omnibus ferè libris suis erat, in epistolis [illegible], Cicero autem philosophica in libris agit, familiaria & res nouas, ac uarios illius sæculi rumores [illegible] epistolis includit. De quibus quid Seneca sentiat ipse uiderit: mihi (fateor) peramœna lectio [illegible] enim ab intentione illa rerū difficilium, quæ perpetua quidem, frangit animum, intermissa [illegible] Sidonij temeritatem admirer, uix sufficio, nisi forte temerarius ipse sim, qui temerarium [illegible], dum fatis eius, seu rarditate [illegible], seu illius styli obice, seu fortassis (nam unumquodque [illegible] scripturæ uitio non satis [illegible], unum utiq;, non me fugit irrisum, & à Sidonio Cicero [illegible] ritas, ne sidicam audacia, quos temeritatis nomen offendit, exasperem. Inuentum esse hominem [illegible], qui non dico aliquid, ut & Senecam, & iam hinc incipsum excusem, uix est enim hu[illegible] omni reprehensione caruisse, sed eloquentiam, aut stylum, aut omninò dicendi genus Ciceronis irrideat, atq; hoc Sidonius ausus est. Aluernus orator, non ita iosè fingere, fratrem ut ait ille (quod [illegible] sum satis erat audaciæ) sed æmulum, & (quod est grauius) irrisorem, atq; illi detrahere, cui omnes debent [illegible] paucos illius coætaneos, ac conduuas, quos [illegible] assentiū comes haud dubiè torsit, & in uo[illegible] compul[illegible] inuidia, quam nec Sidonio causam locus, nec tempus indulserat, quò magis magis[illegible] an[illegible] miror. Vt contra indubitatum eloquentiæ [illegible] em, eloquentiæ studiosus insurgeret, alio sæculo atq; alio natus orbe: & sanè cuncta uersanti, nihil occurrit, quod uel docti hominis ignorantiam [illegible] ufare possim, uel iniuriam excusare, nihil q; quod suspicer, peruersitatem fuisse indicij, non naturæ, [illegible] men in hoc possum (ot in multis) nec o certè non fallor, uel si fallor, cum multis, lon[illegible] [illegible] iuuat, quod solutæ facundiæ principatus, contradictorib. latè uictis, uniu[illegible] est propius, quo luce clarior fit, uel morum, uel intellectus obliquitas contrarium asseren[illegible] addu[illegible] nescio quem Iulium Titianum, & nescio quos Frontonianos, suæ irrisionis auct[illegible] s ego, [illegible] omnibus idem sentientibus, una uoce respondeo hoc solum, sicut equidem [illegible] ud Senecæ, quoniam quicquid habet Romana facundia, quod insolenti Græciæ aut oppon[illegible] aut præferat, circa Ciceronem efflorult. Verumq; illud Quintiliani, ubi inter multa, & gloriosa præconia uiri huius, dono quodam prouidentiæ gentium dicit, in quo totas uirtutes suas eloquentia experiretur. Et post multa, quibus hoc probat. Quare tanquam non immeritò ab omnibus ætatis suæ regnare in iudicijs dictus est, apud posteros uerò id consecutus, ut Cicero iam non hominis nomen, sed eloquentiæ habeatur, hunc igitur spectemus, hoc propositum nobis exemplum sit. Ille se profecisse sciat, cui Cicero ualdè placebit. Sicut hæc (inquam) uera sunt, sic illud quoq; uerissimum, quibus [illegible] ceat Ciceronis [illegible] atio, uel non nosse ueram, perfectamq; facundiam uel odisse. Hanc ergo calum[illegible] indiscussam [illegible] re non potui, quanquam ualdè festinem, ad rem redeo. Multa igitur hic [illegible] ad amicos, inter quos & ad teipsum scripta comperies, nunc de publicis, priuatisq; negotijs, [illegible] doloribus nostris, quæ nimis crebra materia est, aut alijs de rebus quas casus obuias facit, nihil [illegible] aliud egi, nisi ut animi mei status, uel si quid aliud nossem, notum fieret amicis. Probatur enim [illegible] od prima ad Fratrem epistola Cicero idem ait, esse Epistolæ proprium, ut is ad quem scribitur, de his rebus, quas ignorat certior fiat, atq; ea mihi tituli fuit occasio, de quo aliquādo cogitanti, quamuis epistolarum nomen consentaneum rebus esset, quia tamen & multi ueterum eo usi erant, & ipse ego uarium carmē ad amicos, de quo paulò supra mentio incidit, eodem prænotabam: his eo uti piguit, nouūq; ideo placuit nomen, ut familiarium rerum liber diceretur. In quo pauca scilicet admodum exquisitè, multa familiariter deq; rebus familiaribus scripta erant. Est interdum exigente materia, & simplex, & inelaborata [illegible] tio, quibusdam interiectis mo[illegible] bus, quod & ab ipso Cicerone seruatum est. Et hæc tam multa [illegible] de tam patua re loqui censo[illegible] præmordacium iubet metus, qui nihil scribentes, quod indi[illegible] [illegible] at, de aliorum iudicant ingenijs, impudentissima temeritas, quæ solo silentio tuta est. Complo[illegible] ore manibus sedenti, facile est ferre, quam uelut de gubernatoris arte sententiam, aduersus hanc [illegible] tee uiam latebris, saltem tuis horridula, hæcatq; improuidè nobis elapsa defendito: illam uerò nō [illegible] æ Mineruam (ut ait Cicero:) sed qualemcunq; animi mei effigiem, atq; ingenij simulachrū, multo mihi studio dedolatum, si unquam supremam illi manum imposuero, cum ad te uenerit, securè qualibet in arce constituito. Hæc hactenus. Illud libentius si liceret silentio tegerem, sed ingens morbus, nō facilè occultatur, erumpit enim & indicio suo proditur: pudet [illegible] mollitiem dilapsæ. Ecce enim quod epistolarū ordo ipse testabitur, primo mihi tēpore sermo [illegible] ac fobrius, bene ualentis animi [illegible] deo ut non solum me, sed sæpe alios consolaret, [illegible] uētia [illegible] fragiliora atq; humiliora sunt, [illegible] fat uiribus selecta querimonia. Illa præcipuè, ut occultare studeas precor. Quid enim [illegible] dice[illegible] ipse relegens erubescam? Ergo ego in adolescentia uir? ut in senectute puer essem? Infœlix [illegible] exeeranda peruersitas fuit, animum, uel mutare ordinem, uel subtrahere tibi potuis ista, quæ

 damno

damno neutro circumuenire posse uisus eras, qui & flebilium exempla, & omnium cũ Consule dicta tenes: ad excusationum igitur arma confugio, lassauit me longo & graui prælio, dum spiritus, dumq; animus fuit, ipse restiti & ad resistendum alios cohortatus sum, ubi hostis uiribus atq; impetu, labare mihi pes, atq; animus cœpit: excidit confestim sermo ille magnificus, & ad hæc, quæ modò displicent, lamenta descendi, qua in re excuset me forsitan amicorum pietas, quibus saluis, ad nullum fortunæ uulnus ingemui. Iisdem mox unà penè omnibus ruina obrutis, & mũdo insuper moriente, inhumani potius, quàm [illegible] uisum est non moueri. Ante hoc tempus quis me unquam de exilio, de morbo, de iudicio, de com[illegible] de ullis fori turbinibus, quis me de paterna domo, de fortunis perditis, de gloria imminuta, de pecunia dilata, de absentia amicorum flebiliter agentem audiuit? quibus quidem in molestijs, tam molliter agit Cicero, ut quantum stylo delector, tantum sæpè sententia offendar. Adde litigiosas epistolas, & aduersus clarissimos, atq; ab eodem paulò antè laudatissimos uiros iurgia, ac probra mira, cum animi leuitate, quibus legendis delinitus pariter & offensus, temperare mihi non potui, quò minus ira dictante, sibi tanquam coætaneo amico, familiaritate, quæ mihi cum illius ingenio est, quasi temporum oblitus scriberem, & quibus in eo dictis offenderet, admonerem, quæ m[illegible] principium fuit, & ut Senecæ tragœdiam, quæ inscribitur Octauia, post annos relegens, par[illegible] eidem, & quoq; ac deinde uaria occurrente materia, Varroni, Virgilioq; atq; alijs scriberem [illegible] aliquas in extrema parte huius operis inserui. Quæ nisi p[illegible]monitum lectorem, subita possent admiratione perfundere, quædã in illo publico incendio periere. Qualis ille uir tantus in doloribus suis fuit, talis ego in meis fueram, hodie (ut scias) præsentem animi mei habitum, neq; enim inuidiosum fuerit, id mihi tribuere, quod imperitis euenire (ait Seneca) factus sum ex ipsa desperatione securior, quid enim metuat, qui totiens cum morte luctatus sit?

Vna salus uictis nullam sperare salutem.

Animosius indies agere uidebis, animosius loqui, & si quid fortè stylo dignum se obtulerit, erit stylus ipse neruosior, multa sanè se offerent. Scribendi enim mihi, uiuendiq; unus (ut auguror) finis erit. Sed cum cætera suos fines aut habeant, aut sperent, huius operis quod sparsim sub primum adolescentiæ tempus inceptum, iam ætate prouectior re[illegible]ligo, & in libri formam redigo, nullum finem amicorum charitas spondet, quibus assiduè respondere compellor, neq; me unquam hoc tributo, multiplex occupationum excusatio liberat, cum demum & mihi immunitatem huius muneris quæsitam, & huic operi positum finem scito, cum me defunctum, & cunctis uitæ laboribus absolutum noueris, in[illegible] iter inceptum, sequar, non prius uiæ, quàm lucis exitum operiens, & quietis mihi loco fuerit dul[illegible] labor. Cæterum (quod & rhetores, & bellorum duces solent) infirmioribus in medium coniectis, dabo operam, ut sicut prima libri frons, sic extrema acies, uirilibus sententijs firma sit. Vel eò amplius, qu[illegible] uiuendo ma[illegible]is ac magis induxisse uideor, contra impetus atq; iniurias fortunæ. Deniq; quis inter experimẽta rerũ sum futurus, profiteri minimè ausim, sed hoc animo sum, ut nulli amplius rei succũbam,

Si fractus illabatur orbis

Impauidum ferient ruinæ.

Ita me Maronis, Flacciq; sententijs armatum scito, [illegible]im lectas, & sæpe laudatas, nunc tandem in extremis casibus, meas facere, ipsa ineuitabilis fati necessitate didici. Dulce mihi colloquium tecum fuit, cupideq; & quasi de industria protractum uultum enim tuum retulit, per tot terras, & maria te[illegible] mihi præsentem fecit, usq; ad uesperam, cum matutino tempore calamum cœpissem, diei iam & epistolæ finis adest. Hæc igitur tibi frater, diuersis coloribus (ut sic dicam) licijs texta dicauerim. Cæterum si stabilis sedes, & frustrà semper quæsitum ocium contigerit (quod iam hinc ostendere se incipit) nobiliorem, & certe uniformem telam, tuo nomine meditor ordiri. Vellem ex his paucis esse, qui famam promittere possunt & præstare, sed ipse ui propria in lucem uenies, alis ingenij subuectus, nihilq; auxilij mei egens, profectò tamen, si inter tot difficultates assurgere potuero, tu olim Idomeneus, tu Atticus, tu Lucilius meus eris.

Vale.

FRAN.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS FAMILIARIBUS,

LIBER PRIMVS.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ MESSANENSI, S. Epist. I.

Famam ante mortem non esse appetendam.

QVerelam publicam nemo sapiens suam facit, satis quisque priuatarum quærelarū domi habet, satis dixi, nimis [illegible] debueram, nulli ne [illegible] quam accidi [illegible] falleris. Nul[illegible] rium acce[illegible] perstite qui fecerat, cuiusquā scripta, uel [illegible] sta placuerint, audes homin[illegible] mors inchoat. Scis quare? quia cum corpore moritur inuidia [illegible] cum corpore. Multorum, inquis scripta laudantur, quę [illegible] gloriari licet, non pe[illegible] ulterius, sed (qui indig[illegible] mo[illegible] est, [illegible] spensum [illegible] audirous [illegible] mum serm[illegible] præter [illegible] inexpleto. Verum enimuero fugientē co[illegible] equor men[illegible] augurio, scio quid uelis. Multorum [illegible], quæ tuis admota, carere [illegible] laudatore, sed etiam [illegible] debu[illegible] interim nullus attinga[illegible] recog[illegible] uerbis meis indignationem tuam, [illegible] et, nisi [illegible] communi omniū aceruo, in usus proprios tra[illegible], omnium [illegible] uos hic scribendi seu amor, seu morbus tenuit, omniumú [illegible] Re[illegible] primis, qu[illegible] sunt illa quæ laudantur, quære au[illegible] ctores, cert[illegible] & tua laudari? moreere. A morte hominis uiuere incip[illegible] incipium [illegible] gloriæ, quæ si ante cœperit, [illegible] quædam, [illegible] ares [illegible] icam, dum e[illegible] rum qui tecum uixerunt, quisquam superfuerit, [illegible] em [illegible] etis non ha[illegible] bis, cū omnes par[illegible] na concluserit, uenient [illegible] ne [illegible] cent, ferant itaque de nobis q[illegible] sent[illegible] præsens ætas [illegible], se[illegible] amus [illegible] animo [illegible], ad æquiores [illegible], hoc e[illegible] apud p[illegible] s[illegible] mus, [illegible] non licet. Deli[illegible] res est, [illegible] conuersatio m[illegible] & famæ sem[illegible] ca præsentia est, multaque admirationi homi[illegible] um [illegible] Vides'ne tu hos scholasticos genus hominum [illegible] ac [illegible] ede mihi, [illegible] ad [illegible] brandum durius, nihil molli[illegible] ad [illegible] dum, c[illegible] le[illegible] erint nihil [illegible] ar & quid in re sit dedignantur [illegible] irere, [illegible] ipsum nosse [illegible] cantur. Itaque om[illegible] x est. Cuncta enim ex æ[illegible] q[illegible] e u[illegible] mel asp[illegible] xerin[illegible] scripta [illegible] idiunt. [illegible] enijs, [illegible] uali da, per [illegible] ntia q[illegible] et erump[illegible]. Red[illegible] e m[illegible] [illegible] contem[illegible] res Redeat in Græciā Plato, renascatur Homerus, [illegible] ar Aristotel[illegible] er[illegible] Varro, re[illegible] at Li[illegible], resi[illegible] cat Cicer[illegible] m[illegible] segnes lauda[illegible] es in[illegible] daces etiam & liuidos d[illegible] suis tempori[illegible] aius ha[illegible] la[illegible]. Reperit tamen [illegible], qui [illegible] Poe[illegible] tenar[illegible] uelent[illegible] translatorem dicerent: ipse autem & in genij[illegible], [illegible] retus A[illegible] sto a[illegible] adest [illegible] n[illegible] amet [illegible] sed ubi Aug[illegible] n es, [illegible] m [illegible] sui temporis fau[illegible] No[illegible] reges [illegible] epu[illegible] la[illegible] u a[illegible] are possunt, de in[illegible] num n[illegible] possunt [illegible] e timor aperi[illegible] e, aut flectere, [illegible] neruum [illegible] æ ætat[illegible] sufficere u[illegible] ueteres qu[illegible] um la[illegible] tium contu[illegible] n[illegible] is est, quod est durius, tacendum [illegible] Italia, i[illegible] terra [illegible] a Neapoli, [illegible] terarū d[illegible] augu[illegible] q[illegible] si Maroni quon-

 dam

dam dulcis uisa es, quantò nunc dulcior uideris, ubi ingeniorum ac studiorum æquissimus extimator habitat, ad te confugiat quisquis ingenio fidit. Neq; uerò differendum p[illegible] tet, specta mora est, deuexa enim est ætas, & mundus iam pridem eo carere, & ipsa ad mel[illegible] regna transire meritus, uereorq; ne multa ipse mihi seræ pœnitentiæ materiam prolatando quæsierim, omnis quidem pulchræ rei dilatio turpis, & o[illegible] de honesto deliberatio longior inhonesta est: rapienda est occasio, confestimq; faciendum, quod ante tempus fieri nō potest. Quod ad me attinet, currere, & properare propositum est (ut quod de Iul. Cęsare, in epistola quadam ait Cicero) omnia mea studia in istum conferam. Ego uerò ardēti quidem studio, ac fortasse efficiam, quod sæpè uiatoribus cùm properant euenit: ut si serius, quàm uoluerint forte surrexerint, properando etiam citiùs, quàm si de nocte uigilassent, perueniant quò uelint. Sic ego, quoniā in isto homine colendo, tàm indormiui diù, cursu corrigam tarditatem. Tibi autem tuo foro uti necesse est, quando ad eum regem aspirare, [illegible] ti, quàm belli obice prohiberis, patria enim tua, cuius [illegible] amantior eius est, [illegible] imperio subiacet, dicerem tyranni, nisi quia time[illegible] tuas offendere. Ad hæc & magna res est, neq; nostris calamis discernēda, sed illoru[illegible]. Igitur ad inceptum redeo. Si hæc tibi exempla de illustrissimis electa non sufficiu[illegible], [illegible] ex alio grege hominum adijciam, ætate recentiora, & sanctitate clarissima. Quantos olim æmulos Augustinus noster, qu[illegible] Hieronymus, quantos habuit Gregorius, donec spectata uirtus, & literarum diuina, & [illegible] mirabilis ubertas [illegible] diam uinceret? uix horum quisquam integrum famæ præconium, nisi ab ipso die mortis accepit. Vnum æmulo ac repreh[illegible] sore carentem, unum ple[illegible] & indecerpta laude decoratum Ambro[illegible] ius ne inue[illegible] is quidem famam mordax liuor [illegible] gerit, apud quosdam inuenio, quo[illegible] rte ad puram eius ac simplicem doctrinam, omnis ambigui expertem referēdum est. Nam apud Paulinum, qui Ambrosij uitam & ob[illegible] ecta[illegible] torum e[illegible] nomina legimus, & uindictam diuino irrogatam. Perfer igitur iam sine [illegible] tis, qu[illegible] mis ingenijs contigisse uides. Videris autem quadam in parte tuam [illegible] rum, [illegible] m conqueri, quòd multos noueris, magnum in uita nomen assecutos, [illegible] quoq; [illegible] e uoluerıs, magni [illegible] omnes. Scis enim quibus [illegible] e euenit. His e[illegible] dem [illegible] am suam, quoniam c[illegible] queunt, clamore defendunt. Aspice [illegible] purpurat[illegible] qui ingenti strepitu, populorum in se ora conuertunt, qui se sapientes di[illegible] sunt, & quos sapientes uulgus appellat, sin[illegible] ciuitatibus ascribens sapientum gre[illegible] eùm tamen illa florens olim stu[illegible] m[illegible] cia, non amplius quàm septē sapientum nominibus glorietur, quod ipsum posteris im[illegible] nomen arrogātiæ uisum e[illegible] sed eos excusant, aiunt non id eis cognomen proprio iudicio, sed po[illegible] ulorum suffragijs [illegible] gisse. Vn[illegible] ex omnibus fæ[illegible] ulis Epicurus sapientem se profiteri a[illegible] us, intolleranda [illegible] bia, seu [illegible] diculosa dementia. Cu[illegible] sec[illegible] ndo de [illegible] bonorum, & malorum, meminit C[illegible] in nostrorum eau[illegible] rum grege, uror ille uulgaris est. Respice hos, qui in al[illegible] ibus, & cauillationibus Dialecti[illegible] is totū uitæ tempus expendunt, seq; inanibus [illegible] stiunculis exagitant, & præsag[illegible] de [illegible] habeo, omnium nempe cum [illegible] a corruet, u[illegible] sepulchrum, [illegible] ossibusq; suffi[illegible] ciet. Cum enim mors frigidam linguam stare co[illegible] erit, non modo [illegible] caue necesse est, sed ut de his etiam sileant, [illegible] em exemplis a[illegible] ipsum ex meliris esse facere. quot lo[illegible] uacissimas picas agnouimus, in oculis in[illegible] udinis per[illegible] repentes, [illegible] repente uox cecidit, ni[illegible], & apud q[illegible] dā [illegible] modio a[illegible] esse? Sed de his, & sæpe aliàs, & nūc q[illegible] od res ipsa poscebat diximus. Neq; e[illegible] ut[illegible] monerem sermo mihi institutus, sed ut tibi satisfacere, cuius omninò diuersa conditio e[illegible] enim maxime resona[illegible] iam loqui am[illegible] hiis oequiueris. Cæterùm ualde impat[illegible] anim[illegible], breuissima expectatione torq[illegible], expecta paul[illegible] lū, c[illegible] uoti [illegible] ompos, [illegible] oblitare [illegible] ipse desieris, id ex parte, longæua fo[illegible] san absen[illegible], ad plenum mors sola p[illegible] bit. Redue ad memoriam ex omnibus sæculis illustres uiros Romanos, Græcos, Bar[illegible], cuius non præsentia famæ nocuerit, ubi (si recentiore memoria est) plures to[illegible] ex [illegible] urre[illegible] go [illegible] omnium Aphricano trib[illegible] mem[illegible], ut [illegible] fama m[illegible] æsentia mira[illegible] haberetur. Idem sacris in literis tribuitur Sal[illegible] ære al[illegible] n inuenies. Et si Virgilius im[illegible] studio, Aeneam suum exo[illegible] ad eum gloriæ genus transferre conten[illegible] [illegible] Aeneam, [illegible] nomine, [illegible] pe[illegible] [illegible] scilicet Oratorū princeps M. Tul[illegible] ius, uni qu[illegible] rum idem [illegible]

Licinio

[illegible]inio Archiæ, sed uereor ne id amore iudicii obliquante, præceptori suo mediocris inge[illegible] uiro tribuat, quod nec Homero tribuit, nec Virgilio tri[illegible]isset. Cæterum ut ad te reuer[illegible] nihil ex omnibus quæ dixi, quod t[illegible] stultam indignandi materiam præstare posit inue[illegible] Nemo enim se anteiri ab uno, uel a paucis ægre fert, nisi qui gloriæ principatum perti[illegible] sibimente constituit, pacere, ut cæterarum rerum) sic ingenii tui fortem, nominis[illegible] for[illegible]nam, putabas eam in solis diuitiis ius habere? Humanarum rerum omniū, excepta uirtu[illegible] domina est, illam quoque sæpe oppugnare, sed nunquam expugnare permittitur. Famam [illegible]rtè, qua nihil est leuius, facile rotat, ac uentosis suffragiis circumuoluit, à dignis eā trans[illegible]rens ad indignos, nihil quidē mobilius, nihil iniquius uulgari iuditio, super quo fama fun[illegible]ta est, itaque mirum non est, si assiduè quatitur, quæ tam tremulis initiitur fundamētis. Hæc [illegible] non nisi in uiuos regnum habet, mors hominem eximit ab imperio fortunæ. [illegible] [illegible]ria, hæc uelit ipsa, uel nolit uirtutē fama, seu solidū corpus umbra con[illegible] [illegible] (ni fallor) gloriandi potiùs causam, quàm indignandi, si cum om[illegible]us fere pre[illegible] [illegible]s, atque clarissimis uiris cōm[illegible] tua sors est, quoque etiam nunc æq[illegible]iore animo [illegible] A[illegible]icanum ipsum, quem ex hac acie segregare uisus erani, in comm[illegible]ne resti[illegible]m, cui [illegible]amuis quod rarissimum est, ut dixi præsentia non n[illegible]ceret: nocuit [illegible] (ut cæteris ho[illegible]num [illegible]) quam tantis uirtutibus n[illegible]n pot[illegible] e[illegible] uere, incendi[illegible] pot[illegible] & in[illegible]am [illegible]uit, nocuit (quæ sine indignatione non possum mem[illegible]) conuer[illegible] lon[illegible]or, & na[illegible]s ex familiaritate contemptus. Vnde autem hęc eliciam percont[illegible] be[illegible] lo me aliquid immutasse suspiceris: Ipsa T. Liuii clarissimi scri[illegible] ponam, qu[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible]tatis hon[illegible]rumque inter Sc[illegible]ionem Africanum [illegible] Flam[illegible], in qua succu[illegible] Scipionem refert. Maior (inquit [illegible]oria Scip[illegible] q[illegible] maior, e[illegible]opior inuidiæ. [illegible] statim postea. Accedebat (inquit) & aliud, Scipio [illegible]nus iam pro[illegible]e annum decimum, assid[illegible]s in oculis hominum fuer[illegible], quæ res minus [illegible]dos magnos hom[illegible]nes[illegible] [illegible]it: & hæc quidem ille. Tu uero (ut iam [illegible]em fa[illegible]am) fortunam [illegible] [illegible]ere, expectab[illegible] tranquilliùs. Memor uetus apud Flaccum uerbum [illegible] ut ui[illegible]c poëmata meliora dies reddit. Apud Plautum aliquanto uetustius. [illegible]

Qui utuntur uino uetere sapientes puto:
qui lubenter ueteres inspectant fabulas.

[illegible]d non minus i[illegible] [illegible]acco bilem commo[illegible]isse suspi[illegible]cor, quàm tibi tantam [illegible] reuerentiam, ac crimen longo sermone p[illegible]ndum sibi fuerit, Lucilium reprehend[illegible]e. [illegible] [illegible] mò tecū co[illegible]ta, quid est hoc, pro quo tam sollicitè torquemur Ventus est fama quam [illegible]ur, fu[illegible]s est, umbra est, nihil est, itaque facillime re[illegible] lo atque acri [illegible] contemni po[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]od [illegible] generosos animos familiaris hæc pestis infe[illegible] appe[illegible] [illegible] hunc extirpare iad[illegible]tus non potes, excrescentem rationis saltem falce [illegible]cere, pa[illegible]tendum tempori, parendum rebus est. Denique (ut sententiæ meæ summ[illegible]us expe[illegible] [illegible]) uirtutem cole, [illegible] uiuis, fu[illegible]nam [illegible]uenies in sepulchro. Vale.

[illegible] II.

Hominum uitam flosculo similem esse.

V[illegible]reri mihi (nec immeritò) uisus es, ne (quod ferè omnib. ad[illegible]escentibus accidit) æ[illegible]ore decipiar, non pol[illegible]cebor tibi Pater animum so[illegible] ac stabi[illegible]mnisque uan[illegible]tis exortem (quod [illegible] æ[illegible]tate difficilimū, & potiùs diuinæ gratiæ, quàm hu[illegible]næ uirtutis arbitr[illegible] [illegible]ed [illegible] te haud quaquā suæ conditionis i[illegible] [illegible] pon[illegible]o [illegible] me mihi crede) nunc [illegible]m maximè [illegible]orere uideor, maximè ad acesc[illegible] per[illegible] [illegible]re celerrima segnibus uerbis utor[illegible] Imò uerò properare, imò currere, imò (ut [illegible]quar proprie) uolare. Volat enim æt[illegible]s (ut ait Cicero) & omninò nihil est aliud tempus ui[illegible] [illegible] quam cursus ad mortem. In quo (ut ait Au[illegible]s) nemo, uel paulò [illegible]are, uel ali[illegible] [illegible]rdiùs ire permittitur, sed urgentur omnes pari motu, nec diuerso impelluntur ac[illegible] [illegible]. Neque enim [illegible]s uita breuior [illegible] celerius diem duxit, quam ille cui l[illegible]gior, sed cum [illegible]ter æqualia momenta raperen[illegible]bobus Alt[illegible] ab[illegible] propiùs, alter remotius, quo [illegible]pari uelocitate ambo curreban[illegible] Aliud est enim amp[illegible] peregr[illegible]e, aliud rariùs [illegible]r. Qui ergo usque ad mortem productiora spatia tempori[illegible] ag[illegible]t, non lentius per[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]rent. Quid etiam si negarent? Nunquid [illegible] ut uol[illegible]

Neq; uerò me talia summis labijs locutum putes (ut quibusdam coætaneis meis est mos) per auctorum uireta captare flosculos, quod uiro turpe ait Seneca, nobis i[illegible] putant, ut nihil uideatur adolescentia formosius. Ego me non nego flosculos interdum legere, qu[illegible] inter seniorum choros (si res tulerit) uti queam, sed ita adoptatam senectutem merita cō[illegible] de perueniam, ut ego magis omnia ad uitam extimem, quàm ad eloquentiam referenda. Et quamuis (ut est usus, ut est ingenium, ut est animus, ut est ætas) eloquentiæ studio dele[illegible]ctet, tamen & dum aliorum benedicta recenseo, & si quando mihi aliquid fortè sonantius excidit, utrobiq; magis meditor, ut quicquid id est, uitæ prosit, adolescentiæq; me malis e[illegible]pediat, quam ut uerbis ornationibus iuuenilis lingua lasciuiat. Sum[illegible] quidem dementi[illegible] uidetur, in id niti, ad quod fortè nū[illegible]quàm sis uenturus, & quod paucis accidit, quodq; e[illegible] adeptus fueris, modicum prosit fortassis, & multum noceat: illud uerò negligere, quo[illegible] omnibus promptum, præ omnibus utile, damnosumq; nūquàm esse possit. Scim[illegible] autem magnorum auctoritate hominum, experimen[illegible]um edocti, quoniam pauci [illegible] qui, benè uiuere autem omnibus dat[illegible] est, & [illegible] plures illud amplectuntur, hoc [illegible]giunt, ita est natura hominum, difficu[illegible]atibus [illegible]re, & ea cupidiùs appetere, quæ la[illegible]boriosiùs parantur. Ego quidem (& si mihi fidem ætas deroget) teste tamē conscientia leg[illegible] non ut eloquentior, aut argutior, sed ut melior fiam. Et quod de morali Philosophiæ pa[illegible] dixit Aristoteles, ad omnes t[illegible]alio, quan[illegible]uam si uterq; fructus sequeretur, infortunatiore[illegible] me laborum non negarem. [illegible]i autem pater gratias ago, quod me paternè mones, & oro ut idem sæpè facias. Sed hic habeto, me iam hinc cœpisse cognoscere cursum meum, & pe[illegible]la numerare, & multos nosse decrepitos, me al[illegible]ius humi fixos, ac tenacius inhærentes. Multum me tangit illud Do[illegible]ni principis iam [illegible]ntis. Nil (inquit) gratius decore, nil breuius. Et illud Catonis [illegible] apud Tullium: Quis e[illegible]ram [illegible], quamuis sit adolescens, cui sit exploratum ad uesperum esse uicturum? Et illud Virgilij, tunc iuuenis iuueniliter [illegible], sed uerè, sed grauiter, sed maturè.

Colli[illegible]uere rosas, dum flos nouus, & noua pubes.
Et memor esto, æuum sic properare tuum.

Ego uerò [illegible] sum, & quamuis nondum plenè p[illegible]m, nitor. Cogito tamen ut poss[illegible] & [illegible]dies, [illegible]ro[illegible]diùs possim, nitor. Cogito non quid alijs uideor sed quid sum, & ætat[illegible] hanc, & qualemcunq; formā corporis, & reli[illegible] unde mihi forsan ab alijs inuidetur) [illegible] data mihi ad periculum, ad exercitium, ad lab[illegible]m. Denìq;, ut breuiter concludam, sci[illegible] me ascendere ut descendam, uiuere ut arescā, ut senescam adolescere, [illegible] uiuere [illegible] moriar. Val[illegible]

[illegible]. PETRARCHA [illegible]ANNI COLVMN[illegible] S. [illegible] III.

Germaniam, Rheniq; ripas se peragrasse narrat.

GAllias ego nuper, nullo quidem negotio, ut nosti, sed uidendi tātùm studio, & iu[illegible]uenili [illegible]odam ardore peragraui, Germaniam tandem, Rheniq; ripas attigi, co[illegible] temp[illegible]ius sollicitè mores hom[illegible]m, & as[illegible] telluris incognitæ d[illegible]tus, ac singula [illegible]m nostris conferens, [illegible] licet multa u[illegible]biq; magnifica uiderim, me tamen Italicæ originis non p[illegible]it, imò, ut uerum fate[illegible]r, quo latius peregrinor, eò maior Italiæ soli subit admiratio. Qu[illegible] gratias agebat Plato dijs, ut uerbo eius utar, immortalibus, inter multa, quòd C[illegible]ecum e[illegible]m & n[illegible] [illegible]ienigenam, edidissent, quid nos [illegible]hibet, pro eo dem qu[illegible] g[illegible]atias ag[illegible]e [illegible] usq; nostri Deum au[illegible]re[illegible] recognoscere. Ni[illegible] nobilius est Græcum na[illegible], quàm I[illegible]licum, quod si quis dixerit, [illegible] ar idem, & seruum esse nobiliorem quàm dominum. Atq; nullus hoc Græculus, quantumlibet procax, impudensq; dicere audebit, dum meminerit diù ante Vrbem con[illegible]ditam, a[illegible]te [illegible] & au[illegible] tu[illegible]tibus imperi[illegible] [illegible]te

R[illegible] [illegible]ominos, gentemq; togatam.

Non Italiam, sed [illegible] Italiæ partem, eo tempore desertam, [illegible] Græcis habitatoribus possessam, mag[illegible]q; Græciam nuncupat[illegible]. Quæ enim tunc magna uisa est, q[illegible]m maxima, quam [illegible] po[illegible]it, post eue[illegible] C[illegible]ry[illegible], post uastatā Aethol[illegible], post Argos, [illegible] Mecenas, [illegible] triumphat[illegible], post Macedoniæ reges [illegible], [illegible] & [illegible] A[illegible] cruore Therm[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]erta [illegible]pul[illegible]. Cæterem p[illegible]ten[illegible], in[illegible]

introij, non aliter animo affectus, quàm olim Thessaliæ ciuitatẽ Hypatam dictam lustrat Apuleius, ita enim sollicito stupore suspensus & cuncta circunspiciens, uidendi cupidus, explorandiq; uera'ne, an ficta essent, quæ de ea ciuitate audieram, non paruum in ea tempus absumpsi, & quoties operi lux defuit, noctem superaddidi. Demum ambiendo, & inhiando, magna ex parte didicisse uideor, quis in eadẽ ueritati, quis fabulis locus sit. Quæ (quoniam longa narratio est, neq; hoc loco satis explicabilis) differenda est, donec ex me omnia corám audies. Gandauum quoq; (ut media sileam) eodem conditore superbũ uidi, & cęteros Flandriæq; Brabantiæ populos, lanificos atq; textores. Vidi Leodium insignem clero locum: uidi Aquensem Caroli sedem, & in templo marmoreo uerendum barbaris gentibus illius principis sepulchrum, ubi fabella audiui, non inamœnam cognitu, à quibusdam templi sacerdotibus, quam scriptam mihi ostenderunt, & postea apud modernos scriptores accuratius tractatam legi, quàm tibi quoq; ut referam incidit animus: ita tamen, ut rei fides non à me quæratur, sed ut (aiunt) penes auctores maneat. Carolum Regem quem Magnum cognomine æquare Pompeio, & Alexandro audent, mulierculam quandam perditè, & effrenatim amasse memorant, eius blanditijs eneruatum, neglecta fama (cui plurimum inseruire consueuerat) & posthabitis regni curis, aliarum rerũ omnium, & postremo suipsius oblitum, diu nulla prorsus in re, nisi illius amplexibus acquieuisse, summa cum indignatione suorum ac dolore. Tandem cùm iam spei nihil superesset (quoniam aures regias salubribus consilijs insanus amor obstruxerat) fœminam ipsam malorum, insperata mors abstulit, cuius rei ingens primum in regia, sed latens gaudium fuit. Deinde dolore tantũ priore grauiore, quantum fœdiori morbo, correptum regis animum uidebant, cuius nec morte lenitus furor, sed in ipsum obscœnum cadauer, & exangue translatus est, quod balsamo & aromatibus conditum, onustum gemmis, & uelatum purpura, diebus ac noctibus tàm miserabili, quàm cupido fouebat amplexu. Dici nequit quàm discors, & quàm malè sibi compassa conditio est amantis, ac regis, nunquàm profecto contraria sine lite iunguntur. Quid est autem regnum, nisi iusta, & gloriosa dominatio? Contrà quid est amor, nisi turpis seruitus & iniusta? Itaq; cũ certatim ad amantem (seu rectius) ad amentem Regem, plenis omnis regni negotijs legationes gentium, præfectiq; & prouinciarum præsides confluerent, is in lectulo suo, miser omnibus exclusis, & obseratis foribus amato corpusculo cohærebat, amicam suam crebro, uelut spirantem, responsuramq; compellans, illi curas, laboresq; suos narrabat, illi blandum murmur, & nocturna suspiria, illi semper amoris comites lachrymas instillabat (horrendum miseriæ solamen) sed quòd unum est ex omnibus. Rex alioquin (ut aiunt) sapientissimus elegisset. Addunt fabulæ, quod ego nec fieri potuisse, nec narrari debere arbitror. Erat ea tempestate in aula Coloniensis Antistes, uir, ut memorãt, sanctitate & sapientia clarus, nec'non comitatus, & consilij Regij prima uox, qui domini sui statum miseratus, ubi animaduertit humanis remedijs nihil agi, ad Deum uersus, illum assiduè precari, in illo spem reponere, ab eo finem mali poscere, multo cum gemitu: quod cum diu fecisset, nec desperaturus uideretur, die quodam illustri miraculo recreatus est. Siquidem ex more sacrificanti, & post deuotissimas preces pectus, & aram lachrymis implenti, de cœlo uox insonuit, sub extinctæ mulieris lingua furoris Regij causam latere. Quo lætior mox peracto sacrificio, ad locum ubi corpus erat se proripuit, & iure notissimæ familiaritatis regiæ introgressus, os digito clam scrutatus, gemmã perexiguo annulo inclusam, sub gelida, rigentiq; lingua repertam, festinabũdus auexit. Nec multò post rediens Carolus, & ex cõsuetudine adoptatum mortuæ congressum properans, repentè aridi cadaueris spectaculo concussus, obriguit, exhorruitq; contactũ, auferri eam quantotiùs ac sepeliri iubens. Inde totus in Antistitem cõuersus, illum amare, illum colere, illum indies arctiùs amplecti. Denique nihil nisi ex sentẽtia illius agere, ab illo nec diebus, nec noctibus auelli. Quod ubi sensit uir iustus ac prudens, optabilem forte multis, sed onerosam sibi sarcinam abijcere statuit, ueritusq;, ne si uel ad manus alterius perueniret, uel flammis consumeretur, domino suo aliquid periculi afferret, annulum in uicinæ paludis præaltam uoraginẽ demersit. Aquis fortè tum rex, cum proceribus suis habitabat, ex eoq; tẽpore cunctis ciuitatib. sedes illa prælata est, in ea nil sibi palude gratius, ibi assidere, & illis aquis mira cum uoluptate, eius odore, uelut suauissimo delectari. Postremò illuc regiam suã transtulit, & in medio palustris limi, immenso sumptu, fundamentis iactis palatiũ, templumq; cõstruxit, ut nihil diuinæ uel humanæ rei eum inde abstraheret. Postremo ibi uitæ suæ reliquum egit, ibiq; sepultus est. Cauto prius, ut successores sui primam inde coronã, & prima imperij auspicia caperẽt, quod hodie quoq; seruatur, seruabiturq;

ſeruabiturq; quàm diū Romani frena imperij Theutonica manus aget. Longior fui in hac narratione, quàm debui. Sed quoniam peregrinatione longinqua, librorum ſolatio deſtituta eſt, & in perpetuo motu faciliùs eſt multa cogitare, quam grandia, iuſtum epiſtolæ modum implere ſerijs non ualens, eam (ut uides) obuijs quibusq; confarcio. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNÆ, S. Epiſt. IIII.

Coloniæ Agrippinæ urbis deſcriptio.

AQuis digreſſum, ſed prius unde ortum oppidi nomen putant, Aquis Baiano more tepentibus ablutum, excepit Agrippina Colonia, quæ ad ſiniſtrum Rheni latus ſita eſt, locus & ſitu, & flumine clarus, & populo. Mirum in terra barbarica, quanta ciuilitas, quæ urbis ſpecies, quæ uirorum grauitas, quæ munditiæ matronarum. Fortè Ioannis Baptiſtæ uigilia erat, dum illuc applicui, & iam ad occidentem ſol uergebat, confeſtim amicorū monitu (nam & ibi amicos prius mihi fama pepererat, quàm meritum) ab hoſpitio traducor ad fluuium, inſigne ſpectaculum uiſurus eſt. Nec fallebar. Omnis enim ripa pręclaro, & ingenti mulierum agmine tegebatur, obſtupui, dij boni, quę forma, quæ facies, quis habitus, amare potuiſſet, quiſquis eò non præoccupatum animum attuliſſet. In loco paulum altiore conſtiteram, unde in ea, quæ gerebantur intenderem, incredibilis ſine offenſione concurſus erat, uiciſſimq; alacres, pars herbis odoriferis incinctę, reductisq; poſt cubitum manicis, candidas in gurgite manus, ac brachia lauabant, neſcio quid blandum peregrino murmure colloquentes. Vix nunquam clariùs intellexi, quod Ciceroni placet, & ueteri prouerbio dici ſolet. Inter linguas incognitas, omnes propemodum ſurdos, ac mutos eſſe. Vnum mihi ſolatium grauiſsimorum interpretum non deerat. Nam & hoc inter cuncta mirabere, cœlum illud ſpiritus Pierios alere. Itaque dum miratur Iuuenalis, quod:

Gallia cauſidicos docuit facunda Britannos:

miretur iidem:

doctos quod argutos aluit Germania uates.

At ne me auctore fallaris, ſcito ibi nullum Maronem eſſe, Naſones plurimos, ut dicas uerum fuiſſe præſagium, quod in fine libri Metamorphoſeos, multum uel poſteritatis gratię, uel ingenio ſuo fidens ponit. Siquidem qua Romana potentia (ſeu uerius) qua Romanum nomen domito orbe ſe porrigit, plauſibiliter nunc fauentis populi ore perlegitur. His ego comitibus, ubi quid audiendum, ſeu reſpondendum incidit, pro lingua, & pro auribus uſus ſum. Vnum igitur ex eo numero admirans, & ignarus rerum percunctatus Vergiliano illo uerſiculo:

Quid uult concurſus ad amnem, quidue petunt animæ?

Reſponſum accepi: Peruetuſtum gentis ritum eſſe, uulgo perſuaſum, præſertim fœmineo, omnem totius anni calamitatem imminentem, fluuiali illius diei ablutione purgari, & deinceps lætiora ſuccedere, itaque luſtrationem eſſe annuam, inexhauſto ſemper ſtudio cultam, colendamq;. Ad hæc ego ſubridens. O nimium fœlices (inquam) Rheni accolæ, quorum ille miſerias purgat, noſtras quidem nec Padus unquam ualuit purgare, nec Tyberis. Vos ueſtra mala Britannis Rheno uectore tranſmittitis, nos noſtra libenter Afris, atq; Illyrijs mitteremus, ſed nobis (ut intelligi datur) pigriora ſunt flumina. Commoto riſu, ſerò tandem inde diſceſsimus. Proximis aliquot diebus à mane ad ueſperam, ciuitatem ijſdem ducibus circumiui, haud iniucundum exercitium, nō tam ob id, quod ante oculos erat, quàm recordatione noſtrorum maiorum, qui tàm procul à patria monumenta Romanę uirtutis, tàm illuſtria reliquiſſent, in primis aūt occurrebat Marcus Agrippa Coloniæ illius auctor, qui licet multa domi, multa foris præclara conſtruxerit, illam tamen ex omnib. dignam cenſuit, cui ſuum nomen imponeret, ædificator ac bellator egregius, dignusq; habitus, quē Auguſtus in generū, ex toto orbe deligeret, qualiſcunq; filiæ uirum, ſed dilectæ, ſed unicæ, ſed Auguſtę. Vidi tot ſimul trunca millia, ſacrarum uirginum, & terram generoſis dicatam reliquijs, ac degenerum, ut aiunt, cadauerū expultricem. Vidi Capitolium effigiem noſtri, niſi quod pro Senatu illic pacis, ac belli cōſilia agitante, hic formoſi iuuenes ac puellæ mixtim, [illegible]nas laudes Deo concinunt, æterna concordia. Ibi rotarum & armorum ſtrepitus ac [illegible]s captiuorum, hic quies & gaudium, & iocantiū uoces, denique illuc bellicus, huc pa[illegible] triumphator ingreditur. Vidi templum urbe media pulcherrimum, quamuis ſine ex-

pletum,

[illegible] quod haud immeritò summum uocant, Magorum ibi Regum corpora, ab ortu ad [illegible] ibus salutibus translata, quos [illegible] æthereum quondam regem ad præsepia uagien[illegible] cum muneribus ueneratos [illegible], uenerabundus aspexi. Parumper hic Pater opti[me], & pudoris mei metas excessisse uideor, & plura collegisse quàm necesse erat, utrum ta[ceo], sed mihi nil tàm necesse est, quàm ut imperio tuo paream, inter multa sanè quæ abeun[ti] [dix]eras, hoc fuit extremum, ut de terris, ad quas ibam, & de singulis quæ uidissem, audi[ss]emque, perinde te certiorem scripto facere, ac uerbo soliro, ne calamo parcerem, ne breui[tati] uel ornatui studerem, neue floridiora decerperem, sed cuncta complecterer. Denique [Tu]lliano uerbo usus. Scribe (dixisti) quicquid in buccam uenerit. Promisi me facturum, [pro]missum crebris ex itinere literulis impleisse uideor, si iussisses loqui de aliorum [mori]bus, tentas[sem]. Nunc epistolæ officium reor, non ut scribentem nobiliter, sed ut certificet legentem, quo[d] [om]ninò uideri uolumus, ostendemus nos in libris, in epistolis colloquamur. Proce[do] [Kale]ndas Cal. Iulias Colonia discessi, tanto sole ac puluere, ut sæpè alpinas niues ac fri[gora] Rheni à Virgilio requirerem. [In]de Arduennam syluam scriptorum testimonio pri[de]m mihi cognitam, sed uisu atram atque horrificam transiui solus (& quod magis admireris) bel[li] tempore, sed incautos (ut aiunt) Deus adiuuat. At ne longum iter uix æquo peracto cal[a]mo remetiar, multis ego regionibus ambitus, hodierno die Lugdunum perueni, nobi[li]s & ipsa Romanorum Colonia est, paululumque uetustior Agrippina, duo hic noti amnes, in n[ost]rum mare currentes. Rhodanus Ararisque conueniunt, Sonam incolæ appellant. Sed de h[is] nihil amplius. Iuncti enim ad te properant, alter cogente, alter coacto similis, & Aui[nio]nem ubi nunc ac genus humanum Rom. Pont. detinet, permixtis uadis abluunt. Huc ego [cu]m mane peruenissem, & intranti fortè familiaris hic tuus occurrisset, mille eum que[stiu]nculis (ut mos est peregrè redeuntium) aggredior, ille autem nihil ad reliqua, sed præ[clari]ssimum fratrem tuum ad quem maxime properabam, sine me Romam petijsse narra[uit]. Quo audito quiescendi, ueniendique ardor repentè deferbuit. Hic igitur expectare in ani[mo] est, donec & æstas ipse deferueat, quàm hucusque nõ senseram, & me ue[hementi]rem quies faciat, qui me fessum esse, hoc ipso primum loquente perpendi. Nulla quidem fa[tig]atio ma[i]or quàm animi est, quod si reliqui itineris tædium subierit, Rhodanus mihi pro uehiculo erit, interim ut noris ubi sum, hæc tibi festinante nuncio transcurrere non piguit. De fratre item tuo, duce olim, nũc (da dolori ueniam) desertore meo, nusquã alibi, quàm apud ipsum conqueri uisum est, quam querelam, ut sibi quàmprimum mitti iubeas, oratus facito. Et Vale nostri memor.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IACOBO COLVMNÆ, S. Epist. V

De silentio & taciturnitate.

REuertebar è Germania, & iam Lugdunum perueneram, precum [t]uarum, & desi[de]rij mei uncis retrahentibus, non tàm Poëtico, aut Physico, quam cursorio more festinans Illic cursui meo molestissimum frenum adhibuit, insperatus rumor, aufugisse te, absentiæ meæ uelut opportunitate captata, & sine me Romam petijsse, quod profectò nunquàm facturum esse promiseras. Quid dicam? Amante non amato, nil reor esse miserius. Quomodo autem, seu quibus primum uerbis aggrediar? suspitio[sum] ne, an tuorum cõtemptorem putem, nihil moribus minùs tuis conuenit, obliuiosum quærar, mirator ipse memoriæ tuæ? Fidefragum dicam, sed notissima fides est. Quid ergo? [Tu] culpe nomen inuenies, & teipsum cõdemnabis, uel si libet absolues, apud tribunal tuũ tecum agitur, tu idem & reus, & testis, & iudex eris. Sede igitur & mecũ aliquantisper æquo iure [di]scepta. Aequat enim amor imparia. Quod si contra me fortè lingua tua pronũciaue[ri]t, ad conscientiam prouocabo, responde dolori meo, quærenti. Cur tu Romæ, ego in Gal[lia] sim. Quid tãto diuortio dignũ feci. An ut inutilis, & inamœna sarcina intergũ objcior? De [ut]ilitate quidem uideris, de reliquo (quoniam dolor ingẽs libertatis assertor esse solet) [i]ps[e] pronuncio. Nulla igitur (si te nou[i] [ia]m iunior, nulla curis tuis opportunior, tecũ est Læ[liu]s mei, & cæterorũ pace dixerim, quibus ut me æquare aud[ere]m superbæ forsitan fortunæ [non] cogit & dolor mei. Ego enim te mundo prætuli, tu mihi quæso, quid non prætereas? [...]sti te secretum tuum ex me in uulgus erumpe. Sitane rimosum expertus es, [u]t in[...] Cur tàm facilè commissa diffluerent. Egisti incautè qui mihi to[...] [...]a credideris. Sed (crede mihi) quoniam hodie (ut uideo) dolor uerecundiam [...]

rat, crede inquam mihi, pater optime, nulli (quem quidem ego nouerim) fido silentio secundus sum. Nemo me ideò quod secreta non teneam, ne dicam fideli amicitiæ, sed uel Senatorio gradui, uel Sacerdotio Cereris inhabilem arguerit. Legimus apud Persas, nihil fide sanctius, nihil pulchrius silentio, nihil loquacitate deformius. Itaque illud uel morte custodiunt, hanc morte castigant, non est qui quocunque supplicio sui regis pandat arcanum, & qui fortè contrà fecerit nullo non supplicio dignus habebitur preclari. Quid enim omnino facilius quàm tacere? ad quid ergo utilis, aut cui magnæ rei sit habendus idoneus, qui rem longè facillimam implere nequiuerit? An uerò occupationes meas interrumpere noluisti? Conuersatio igitur longæua quid profuit? Nondum intelligis, non esse me de illorum grege, qui, ut ait Flaccus:

breui fortes iaculantur æuo

Multa qui terras alio calentes sole permutant: *Qui penetrant aulas & limina regum.*

Vt Virgilius ait, qui animum suum in frusta discerpunt, huic arrident, illi seruiũt, neminem ex integro diligunt, nulli plenè confidunt, certè ego qui sim nescio. Valdè enim in iuditio rerum nostrarum fallimur. Sed ut sim de grege nihil optantiũ, magnopere laboro, de multis nunquàm speraui, sciebam enim, quod qui paucorum similis fieri studet, multis fieri inuisus. Spes & occupationes meæ in te hactenus sitæ erant, in quo si me diutiùs errare non es passus, perurbanè mecum agi non negauerim, quòd alienationem animi tui, non contumelioso quidem actu, non uerbo aspero, non graui supercilio, sed fugæ silentiis inditio perceperim, sin experiri, aut inflammare desiderium meum cogitasti, uide ne aduersus imbecillem animum, nimis aculeatum ludi genus elegeris. At forte indulgentior causa est, pepercisti arbitror labori meo, ueritus ne fastudio pelagi impar essem, & quoniam id tibi quoque restat, iret per siticulosam Apuliam, sub æstiuo sole deficerem. Sed quæso, nónne hoc tuo de me iuditio iniuriosus es famæ meæ? Vbi ego hanc opinionem merui? Quis me labor fregit, aut terruit. Sola uidendi dulcedo, per ignotam me Barbariem circunducit, per Italiam credo pulchra necessitas non dixisset, sub Pyreneis olim collibus, ut tibi comes essem nisi pudet, quantis me precibus ac blanditijs onerasti? Quanquam (ut uerum fatear) sequebar ego, propè cupidiùs, quàm detrahebar, qui ita nunc sub Apennini iugis, comes esse non merui? Nisi fortè inertiam meam illa peregrinatio patefecit, tu uerò quotidie miraberis. Vnde ea laborum patientia, in literarum ocio mihi nato ac enutrito, præsertim cum & anni tempus esset aduersum, & uepricosum iter, & inculta regio (quodq; super omnia nos agebat) conuersatio dura, & multum nostris moribus aliena. Sed fortè (quoniam sensim ratiocinatio ad uerum ducit) non quæcunque potuimus possumus, dies auget, dies imminuit ab ea peregrinatione, quarta nunc æstas agitur, triennio senior factus sum, quod tempus non tantum mutando corpuscula mortalis hominis, sed euertendis imperijs, atque urbibus sat paret. Ludo tecum (ut uides) magnus interdum dolor, ubi lamenta defuerint, in iocos uertitur, omnis quidem dies, fateor gradus est ad mortem, & uagientis in cunabulis infantes crescendo pariter senescunt. Neque tamen ea ætas est mihi, quæ naturæ detrimentum sentiat, quippè quæ nondum plena est. Itaq; crescentibus adhuc annis prouehor, multoq;, & membris, & animo ualidior in dies fio, quamuis non ignorem quid sequatur. Viator enim quo altius ascendit, eò descensui proximior fit, & si dici fas esset, quodammodo ascendendo descendit. Idem mihi accidit. Interim tamen ascendo. Quæ cùm ita sint, idoneam facti tui causam forte, tu noueris, ego eam palpitabũdus inquiro, nec inuenio, & hoc uno uel maximè amare me intelligo (quod amantium mos est, primis quidem offensionibus moueri, mox ubi flamma extinguere non datur, ad excusationum medicamenta confugere, & quod acrius factum dolent. Vel nequaquàm factum si liceat, uel bono animo factum dicere) hoc igitur ago, si possum ut iure desertus uidear, quod utinam mihi persuadeam, & profectò fieri potest, ut tu nec profectionem meam impedire uolueris, nec potueris reditum expectare, & cum me ab amplexu tuo lachrymantem dimitteres, nouam mihi gemendi materiam inculcare uolueris. Vellem inclementior fuisses, pietas enim tua in contrarium uersa est, inexpectato nil hoste nocentius, & intempestiua quælibet grauiora sunt. Vnde si absq; fletibus esse non poteram, meliùs tunc fleuissem, quoniam natura hoc habet, ut abeuntium potius quam redeuntium comites lachrymas uideamus. Tu precor, quàm primum cogita, qualiter te mihi exundanti illo defendas eloquio, quàm uere nihil ad rem, modo uerisimiliter satis erit. Credere parato nulla inefficax persuasio est, interim facilius ueat, ut tuæ culpæ ignoscam, quàm fortunæ meæ. Vale nostri memor.

FRAN.

[illegible] [illegible]TRARCHA TH[illegible]ANE[illegible]S Epi[illegible] VI[illegible]

Dialecticorum [illegible] contentiones.

T[illegible]eratorum est [illegible] hoste co[illegible], qui [illegible] gloriam [illegible] certamen. [illegible] quendam senem [illegible] literis meis uehementer [illegible] motum, qui [illegible] [illegible] ego damna[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] a se quoque in [illegible] suis liter[illegible] qui [illegible] expectat. Noli cas[illegible] expe[illegible] [illegible] nunquam de[illegible] modo [illegible] remanent, sic eis [illegible] sue ignoran[illegible] est lingua [illegible] calamo non contentiunt. Nolunt apparere quàm friuol[illegible] [illegible] Parthico fugi[illegible] excercent, & uolatilia uerba [illegible] committunt. Cum h[illegible] more contendere temerarium est, [illegible] qui [illegible] uoluptatem ex contentio[illegible], quibus nō uerum inuenire propos[illegible] ari. Atqui Var[illegible] est: Nimium altercando ueritas amittitur, [illegible] ep[illegible] e, ne in aperto [illegible] solidiq[illegible] [illegible] cam[illegible] de[illegible] dant. [illegible] Quintilianus inter institutiones Oratorias loquebatur, quos re[illegible] [illegible] ndo m[illegible] e cal[illegible] dos cum ab illa cauillatione di[illegible] erint, non ma[illegible] cere in [illegible] re actu[illegible] quædam animalia, quæ in an[illegible] mob[illegible], camp[illegible] de[illegible] [illegible], m[illegible] itaque campum timent. Verum est enim illud eiusdem diuerticula & [illegible] esse infir[illegible] tatis, ut qui cursu parum ualent, flexu eludant. Tibi uerò, [illegible] uel m[illegible] uirtutem, si ueritatem sequeris, [illegible] genus homin[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] insanorum, si ne insulæ quidem tuæ [illegible] nec Scylla, n[illegible] [illegible] minus hæc pestis in Trinacriam transnataret: imò uerò iam [illegible] peculiare malum est si Dialecticorum agmini Britannico Aethnean me nouo[illegible] Cyclopum acies accesserit. Hoc [illegible] est, quòd in Cosmographia Pomp[illegible] eram, [illegible] similem esse Britanniam. Ego quidem p[illegible] bam similitudi[illegible] inter [illegible] a propè triangulari utriusque specie, & fortassè etiam in ci[illegible] [illegible] tione consistere, nihil de Dialecticis cogitabam. Audiei m[illegible] [illegible], utrosque feroces incolas, tertium monstri genus a[illegible] ar[illegible] [illegible] enthymemate [illegible] & ipso Taurominitani [illegible] [illegible] sane & ego pridem animaduerteram, & tu nunc admones eos le[illegible] [illegible] nomis splendore protegere. Dicūt enim Aristotelem ita solitum [illegible] qu[illegible] [illegible] excusatio clarorum ducum inhæsisse uestigijs, nam & M. T[illegible] [illegible] um se cum [illegible] tone, si oporteat erraturum dicit, sed falluntur, Aristoteles enim [illegible] s inge[illegible] rebus altissimis uici sim, & disputabat, & scribebat, alioquin unde h[illegible] ulta [illegible] a summo studio, & tantis exhausta uigilijs, inter multorum, & præ[illegible] us for[illegible] graues occupa[illegible] iones, & in ætate non longa, siquidem circa [illegible] apud [illegible] [illegible] amem Tertium scilicet & sexagesimum uitæ annum defunctum [illegible] epimus: isti [illegible] a duce suo, tàm diuersi abeunt? cur quæso Aristotelicos dici tuti[illegible] & nō potius [illegible] tanto Philosopho dissimilius, homine nihil sci[illegible] nte [illegible] e, [illegible] er clamante. Quis illas conclusiunculas [illegible], qu[illegible] s [illegible] ho[illegible] [illegible], & [illegible] hos fatigant, in quibus omnem ætatem conterunt, qu[illegible] inuti[illegible] [illegible] præcipuè damnosi. [illegible] qualia [illegible] quæ à Cicerone, & à Seneca [illegible] ocis [illegible] est illud [illegible] c[illegible] is p[illegible] qu[illegible] dum contumelio[illegible] s [illegible] c[illegible] is [illegible] o. Quod e[illegible] [illegible] ones. Annuisti [illegible] [illegible] o aut[illegible] n. Cùm [illegible] negas [illegible] conclusione [illegible] ca [illegible] o[illegible] [illegible] I n[illegible] ciò ult[illegible] Diogenes falsum est, & si [illegible] [illegible] qu[illegible] d [illegible] ærant, an [illegible] [illegible] amen [illegible] o[illegible], beateque uiuendu[illegible] [illegible] fortasse, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] digna studiorum merces, no[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] be[illegible] c[illegible] e, honestar[illegible] m gener[illegible] Dum hæc audi[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] multiloquium [illegible] [illegible] Dialecticam [illegible] condemnas [illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] is & mascula, cuius cùm sæpe [illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] o de [illegible] Ci[illegible] [illegible] cral[illegible] & grad[illegible] [illegible] us, interque Pl[illegible] [illegible] g[illegible] us, non inutile [illegible] a[illegible] a, exc[illegible] signat uer[illegible] am[illegible]

[illegible] fallacias: [illegible] si nil [illegible], promptos & per argutulos facit. Hoc ita esse non in [illegible] non statim quia honeste transimus, sed dubiter immoramur: quinimò [illegible] [illegible] ænitate uiarum metam quam destinauerat [illegible], multo [illegible] [illegible] dominum subiisse, uiatoris laus est: & quisquis uiator ex nobis est [illegible] omnes aduerso tempore, tanquam hyberno, pluuialique die, longum ac difficile iter agi- [illegible] uitus Dialectica [illegible] esse potest, utique terminus non est, & potest pars esse matutina, [illegible] serotina, plurima quidem honestè fecimus quæ turpissimè faceremus. Si enim Dialecticæ scholis quod in eis pueri lusimus, senes relinquere nescimus, eodem iure, nec par impar ludere, nec arundine tremula equitare pudeat, nec rursum cunis infantilibus agitari. Sunt mira uarietates rerum ac uicissitudines temporum, quas occurrens natura [illegible] uigilantissimo artificio meditata est, eas non putes in anni tantum circulo, sed multo magis in longa ætate reperiri. Vêr floribus, & arborum [illegible], æstas frugibus diues est, autumnus pomis, hyems niuibus abundat. Hæc modò non tantum tollerabilia: sed grata, si per [illegible] tur, fient concussis naturæ legibus importuna: & nemo erit, qui uel hyemis glaciem, æquo animo per æstatem perferat, uel solis ardorem alienis mensibus sæuientem. Sic nemo reperitur, qui uel senem infantibus colludentem non oderit, aut rideat, uel puerum canum, aut podagricum non miretur: quid autem quæso ad omnem disciplinam tàm utile, imò tàm necessarium est, quàm ipsarum literarum prima cognitio, in quibus omnium studiorum fundamenta consistunt? Sed ex diuerso, quid sene ridiculosius, in talibus occupato? tu ergo senis tui discipulos, meis uerbis excita, neque deterreas, sed hortare non quidem ut ad Dialecticam, sed ut per eam ad meliora festinent. Seni autem dic, non me liberales artes damnare, sed senes pueros. Vt enim nihil elementario sene turpius, quod ait Seneca, sic nihil Dialectico sene deformius. Etsi syllogismos eructare cœperit, fuge consulo, ac iube illum disputare cum Encelado. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ MESSANENSI, S. Epist. VII.

Inuentioni, & ingenio quomodo inseruiendum.

QVid agendum tibi sit consulis in eo statu, in quo ferè omnis scribentium [illegible] haesit, quando & sua cuique non sufficiunt, & uti pudet alienis, & interim à scribendo cessare non sinit, ipsa rerum dulcedo, insitaque mortalium animis gloriæ cupiditas: sic itaque perplexus, atque hæsitans ad me redis, primum omnium consuluus fuerat certiorem adiisse, consultorem à quo uel multa, & uaria, uel unũ quodcunque optimum, & electissimum esset, accepisses. Enimuerò nunc ad ostium pauperis pulsasti, unde [illegible], me uolente, non omninò uacuus abibis, quod ab alio mendicaui, id tibi libens impartiar. Mihi quidem fateor, de hac re non amplius, quam unicum consilium est, quod si forte [illegible] inefficax experimento deprehenderis, Senecam culpabis: at si efficax, [illegible] non mihi gratiam referes. Denique in omnem euentum, illum non quidem solum, nam hoc ante Flaccus dixerat, & (quod satis auguror) ante Flaccum alii, quod quærendi [illegible] ocium non est, sed expressiorem habeas uelim consilii huius auctorem. Cuius summa est. Apes in inuentionibus imitandas, quæ flores non quales acceperint, referunt, sed ceras [illegible] mella, mirifica quadam permixtione conficiunt. Eius autem non sensum modò, sed uerba Macrobius in Saturnalibus posuit, ut mihi quidem uno, eodemque tempore, quod legendo simul, ac scribendo probauerat, rebus ipsis improbare uideretur. Non enim flores apud Senecam lectos, in fauos uertere studuit, sed integros, & quales in alienis ramis inuenerat, protulit, quanquam quod alienum ego aliquid dixerim, licet ab aliis elaboratum, cum Epicuri sententia sit, ab eodem Seneca relata, quicquid ab ullo benè dictum est, non alienum [illegible], sed nostrum. Non est itaque, cur Macrobius culpãdus sit, quòd magnam epistolæ [illegible] partem, in procemio operis illius, non tàm transtulit, quàm transcripsit. [illegible] enim & [illegible] sæpe interdũ, & multis maioribus accidit, sed illud affirmo [illegible] esse solertiæ, [illegible] [illegible] res, [illegible] uerbis, quamuis aliorum hominum sententias proferamus. [illegible] [illegible] unum nostrum cõflatum ex pluribus habeamus. [illegible] [illegible] apium more, passim sparsa colligere, sed quorundam haud multò maiorum [illegible] exemplo, quorum ex uisceribus sericum prodit, ex seipsis sapere potius, [illegible] [illegible] sgrauis ac uerus, & sermo [illegible] ornatus. [illegible] [illegible] paucis [illegible] datum est [illegible] ramus æquanimiter ingenii nostri sortem, nec al[illegible] [illegible] ui[illegible]tes,

[illegible] S [illegible] h m [illegible] tatu [illegible] ter [illegible] d [illegible] L [illegible] Cicero [illegible] ax [illegible] el [illegible] em [illegible] m, [illegible] s, [illegible] tiam dep [illegible] ed interdum m [illegible] us, [illegible] ad summa [illegible] itu [illegible] dec [illegible] atura pr [illegible] Quod [illegible], quamd [illegible] um [illegible] ed [illegible] porrigere, [illegible] quas la- [illegible] us indoctum non uidebi [illegible] læti [illegible] et, ut [illegible] ens causa tactæ delectationis esse debuer [illegible] nem [illegible] cuius se ducem poll [illegible] atur interdat. A [illegible] et non in [illegible] sunt, qu [illegible] nob [illegible] e [illegible] contr [illegible] scamus, larg [illegible] æt [illegible] t [illegible] non quod dele [illegible] abilius [illegible] sed quod [illegible] m [illegible] datur [illegible] ex [illegible] aucor [illegible] ille inge [illegible] m, qui [illegible] rum [illegible] fi [illegible] mis h [illegible] es aut balbus, qui Alcibiadis form [illegible] animo [illegible] re- [illegible] quentiam Ciceroni æquauerit. Cum igitur ingenium [illegible] a sit & moderatrix rerum omnium discretio, ut [illegible] blandiens, & ipse se fallens, importabi [illegible] a [illegible] a te [illegible] scriptum est:

[illegible] umite materiam uestris qui scribitis æquam
[illegible] & ue [illegible] sate diu, quid ferre recusent
[illegible] nt humeri.

[illegible] ua [illegible] d o ingenium est, & meditationibus sublevan [illegible] scendere. Alioquin præterquam quod con [illegible] a cupimus, post alia negligamus. D [illegible] d [illegible] ud Quintilianum ac [illegible] imum [illegible] d [illegible] im erat, [illegible] a n [illegible] A [illegible] ent [illegible] equenter ut labore c [illegible] n [illegible] endi cupiditate. Qu [illegible] de re me [illegible] à me, ut notum est [illegible] fami [illegible] æ tamen cu [illegible], q [illegible] bi à patruo [illegible] um. [illegible], [illegible] a [illegible] rum (quoniam [illegible] demum exercuit eam [illegible] nceps, a [illegible] s [illegible] a propinquitate. Is cum le [illegible] ndum [illegible] hole adhuc o [illegible] m [illegible] Qu [illegible] sa fr [illegible] tis iam [illegible] bd [illegible] Nec d [illegible] nu [illegible] au [illegible] adolescens, [illegible] mni [illegible] atæ [illegible] du [illegible] lectio [illegible] æ, no [illegible] e [illegible] n [illegible] pe [illegible] m [illegible] in [illegible] m [illegible] c ne [illegible], imo [illegible] m [illegible] ha [illegible] fe [illegible] ab [illegible] an [illegible] m [illegible] n [illegible] um tamen pro facult [illegible] e. Ad [illegible] m [illegible] c [illegible] n [illegible] um [illegible] loquentia a [illegible] d [illegible] o, [illegible] anim [illegible] fer [illegible] tam magna con [illegible], ap [illegible] æ q [illegible] no [illegible] erat:

[illegible] memores, æstate [illegible]
Experiunt[illegible] medium quæs[illegible] reponunt.

[illegible] s dum te [illegible] est, dum feruet ætas [illegible] eorum. Non [illegible] [illegible] quod eas [illegible] flores [illegible] æstate [illegible] is infundunt [illegible]:

[illegible] eam [illegible] a fundantur [illegible] murmure campus.

S[illegible] ad [illegible] tem nostram [illegible] ius extendere [illegible] [illegible]. Aetas [illegible] Quid ex [illegible] nostris posteritas feret, [illegible] pertenon [illegible] timus:

Nudus ara, sere nudus hyemus ignaua colono.

Sed ne a[illegible] apibus, ad colonos dilabitur oratio nunc potius, nunc in pratis, & per rura [illegible] [illegible] hominum [illegible] ros, ex quibus [illegible] tentas [illegible] mas, ac suauissimas eligentes, candida circum [illegible] fundamur. [illegible] modeste, sonnterq; faciendum est studiorum nostrorum non inanem [illegible] [illegible] argutijs paratam sed ueritatis effectum, ac uirtutis hon[illegible] [illegible] Lic[illegible] crede) sine clamosis altercationibus scire aliq[illegible] clamo[illegible] sed med[illegible] Profectò itaq; [illegible] quam esse pro[illegible] bi est non [illegible] multitudinis, quàm ueritas in silentio placebit [illegible] nu[illegible] interdum autenticarum scripturarum uerba con[illegible] que ita non [illegible] bit,

Sed strepet omni s murmure campus.

[illegible] uides) liberalius ago, quàm dubitationis tuæ necessitas exigebat, aliud [illegible] [illegible] omnem locum fugias, ubi aut turpiter, aut cum pompa u[illegible] populatis arbitrium: nec minus tibi, quàm apibus pestiferum scias ha[illegible] cœlum. Aut ubi odor cœni gauisa, ut ubi,

Concaua pulsu saxa, sonant uocisq; offensa
Resultat imago.

Neq; tibi [illegible] hoc dictum putes, sed omnibus quicunq; in ali[illegible] rerum laudabili[illegible] tione [illegible] ur. Duobus h[illegible] præcipue nobilia m[illegible] suffocan[illegible] [illegible] & opinionum perueritate [illegible] Dum enim [illegible] animus, & [illegible] ab ipsa ueritas agnit[illegible] imitat[illegible] quæ dicerem, qua[illegible] exemplo ex cunctis quæ [illegible] cordis [illegible] onde, eaq; summa diligentia paice, tenaciterq; con[illegible] [illegible] apud te [illegible] decerpsen[illegible], maneat caue. [illegible] nisi in aliud [illegible] melius inuenta couerteret. Tibi quoq; [illegible] [illegible] peteris, in fanum stylo redigenda[illegible] adeo Hinc enim [illegible] præsens & uentura ætas attribu[illegible]. Atq; ut null[illegible] s hod[illegible] tempore certo, dulcia m[illegible] ntum & [illegible] da, & durum Bacchi domitura soporem. Vale

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMAE MESSANENSI. S. Epist. VIII.

Eloquentiam, animiq; æquitatem cæteris rebus anteponendam.

A N[illegible] philosophum quærit, eruditio linguæ oratoris est pro[illegible] [illegible] si uos (ut aiunt) humo tollere: & per ora uirum, [illegible] st. Sed de priore alibi, magna enim res [illegible] & labor ing[illegible] [illegible] in aliud exeam, quàm quod me ad[illegible] [illegible] m, & mores quòd primum [illegible] [illegible] mus, quod a[illegible] ofæ nobis eloqu[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] deratio[illegible] [illegible] hic ex [illegible] [illegible] nunciat [illegible] endum est, in & [illegible] ma[illegible] s. Quanquam tibi animo con[illegible] non posse[illegible] so adesse sermoni dignitas non potest, nisi ani[illegible] af.

stas assuerit. Quid enim attinet, quod C[illegible]is [illegible]ntibus prorsus immersens, quod [illegible], neq; [illegible]strorum scripta prætereas, ornatè quidem, lepidè, dulciter, altisonè loqui p[illegible] grauiter, seuerè, sapienterq; (quod per omnia est) uniformiter certè non poteris. Q[illegible]m nisi primum desideria inuicem nostra conueniant (quod præter sapientem, scito [illegible]emini posse cötingere) illud necesse est, ut dissidentibus curis, & mores, & uerba dissideāt. At [illegible]ne disposita mens, instar in monte serenitatis, placida semper, ac tranquilla est, scit quid uelit, & quod semel uoluit, uelle non desinit. Itaq; tametsi orationis [illegible]s ornamenta, non sup[illegible], ex ipsa magnificentissimas, & certè sicut consonas elicit. Negari autē nequit, quid[illegible] [illegible]ularius emergere, quotiens compositis primum animi motibus, quibus æstu[illegible] b[illegible] fœliciter cunturum, sperare licet, eloquentiæ studio tempus impenditur, quæ si no[illegible] ce[illegible]a non foret, & me[illegible] suis uiribus nisa, bonaq; sua in silentio explicans, uerbo[illegible] [illegible]agijs non egeret ad cæteroru[illegible] [illegible]item utilitatem, quibus cùm uiuimus [illegible]oran[illegible]ū [illegible]uorum animos nostris collo[illegible]us, plurimum adiuuari posse non am[illegible]n[illegible]utem & dices: Heu, quantum & nobis tutiùs, & illis [illegible]atiùs fuerat sua [illegible] u[illegible] tum [illegible]ulis, nostræ uirtutis exempla præberemus, quorum illi pulchritudine de[illegible] a[illegible]mitationis impetum rapetentur. Natura enim hoc habet, multò melius, multoq; f[illegible]us [illegible]ctum, quàm uerborum stimulis excitemur, perq; hanc uiam expeditus, ad om[illegible] uirtu[illegible] altitudinem consurgamus. Ego uerò non aduersor. Quid enim de hoc sentirem, [illegible]m tūc [illegible]li[illegible]ere potuisti, cum in primis animum componendum esse præmonui. Non equidem si[illegible]e [illegible]ausa reor dixisse Satyricum:

Prima mihi debet animi bona.

Non esset autem prima, si quod illa præcederet. Veruntamen, quantum quoq; ad i[illegible]m[illegible] [illegible]em humanæ uitæ possit eloquentia, & apud multos auctores lectum, & q[illegible]tidiana experientia monstrante compertum est, quàm multos, quibus nihil omninò loq[illegible] [illegible]m exempla contulerant, ætate nostra, uelut experrectos agnouimus, & à sceleratissimæ uitæ c[illegible]rsu, ad summam repentè modestiam, alienis tantum uocibus fuisse conuersos. [illegible] ictera[illegible] tibi hunc, quæ de hac re M. Cicero in libris Inuentionum copiosiùs disputat, [illegible] locus ille notissimus, nec fabulam Orphei, uel Amphionis interserām, quorum ille [illegible]s immanes, hic arbores, ac saxa cantu mouisse, & quocunq; uellet duxisse perhibetur [illegible]n[illegible] propt[illegible] excellentem facundiam, qua fretus alter libidinosos ac truces, brutorumq; animantiū m[illegible]ibus simillimos, alter agrestes, & duros in saxi modū atq; intractabiles animos, ad mansu[illegible]tudinem, & omniū rerum patientiam creditur animasse. Adde quod hoc studio, multis in longinqua regione degentibus, prodesse permittitur, ad quos enim nostra c[illegible]pia, & con[illegible] [illegible]unquam forte uenturus est sermo perueniet. Iam uerò quantum posteriu[illegible] collatu[illegible]imu[illegible] [illegible]ptimè metiemur, si quātum nobis contulerint, maiorum nost[illegible] inuenta me[illegible]m[illegible]s. Sed hic rursus occurres. Quid enim est est opus, amplius el[illegible]b[illegible]rat[illegible] m[illegible]a quæ ad utilitates hominum spectant, iam ante mille annos, tàm multis uoluminibus [illegible]lo prorsus mirabili, & diuinis ingenijs scripta manent? Pone (quæso) hanc sollicitu[illegible], nunquā [illegible] re[illegible]a trahat ad inertiam. Hunc enim metū, & quidam ex ueteribus nobis abstulerunt, & [illegible] post me uenturis aufero. Decem adhùc redeant annorum millia, secu[illegible] seculis aggre[illegible]n[illegible]ur, nūquam satis laudabitur uirtus, nunquam ad amorem Dei, ad odium uoluptatum, p[illegible] ta sufficient, nunquam a[illegible] ingenijs iter obstruetur, ad nouarum rerum indaginē. Bo[illegible] [illegible]itur animo simus, non lab[illegible]mus in irritum, non frustrà laborabunt, qui post multas ætat[illegible] sub finem mundi senescentis orientur: potiùs illud metuendum est, ne prius homines e[illegible]e desinant, quàm ad intimum ueritatis arcanum, humanorum studi[illegible]um cura perruperit. Postremò si cæterorum hominum charitas nulla nos cogeret, optimum tamen & nobis ipsis fructuosissimum arbitrar[illegible] [illegible]oquentiæ studium non in ultimis habere. De se alij uiderint, de me autem quid mereantur, in solitudine quædam uoces familiares, ac notæ non modò corde conceptæ, sed etiam ore prolatæ, quibus dormitante an[illegible]m[illegible]m excitare sole[illegible], quam præterea delectet, uel aliorum, uel mea nunquā scripta reuoluere, [illegible]ant[illegible]im[illegible]e ex e[illegible]ecti[illegible]ne exonerari me sentiam, grauissimis, acerbissimisq; molestijs, nō fac[illegible]è dicturū me sperauerim. Eoq; magis proprijs adiuuor interdū, quo illa lāguorib. meis, ap[illegible]ra [illegible] [illegible]æ c[illegible]a[illegible]nus, medici languentis, & ubi dolor esset sentiebris, apponit. Quod n[illegible]nquàm profectò consequerer, nisi uerba ipsa salutaria demul[illegible]erent aures, & me ad sæpius relegendum, ut quadam in[illegible]æ dulcedinis excita[illegible] sensim illaberentur, atque abd[illegible]is aculeis in[illegible]a[illegible]ansfigere[illegible]t. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMAE MESSANENSI, S. Epist. IX.

Quendam senem Dialecticum detestatur.

Senculum tuum optime ualentem noueris, mores non animo tantum, sed & corpori ... pitulantur, frugalitas bonæ ualetudinis soror est, hunc (nisi fame conficitur) immortalem scito ... siccum & defecatum corpusculum est: ita nihil loci febribus, aut podagræ, uictus hominis, aspectus ipse testatur, uultus, pallor, macies, & oculorum specus ... triste supercilium, & inculta seueritas. Accedit in coturni more, subductus calceus, & attritum ... palliolum, modò literas nosset, Philosophum aut Poëtam diceres. Physicū enim tergum, tragicos pedes habet, quicquid ad hæc additur, superuacuum erit. Vt tamen paucis expediam, haud absimilis est seni Plautino, cuius mores atque animum, mordaci sale respergens, senius ille in Aulularia:

Pumex (inquit) non æquè est aridus, atque hic est senex.
Suam rem periisse, seque eradicarier.
Deum diuûm atque hominum clamat continuò fidem.
De suo tigillo fumus si qua exit foras.
Quin cùm it dormitum, follem obstringit ob gulam.
Ne quid animæ fortè amittat dormiens.
Aquam, hercle, plorat quum lauat profundere.
Famem, hercle, utendam si roges nunquam dabit.
Quin ipsi pridem tonsor ungues dempserat
Collegit, omnia abstulitque præsegmina:
Pulmentum pridem ei eripuit miluius.
Homo ad prætorem plorabundus deuenit.
Infit, ibi postulare, plorans, eiulans.
Vt sibi liceret miluium uadarier.
Sexcenta sunt quæ memorem, si sit ocium.

Hæc ille. Huius autem nostri sexies sexcenta talia curiosus fabulator inueniet, hospitem Apulei Milonem prodigalitatis arguet, quisquis hunc uiderit, uel semel audierit disciplinam rei familiaris, œconomicis nulli unquam philosopho cognitis regulis coarctantem, sed nimis alienis uitijs immoramur. Redeamus ad propria omnes ferè mortales uno morbo laboramus, extremis contrarijs iactamur. Et est illud Flacci uerissimum:

Dum uitant stulti uitia in contraria currunt.

Quid autem interesse credimus, inter Rufilli pastillos, Gorgonij hircum, aut inter Aristippi iacturam, Stallerij epigramma? Non oportet errare per deuia, & longè quærere quid beatos faciat, ut ... extremis habitant, uirtus in medio sita est. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMAE MESSANENSI, S. Epist. X.

Parasitum faceta periphrasi famelico homini comparat.

Foeliciter puto successit, prima percontatio, secūdam facit experiri uis (ut arbitror) in demonstratiuo causæ genere, quid possim. In laudibus potius, quàm in contrario me probasses uelim, sed quādo sic placitum tibi, & sine nomine res agitur, quamuis exacta periphrasis, uicem proprij nominis obtineat, & hic quoque quæstioni tuæ morem geram. Is de quo quæris:

Scurra uagus est.

Est qualem describit Horatius:

Qui non certum præsepe teneret
Impransus, non qui ciuem dignosceret hoste.

In summa omnium importunissimus, qui unquam parasiticæ arti operam dederit, nihilo tamen fœlicior quàm si omnium desidiosissimus foret, non tam uel natura scopulum, uel grandinem agricola, uel mercator furem, quàm eum omnes metuunt, omnes declinant, omnes cedunt semita, quasi oneratus spinis adueniat. Vbique uias uacuas, deserta atria, obseratas fores inuenit, perinde aduentu eius fugitur, ac si in gremio bellum ferat. Nunquam tamen ... commodius ista cōtingunt, quàm hoc anni tempore, æstas utcunque pauperum portus est. Vna arbor, & uestem, & cibum, & tectum, & cubile sufficit. Nunc quid agat, conspi... tat ... ems ... senectus inopi ... nullus opem fert, & (quæ omnium rerum durissima) sine miseratione miseria est. Vidi illū hodie ualido aquilone iactatum, ibat altè succinctus, dederatque

omnia [illegible] dere uentis, Maroneæ Veneris [illegible] morem [illegible] fuluum [illegible] ille [illegible] gm [illegible] habuisset, in reliquis, he [illegible] a Pelasgis accepto habitu, in bell [illegible] at [illegible] enim p[illegible] uestigia nudus erat. Ea rabie [illegible] at ut c[illegible] posset, quod apud Plautum de se præco [illegible] ille Parasitus prædicat:

Nam meus est balista, pugnus cubitus catapulta est mihi,
Humerus aries:

Talis erat. Ita tamen ut terminis diuturnæ famis uestigia cerneretur, hominem denique (ut Plautus idem ait) neque ieiuniosiorem, neque magis effractum fame uidi [illegible] minus prosperè quicquid facere cœpit. Postremò dum e conspectu in angiportū deflexisset, ut pyratarum urbis Scalmum latebris euaderem, uidi illum in transitu, fumi globos, per tabulas [illegible] h[illegible]em, seu Caci speluncam, aut quamlibet Aeolicarum insularum præteruehi [illegible] Audiebam nescio, quem tremulum atque confusum illi è faucibus erumpentem sonum, [illegible] d[illegible]e [illegible] ignoro, tam concisim uerba frangebat, sed puto proprios pedes ac scapulas, illo Satyrico [illegible] arctur elogio:

Durate atque expectate cicadæ.

Habes quod optabas, maledicum me fecisti. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMAE MESSANENSI, S. Epist. XI.

In eundem senem Dialecticum inuehitur.

Ecce iterum tentamur, Dialecticus tuus ut scribit, quiescere non potest, miraris? Mirarer ergo si quiesceret, cuius gloria in strepitu, & conuitijs sita est. Sed [illegible], quod nec ille scribere aliquid nouit, nec eum [illegible] exaudio, [illegible] & [illegible] maris, ac terrarum spatio, & oculi mei illius ignorantia tuti sunt, tot [illegible] pondus in tuum caput refunditur: & merito, quoniam [illegible] Dialecticis ostendisti. Ex omnibus sanè quæ de illius raucissimo latratu collegisse te dicis hoc primum erat & maximum quod artificium nostrum, omnium minimè necessarium dixit. Ecce iam uirtus, quod in alijs literis minabatur euomuit, sed est'ne hoc, quod in studia [illegible] se inuecturum prædixerat? Præclarè quidem. Artificium (inquit) uestrum ex omni[illegible] minimè necessarium. Primum de artificio uideremus, nescio enim, quid artificij nobis a[illegible]at, sed puto de Poëtica eum intelligere. Hanc minimè necessariam dicit non inficio, idem enim uidetur & nostris.

Namque animis natum, inuentumque Poëma iuuandis.

Et Flaccus ipse testatur, & res ipsa docuit Poëticam delectationi, atque ornamento esse, non nec[illegible]tati editam. Viuat ergo Dialecticus tuus, & cornutis semper aestuat [illegible] do & nobiscum sentit, & non est ignarus omnium ut rebar. Sed nequaquam [illegible] conuetur, torrens & feruidum ingenium. Quid ergo? Rapidum enthyme[illegible]et, si minus necessaria (inquit) & minus nobilis. O' quam malè regitur [illegible] Dialecticum modò, sed phreneticum ostendit, ergo sutrina, & pistrina uilissima [illegible] mechanicarum artium, si necessitas nobilitare illas potest, nobilissime omnium fient: philosophia autem & reliquæ omnes quæcunque beatam, atque excultam, & ornatam uitam faciunt, si necessitatibus, nil conferunt, ignobiles. O' doctrinam nouam, & exoticam [illegible] cuius nomen infamant) Aristoteli incognitam. Ille enim ait. Necessariores quidem omnes, dignior uero nulla. Legat primum Metaphysicæ librum, & inueniet. Sed ignota regione, uerum sequi, & scrupuloso tramite senem ire iubeo, non paruus labor. Vale.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS FAMILIARIBVS,

LIBER II.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PHILIPPO CAVALLICENSI EPISCOPO, S. Epist. I.

Propter obitum fratris mœrentem consolatur.

INGENS scribendi negotiũ mihi nunc adimit uirtus tua, ut enim corporis, sic animi grauius affecti, difficilior cura est, utrunq; autẽ sano, aut nullis, aut planè leuioribus remedijs est opus, utq; hic Medico, ita hic consolatore minus (imò uerò nihil) est opus, tecum ergo uir optime, acuratiùs agerẽ, si te fregisset, aut strauisset aduersitas. nũc cum fortunæ impetum forti animo tulens, consolatoris mihi partes eripiens, laudatoris, ac miratoris officiũ reliquisti, qua in re ut dicebam operosioris styli mihi materiã præcidisti. Consolatio enim, ut mœsti auditoris animũ penetrare, eget multa uerborum maiestate, eget grauibus, animosisq; sententijs, uirtutũ testimoniũ simplex, & incultum sufficit, nec oportet ueritatem rerũ fictus adumbrare coloribus: quoniã uirtus ipsa sibi plaudit, & proprio contenta præconio, alterius theatri strepitum non requirit, ueneram ad te nuper, acri rumore perculsus, immaturæ mortis amantissimi fratris tui, & quàm concussus esset animus tuus, ex mei pectoris mansuetudine metiebar, nec cogitabam quosdam ictus inualidis tyronib. fuisse mortiferos, quos spreuisset fortis, & expertus miles, quosdam alieni sanguinis effusione perterritos exclamasse, ingemuisse, expalluisse, sæpe in extasim concidisse: cùm tamen interim quorũ ille pectoribus imminabat, taciti & intrepidi starent, siccisq; oculis uulnerũ suorũ fluenta conspicerẽt. Veneram itaq; mœstus & ad benè ualentẽ Medicus æger accesseram, inueni faciẽ tuam, inter animũ debitæ pietatis, ac decorem propriæ honestatis, fraternæ cõpassionis, & uirilis animi signa præferentem, utrunq; mihi placuit, alterũ mansuetudinẽ, alterũ sapientiã tuã decet. Humanũ est in morte suorũ pietatis testes lachrymas fundere, uirile est modũ illis imponere, casq; cum aliquandiu fluxerint coërcere, id te utrinq;, quã decuit implesse, uultus tui habitus designabat. Accesserunt & uerba maximorũ plena sensuũ, ex quibus ego, qui consolandi proposito adueneram, non tàm tibi opem meã necessariam cognoui, quam ipsa solamen curis meis elicui. Nihil ego consolantis in morẽ locuturus, laudo, probo, admiror, & stupeo magnitudinẽ animi tui. Fratrẽ optimũ amisisti, imò uerò non amisisti, sed in patriam præmisisti, ad quam tibi quoq; ueniendũ est Sed loquamur ut uulgus, nõ sentiamus ut uulgus, amisisti non amisisses, nisi foret ille mortalis, quærela est igitur nõ de unius hominis morte, sed de mortalitate naturæ, quæ nos ea lege introduxit in hanc uitam, ut egrederemur ad reuocãtis imperium. At reuocasse ante tempus, & præcipiti edicto fecisse uidetur iniuriam. Nullum certum præfinitum tempus est, sine termino debitores sumus, si essemus in diem obligati, possemus ut q; differre, tergiuersari, & exactricis auaritiam culpare. Nunc de celeritate conqueri non possumus, quasi ante diem repetatur, quod statim ut accepimus, debuimus. Sed poterat ulterius uiuere, poterat & citiùs mori, poterat & aliter mori, & quanquàm honesto uiro nulla mors posit inhonesta contingere, poterat tamen durius mori. Iste uerò sic uixit, sic mortuus est, ut Deo gratias agere debeas, & quod talem dedit, & quod taliter abstulit, & si fata rerum humanarum, ac uarietatem casuum recognoscas, non solùm non lugebis, sed fortasis etiam gaudebis extinctum. Sæpe enim mors labores uitæ præsentis intercipit, sæpe præoccupat, quot anxietates, solicitudines mundi huius? Quis miserias? quis ærumnas, & tot contumelias fortunæ? Quis animi, corporisq; pericula? & in utrunq; ius habentium morborũ turbas enumeret? Quibus & hominibus premimur, semper tamẽ subiacemus, donec nos ab eorum potestate suprema dies exemerit. Ab his omnibus itaq; frater tuus, beneficio tẽporis uiꝗ mortis immunis est. In hac aiũt Pater benignissimè illum, & nimis uulgariter erramus, quod morte nostra limus uitæ cõmodis abduci, qui tamen si quis altius consideret, ab innumerabilibus malis morte diuidunt. Quod facillimè possem & auctoritatibus, & rationibus, & exemplis ostendere, nisi quia longum sermonem epistolæ breuitas non capit, iam ergo feliciter adole-

lix [illegible] en, ista [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] q [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] cui-
[illegible] men [illegible] S [illegible] es, [illegible] quisi-
n [illegible] m qu [illegible] quidē
[illegible] tur, [illegible] Lætit [illegible] s ul-
[illegible] ex [illegible] reli [illegible] c [illegible]
[illegible] eto a
[illegible] Q [illegible] d [illegible]
[illegible] as, [illegible]
[illegible] mori [illegible] e
[illegible] opi [illegible] us [illegible] cen [illegible] q [illegible] a [illegible]
[illegible] ter [illegible] contra [illegible] exitū, gau [illegible] ex
[illegible] mi [illegible] corditer [illegible] d lætiora trad [illegible] fratri [illegible]
a [illegible] quod cum procul a [illegible] patrijs inu [illegible]
[illegible] s [illegible] ēta uerissime dictum [illegible] quod [illegible] patum est. [illegible]
[illegible] st, quod ait Apostolus: Non habemu [illegible], sed [illegible]
[illegible] bi inuicem a [illegible], sed nō sun [illegible] diu [illegible] te [illegible]
[illegible] d sen [illegible] expressi [illegible] & q [illegible] alter at p [illegible] tam [illegible] er [illegible] le-
[illegible] ter [illegible] extra pat [illegible] am suam mo [illegible] Apo [illegible] & [illegible] extra
p [illegible] tandem in patri [illegible] m reuertamur, & [illegible] tramus [illegible] ua-
[illegible] s, cur de fatalis zonæ distantia conqueraris [illegible] Detur fortasse [illegible] ut
[illegible] honestis affectibus seu turpibus inductis, locum unum alteri præferendū esse,
c [illegible] o [illegible] certè nihil interest, ubi potissimū moriamur. Et si cui contrariū uide-
[illegible] nu [illegible], & muliercularum erroribus imbutū norit. Interro [illegible] Philosophus
[illegible] mal [illegible] Nihil sua interest, respondit, undiq; enim (utiqui) a [illegible] un [illegible] em
[illegible] quibus [illegible] ascendēs CHRISTVS in cœlū, ascende [illegible] spem rel [illegible] d [illegible]
[illegible] a, an in Gallijs, an in Hispaniæ fu [illegible] us, a [illegible]
[illegible] ad cœlum tantundem uiæ est. Illa nobis uia calcanda est, [illegible] q [illegible]
[illegible] m habemus, quem sequētes aberrare non possumus, si ad [illegible] m [illegible]
[illegible] os per [illegible] net, ubi hanc corporum sarcinam deponamu [illegible]
[illegible] fortu [illegible] in [illegible] e, longe iacentiū corporum reassumptionē, in die noui [illegible] imo [illegible] d
[illegible] ma [illegible] uer [illegible] ali digna filio, mulier non timebat, quæ moriens, [illegible] rdinan [illegible]
[illegible] ait h [illegible] c corpus ubicunq;, nihil nos eius cura conturbet. [illegible]
[illegible] e [illegible] a morte formidaret? Vide quid respondit. [illegible] n
[illegible] e ille nō agnoscat in fine sæculi, unde me resu [illegible]
[illegible] qui & [illegible] holici [illegible] mus & uiros pollicemur, n [illegible] ud m [illegible]
[illegible] ac [illegible] me [illegible] ge [illegible] nt supe [illegible] tes, in mortibus amicorū, qu [illegible] d [illegible] et n [illegible]
[illegible] int, quo [illegible] amare [illegible] cxe [illegible] unt. Paganorum [illegible] ita [illegible]
[illegible] ant [illegible] m, qui animos pu [illegible] t cum corporib. interire. Cert [illegible] M [illegible] q [illegible]
[illegible] ut not [illegible] simū, ita d [illegible] cid [illegible] m est, credens animam immort [illegible] m, [illegible]
[illegible] p [illegible] nc uitam cœleste habitaculū patere, non hæc opinabaru [illegible]. N [illegible] inqua [illegible]
m [illegible] senem induceret, in eo libro, qui inscribitur Cato Maior [illegible] erant
[illegible] s [illegible] præclarum diem, cum in illud diuinorū consilium, cœtumq; p [illegible]
[illegible] q; ex [illegible] turba, & colluuione discedam. Proficiscar enim, nō ad eos [illegible]
[illegible] e [illegible] xi, sed etiam ad Catonem meum, qu [illegible] nemo [illegible] me [illegible] a [illegible] n
[illegible] qu [illegible] Et rursus eodem loco quid [illegible] L [illegible] eror [illegible] idio, P [illegible] es u [illegible]
[illegible] endi, neq; eos solum c [illegible], quo [illegible] ipse co [illegible] s e [illegible]
[illegible] au [illegible] & le [illegible] & ipse conscripsi. Hæc & his simil [illegible] quæ apud Ci [illegible] em Ca [illegible]
[illegible] uid [illegible] q; crederet testantur. Hi tamen ut [illegible] credi [illegible] erint [illegible] a
[illegible], a [illegible] aces fuerant, nobis ab illo, qui [illegible] non pot [illegible]
[illegible] uc tandem [illegible] fratrem tuum tran [illegible] latum c [illegible] esse [illegible]
[illegible] dixerit al [illegible] is: D [illegible] lectio t [illegible] qitcor am [illegible] a [illegible]
[illegible] Q [illegible] acias [illegible] ud nisi q [illegible] lol [illegible] nt, q [illegible]
[illegible] a [illegible] emo [illegible] a [illegible] c, p [illegible] nda [illegible]
[illegible] aim [illegible] d [illegible] qu [illegible] s pe [illegible] spectu [illegible] certus [illegible]

[illegible]fecisti)fratrem tuum [illegible] illat oblivio. Illum [illegible] [illegible] cogit [illegible] d [illegible] frequen[illegible] [illegible] patriam [illegible] N[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] adhuc & [illegible] a propè ante [illegible] patriam pr[illegible] peru[illegible] pr[illegible] de[illegible] Lachrymæ autem [illegible] annos non [illegible] imæ forsan [illegible]ssimæ. Al[illegible] ciunt, & [illegible] pro[illegible] am[illegible] dum[illegible] Si [illegible] simul [illegible] ita id [illegible] num esse n[illegible] breu[illegible] hominum uita, [illegible] non [illegible] sus, no[illegible] ad illum o[illegible] [illegible] sci. Omnis autem breuis [illegible] ut Cicer[illegible] tolera[illegible] a[illegible] ent, e[illegible] si ma[illegible] mille laboribus [illegible] erat [illegible] requiem p[illegible] de [illegible] peruenturus [illegible] sæculi flu[illegible] ago[illegible] Quamobrem si [illegible] propter [illegible] ipsum, quod relictus est deflet, [illegible] me me [illegible] po[illegible] re, Tullianum [illegible] grauiter [illegible] non amic[illegible], sed se[illegible] e[illegible] Si uerò propter illum, uere[illegible] idem a[illegible] magis, quàm ami[illegible] H[illegible] ad informationem, qu[illegible] ad gloriam t[illegible]am retuli, quo[illegible] cœperam, [illegible] a tori æterno, ut externa consolation[illegible] non indiges, q[illegible] quam quid et[illegible] in [illegible] ge[illegible] re potuissent, hæ literulæ raptim de arescentis ingenij scatebris expressæ. Superuac[illegible] deinceps illorum exempla subtexere, qui suorum mortem fort[illegible] memo[illegible] ta men ut intelligas, quorum ego te numeris ascribo, tantoque fr[illegible] comitatu hære[illegible] pto, quantum memoria [illegible] lecti potuero (pauci enim libelli me in hanc [illegible] secuti) aliquot nobiliora exempla, ex omni copia uetustatis interseram. Aemilius P[illegible] amplissimus, & suæ ætatis [illegible] ac patriæ summum decus, ex quatuor filijs præclari[illegible] lis, duos extra familiam in adoptionem alijs dando, ipse sibi abstulit, duo[illegible] ptem dierum spatium mors rapuit, ipse tamen orbitatem suam, tàm excel[illegible] ut prodiret in publicum. Vbi audiente P. R. casum suum tàm magnificè consolatus est, ut magis met[illegible] ne quem dolor ille fregisset, quàm ipse fractus esse uideretur, ex q[illegible] m[illegible]orem iudice me, gloriam cœpit, quàm ex triumpho, quem illis diebus spec[illegible] egerat. Per[illegible] enim Macedoniæ, per hoc mortis ac fortunæ uictor apparuit. P[illegible] thenien[illegible] dux, in[illegible] a quatuor dies, duobus filijs orbatus, non solùm non ingemuit, se[illegible] priorem frontis habitum mutauit. Cato senior ille (cuius suprà mentionem habui [illegible] [illegible] laudetur ab omnibus, nullus ignorat, qui modo uel tenuiter nouit historias. Q[illegible] [illegible]s est, sine ulla historiarum notitia, sic iam apud cunctos huius nomin[illegible] fama perc[illegible] [illegible], uix quicquam ad sapientiæ summam adijci posse uideatur. [illegible] [illegible]o, qu[illegible] modernorum consensu Cato sapientissimus habeatur. A[illegible] [illegible] a hominis illius, nihil singularius admiramur, quàm quòd mortem [illegible] [illegible] datur [illegible]. Xenophon filij morte nunciata, sacrificium (cui n[illegible] [illegible] non omisit, coronam tantùm, quam capite gestabat deposuit, mox interroga[illegible] [illegible] audiens, quod strenuè pugnàs cecidisset, coronam ipsam capiti repos[illegible] [illegible] de cuiquam morte non dolendum, nisi turpiter, & ignauè morientis [illegible] [illegible]e est, uirum sapientem, uereque Socraticum [illegible] ad primum nuncij relatum d[illegible] [illegible]iam. Anaxagoras mortem filij nunciatam. Nihil (inquit) nouum, aut inexp[illegible] [illegible]go enim cùm sim mortal[illegible] sciebam ex me genitum esse mortalem. O uere d[illegible] [illegible] responsum. Quàm mul[illegible] è medio etiam grege Philosophorum, qui & [illegible] nat[illegible] conditionem amplecti simul [illegible]rent, tamen peruersum moriendi ordinem, taciti nō t[illegible] Anaxa[illegible] uero nihil inopinatum poterat contingere. Cogitabat enim assidu[illegible] d est apud Senecam [illegible]nia & mortalia esse, & incerta lege mortalia. Quodque alij qu[illegible] l[illegible]o a[illegible]idem, sciebat [illegible] omnia restare. Ideoque quicquid factum esset, dicturus fuerat [illegible] M[illegible] nu[illegible] idem constantiæ similis exempla offerunt, sed Epistolæ m[illegible] [illegible] imponam. Etsi cui forsan patientia tua, ab his laud[illegible] bus aliena [illegible], propter[illegible] a quod tu non filium perdideris, sed fratrem [illegible] tiar [illegible] sentir[illegible], quod opinio sua fert: ego quidem in me[illegible] o [illegible]rum c[illegible] taxat exp[illegible] amo[illegible]nem non no[illegible] i, at fr[illegible] necis u[illegible] excep[illegible] [illegible] Nihil itaque [illegible]ntendo, ne[illegible] inuice[illegible] eo, [illegible] [illegible], sæpe facilius am[illegible] restaurari posse, quàm fratrem. Vale.

[illegible] Epist. II

[illegible]

A [illegible] sed mag [illegible] que sic iudiciū [illegible]
[illegible] nolaris, au [illegible]
[illegible] potius, quàm
[illegible] mihi
[illegible] am [illegible] potem, uulga-
[illegible] Aegy-
[illegible] n
[illegible]
[illegible] tram? [illegible] eō
[illegible] etiam in proter [illegible] er
[illegible] mulcrum fieri putas? Satis est notus [illegible]

Non sit morte miser.

[illegible] ios facit, & beatos [illegible] quisque ad ext [illegible]
[illegible] fœlix est, securus est, in portu est, quid ergo [illegible]
[illegible] tellus illum [illegible] mat. [illegible]
[illegible] sepultura singulariter præ [illegible] m
[illegible] e demersum, quem [illegible] alterum [illegible]
[illegible] nimis horrorem, quia [illegible] licet.

Vnda [illegible] pisces [illegible] uulnere [illegible]?

[illegible] enus uulnera, rabidi canes absumpserint, [illegible] ef-
[illegible] a discerpserint. Respondebis, ut arbitror, & h [illegible] ta
[illegible] ees erunt, quibus inconcessa cont [illegible] pti-
[illegible] cūcta prouidens, negata bel [illegible] a-
[illegible] qui con [illegible] ctum pulcherrimo [illegible]
[illegible] passurus. Verum ista nón ade [illegible]
[illegible] quod sæpè dicere soleo) nec mea [illegible] um est [illegible]
[illegible] Quo [illegible] hac uita patimur molesti, non tàm ex [illegible]
[illegible] imbecil [illegible] siue (ut eorum etiam uerbis utar) ex op [illegible]
[illegible] a timemus, usitata contemnimus. Cur quæso? Nisi qu [illegible] m s
[illegible] m facie turbatur, in altero frequenti meditatione [illegible] cum
[illegible] quem [illegible] ibus cunctis opponeret. Respice natura [illegible] qu
[illegible] corpora suorum in fluctus effund [illegible]. Vnum de mul [illegible] empl
[illegible] de Au [illegible], uir acerrimus atque forti [illegible] is, d [illegible]
[illegible] proelio, quod primum cum Venetis h [illegible] uerunt, o [illegible] ab
[illegible] temporibus gesta sunt) qui hostili classe co [illegible] d
[illegible] cogn [illegible], numero licet inferior, tamen suos pro tempo [illegible] re
[illegible] magnum hoc hoste conseruit. Cumque in eo congre [illegible]
[illegible] adolescens, qui paternæ nauis proram obtinebat, sagitta tra [illegible] m-
[illegible] uisset, ac circa iacentem luctus horrendus sublatus esset, accurr [illegible]
[illegible] uit) sed pugnandi tempus est. Deinde uersus ad filium, polit [illegible]
[illegible] dit. T [illegible] nunquam tàm pulchra habuit es sepul [illegible]
[illegible] Hæc dicens, [illegible] complexus, p [illegible] in
[illegible] quidem u [illegible] calamitate fœli [illegible] us, cui [illegible] m
[illegible] actum nemp [illegible] ac uerba, accensis animis, eg [illegible]
[illegible] Nec minus ideò pi [illegible] habitus, quàm si [illegible] ens cada [illegible]
[illegible] in eo præc [illegible] rerū statu, cum [illegible] Reip. discrimine [illegible]
[illegible] aliquid in tuis uidens [illegible] propter mor [illegible] d [illegible]
[illegible] ultu [illegible] Nautici ergo homines, q [illegible] a [illegible] aciturisint d [illegible] en [illegible] d
[illegible] æq [illegible] f [illegible] runt, [illegible] euenit, qui [illegible] perpetu, longa [illegible]
[illegible] cum Cicerone, pl [illegible] u [illegible] ss quàm [illegible] P
[illegible] etus q [illegible] p
[illegible]
[illegible] s, & ab [illegible]
[illegible] co [illegible] a d [illegible]
[illegible] ad id unū pro singulorū facultat [illegible]

 gene-

& generosis canis [illegible] a [illegible] m uerò per se ipsos de- [illegible] Græcorum gente Regina, [illegible] ter [illegible] sepulchrum [illegible] ita ut [illegible] uo conderet [illegible] in ciuitate [illegible] [illegible] salutem [illegible] Germanicæ [illegible] [illegible] amauerat [illegible] idem factum [illegible] stupesces, & abominatione [illegible] s auertes. [illegible] ubi [illegible] nec humanitas nec insignis am[illegible] uulgare [illegible] dicetur. Non [illegible] maioribus nostris in hac ipsa Italia m[illegible] uum co[illegible] [illegible] morem & historiarum fides, & usque ad nos [illegible] tatem [illegible] [illegible] restant [illegible] tamen ea peruetusta consuetudo est. A[illegible] [illegible] nec id remedij genus, inexplebili odio [illegible] [illegible] fecit, seque ope flammarum, [illegible] Itaque [illegible] Reip. charos fecerit, omnes integros fuere. Nec [illegible] ullus in [illegible] Cornelia [illegible] ante Lucium Syllam Dictatorem [illegible] [illegible] contra [illegible] morem [illegible] conscius odiorum, corpus cremari [illegible] [illegible] Marij facto, post [illegible] auderet, quo ipse, aut [illegible] [illegible] Valuit exemplum, secutique sunt facti quibus facti ratio nulla erat. Sed post quam remanendi mos inualuit, usuique sua esse cœpit auctoritas, tum demum quod remedium fuerat, decus fuit, & ex illo probrum ingens uisum, supremis ignibus carere. Hinc [illegible] pietas, quæ pauculis signis collectoris in littore Niliaco, truncatum impie Magni Pompeij corpus cremare non tam potuit, quàm uoluit, inde sibi partum nomen. Quis enim [illegible] hunc nollet, nisi Pompeij membris faculas inserentem? Ille autem Codrus Atheniensis [illegible] pietas genere, & propria morte cognoscitur. Nunc defunctos comburere, extremæ fuerit uel iniuriæ uel uindictæ, unde hæc in una, eademque gente uarietas? Nimirum decursu temporis, mutatis mores, opiniones hominum alternant. Nec rursus id quæro, de quo ma[illegible] interdum uiros differentes audiui: Vter esse sepulturæ modus honestior, ne que [illegible] nostrorum memoria, quemque multis adhuc gentibus seruari fama est, lege addita, [illegible] [illegible] hominem in ciuitatibus uetat, quibusdam paucis admodum exceptis, quos [illegible] uirtus legibus solutos fecit, [illegible] tertio de legibus meminit Cicero? An hic noster, [illegible] [illegible] resumptum, Christianæ religionis usus obtinuit? Non ea mihi nunc cur[illegible] Id potius quod agebam peragam, ideò multa nobis horribilia uideri, quia consuetudine [illegible] [illegible] conceptos errores, quæ apud alios diuersi consuetudine non timentur. Si [illegible] [illegible] quod [illegible] tuæ proprium est) cæteris spretis, ueritatem rerum, non [illegible] [illegible] ratione quæsieris, inuenies uirum sapientem, opinionem ab erroribus [illegible] uertere, [illegible] delirantium greges, aut ridere. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SEVERO APENNINICOLAE. S. Epist. III.

Exilium quid, & exul quis.

Exilium [illegible] ab exiliendo tractum fuerat, uel ut Seruio placet, ab eo quod qui ex [illegible] lum erat, non tamen exilium esse, nisi inuito accidat annuerim. Alioquin [illegible] reges exulant eoque maximè tempore, quod prorogandis, tuendis [illegible] finibus, & propagandæ gloriæ impenditur, quãdo nemo illos, exules dicere [illegible] deat, [illegible] à quo ratio omnis exulauerit quippe cum nunquam uerius, & sint, & d[illegible] ges. Aliqua ergo [illegible] deinde aliquis interueniat oportet, ut exilium uerum [illegible] Id [illegible] tam certis in tua [illegible] utrum exul an peregrinus sis, si lachrimans, si mœstus [illegible] ctus exiisti [illegible] procul dubiò noueris. Si uerò nihil propriæ dignitatis ob[illegible] coactus, sed [illegible] eodem habitu frõtis atque animi, quo domi fueras, iussus exire [illegible] non exulas, nam & in cæteris formidatarum rerum generibus [illegible] nies [illegible] ferum, nisi qui se miserũ facit. Sic pauperem, nõ rerum paucitas, sed [illegible] mortem quæ [illegible] simillima est, non tam te ipsius asperitas, quam tri[illegible] [illegible] quibus amoris, multos aspicies, non modò [illegible] [illegible] morientes. Ex quo nimirum intelligitur, non [illegible] [illegible] Nec in re ipsa, sed totum in obliqua mortalium [illegible] [illegible] nunquam in periculo pari, tanta esset impa[illegible] [illegible] opinionem uideo exilij, quàm cæterorum omnium, non in illo, sed in [illegible]

[illegible] O[illegible]m scilicet quæ [illegible] a ueritate deflexerit, mox innu[illegible] ad uerum [illegible] redeat, seq; nisi multum adiuta non [illegible]m propriæ originis maiestatem. Vt enim cœptum persequar, [illegible] d ex[illegible] e rei natura, aut intermissio [illegible] [illegible]narum? An [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]derum animi, languentis, exasperat? Qu[illegible] quicunque te à [illegible] ne illa distinctione firmauerit, tam [illegible] n exules. Qui enim ho[illegible] de[illegible]osu[illegible] ac mollis, a[illegible] quotiens, aut uisendi [illegible] aut [illegible]cendi [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] ut amplior [illegible] proposito aut neces[illegible] [illegible] Reip. seu domini, seu parentis [illegible], dem[illegible] & patriam? [illegible] p[illegible]es non miseri omnes sunt, [illegible] quia re[illegible] ne impelli s[illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]. Aequè etenim caruerunt c[illegible]iugio, li[illegible]ris, cognatis, parenti[illegible] b[illegible] n[illegible]u, amatæ urbis aspectu: horum tamen [illegible] [illegible] lenije [illegible] tamen aliquod inuenit absentiæ, sed & multum pr[illegible]s red[illegible]. Nun[illegible] tàm constanti animo, nisi se redituros in patriam [illegible]. Si [illegible] uerò, [illegible]ulit, præsertim cùm hæc sit una, ex omnibus, quæ [illegible] non eripitur. Pel[illegible] m uir bonus ad tyranni nutum, spoliatur rebus omnibus, in carce[illegible], d[illegible]natur, occiditur, insepultus abijcitur, inter tot minas atq; impetus [illegible] ad cætera, ad desperandum nemo compellitur. Vidimus in exilium [illegible], p[illegible] ad destinatum peruenissent, immenso patriæ desiderio reuocatos, alios uerò post [illegible] n honore, tantaq; ciuium pœnitẽtia reuersos, ut mihi fœlice[illegible] [illegible]. Qu[illegible]sdam ab extrema inopia, ad summos repente diuitias, quosdam ex carcere ad [illegible]nisse. Nonnullos collum subduxisse securibus, morti præreptos, & pr[illegible] [illegible]ruatos. Nemo unquam tàm iniquo loco iacuit, ut non ei liceret oculo[illegible] at[illegible] [illegible]m deploratũ rerum suarum uidit exitũ, ut prohiberetur sperare meliora. Ci[illegible]ronem ab exilio Roma reuocauit, diebus paucis, egregij ciuis præsentia carere uix potuit. R[illegible] aut & Metellum, cui cùm in spectaculo Trallibus sedenti honorificentissimæ literæ S.[illegible] nomine redderentur, nihil in lætitiam uersus, eodem uultu fuit, quo [illegible] urbis ex[illegible] digressu fractior, nec insolentior reditu. Illic patriæ [illegible] side[illegible] [illegible]c modestus, hic pius, utrobiq; memorabilis. Tenuit [illegible] Rutilium, sed [illegible] mansit, & patriam reditu censuit indignam suo. Eadem fuerat [illegible] Marcello, e[illegible] [illegible]alius, qui dum reuocatus à Cæsare, summo desiderio bonorum [illegible] d[illegible] n ho[illegible]em incidisset effectũ est, ut in locum prædulcis expectationis, publi[illegible] luctus [illegible]ret, cui mortem tamen illam, nunquam exilio difficiliorem fuisse credi[illegible]. Vna est [illegible]tus, quæ uarijs licet asperitatibus perferendis, animos armat atq; instruit. Fuerat au[illegible] in exilio talis, ut magnum sui præberet indicium, qualis futurus e[illegible] morte. de [illegible] tacebo, quid in libro de Virtute, ad Ciceronem Brutus refert: u[illegible] [illegible]cet M[illegible]lenis, exulem, tàm infracto animo, tamq; auido bonorum studiorum, t[illegible]n deniq; [illegible] [illegible]teq; disposito, ut non ille sibi, quamuis longè relegatus, sed ipse potiùs [illegible]xul cùm [illegible] discederet uideretur. Addit etiam C. Iul. Cæsarem, qui sibi & exulandi auctor fuerat, & [illegible] m[illegible]dum redeundi fuit, per ea loca transeuntem, uerecundia permotum, [illegible] [illegible]ri, urbemq; ideò ubi ille tunc erat, de industria præteruectum. O gl[illegible] exule[illegible] ex[illegible]um potentissimorum ciuium alter suspexit, alter erubuit. Sit [illegible] [illegible]rutus & Cæsari, utrinque tamen reuerentia cœpit exulis Marcelli. Qu[illegible] exilium [illegible]e non [illegible]piat, imò uerò quis exilium, quod ipsis patriæ dominis inuid[illegible]sum e[illegible]. Illos com[illegible]mem[illegible], quos pœnitentia ciuium reduxit. Quàm multos autem fortuna res[illegible] Num[illegible]m [illegible]am[illegible]llum Roma uocasset, fors illi, & excidium urbis, quis crederet, ac fremens [illegible]nsalpinarum gentium furor, uiam fecit ad reditum, ut esset unus (uix memo[illegible] ran[illegible] [illegible]is exulibus, & bonæ spei simul, & spectatæ erga ingratam patriam pietatis [illegible] aliquando ad nostrorum temporum acta transgrediar) Mattheu[illegible] [illegible] patria, præpotentis inimici uiribus pulsus, quamdiu s[illegible]lus ac [illegible] [illegible]ma inopia rerum omnium fuit, comploratus à [illegible] illusus ab hostibus. Quem [illegible]m [illegible]rarum plenum, præter ripam Benaci lac[illegible] [illegible]antem habu[illegible] [illegible]sti nuncium, atque ab eo Domini sui uer[illegible]s [illegible]rogatum. Qui[illegible] [illegible]tus ageret? Nil aliud respondisse, nisi s[illegible] tendere. Quo[illegible] [illegible] contemptui habitum, breui quid mysterij im[illegible]. [illegible]nos suos omnes, ceu totidem pisces esc[illegible] p[illegible]. Alio quoq; tẽpore cum ad eundẽ n[illegible]ius redijs[illegible]. Qu[illegible]us itineribus, aut quãdo esset in patriã reuersurus, tranquilla fronte respõ[illegible]

Tu

Tu uerò ab [illegible] Dom[illegible] tuo nuncia, [illegible]em me reditu[illegible] [illegible] quib[illegible]s exiui, sed non antequàm [illegible] respondere arce meis incœperunt. N[illegible] fefellit au[illegible]rum [illegible]uid in non mul[illegible]o p[illegible]st, in [illegible] auctis hostiū sceler[illegible]us, qui[illegible] n[illegible]ens [illegible] alim[illegible] a fœlicitas, Me[illegible]ol[illegible], [illegible], [illegible]or ingressus est, in qua u[illegible]c[illegible] uide[illegible] in hunc [illegible] diem, & nepo[illegible]ur, & [illegible]. Nec in hanc narratione [illegible], ut uel tibi, uel cum [illegible] o [illegible]no auct[illegible] sim, aduersus q[illegible]antum [illegible] patriā, [illegible]ma capiendi (sat[illegible]us [illegible] paupere in e[illegible]lio mori, quā [illegible]) sed ut ueteribus & noui[illegible] constaret exempl[illegible], non pos[illegible]er[illegible] ex[illegible]. Et animos difficultat[illegible]bus obses[illegible], ad pat[illegible]um erig[illegible] [illegible] recordat[illegible], ac [illegible]e nunc etiam insigne, recensq; al[illegible]ud exe[illegible]plum. Stephanus de Col[illegible]mna summum mili[illegible]æ decus cùm in omni fort[illegible]na glori[illegible]us, tamē in exilio gloriosis[illegible]m[illegible]s & admirab[illegible]lis fu[illegible]t, ne[illegible]que enim una erat eius, & cæterorum exulum condi[illegible]o: qui[illegible]usdam extra patriam nobilibus, tuto uiuere permit[illegible]tur, hi cùm patriam rel[illegible]querint, laxiorem retinent libertatem, alijs arctior dicta lex est, ut ho[illegible] illo loco se contineāt, illic habitantibus, nil durius expectandum.) huic uerò & patri[illegible] [illegible]erdictum, & nullus in orbe terrarum tutus locus, nullus in tanta tempestate portus, aut [illegible]gium, hostem habuit, ut potentem, ita inexorabilem Bonifacium VIII. R. Pont. quem armis frangere difficillimum, humilitate, seu blanditijs flectere, nec possibile quidem esset. Deniq; quem nihil nisi sola mors uinceret, sæuitum est inhumanè, petitumq; modis omnibus immerentis caput exulis, promissionibus, minis, potentia, dolis, auctoritate, pecunijs, ingentia persecutoribus præmia, fautoribus denunciata supplicia. Cum Stephanus nunc citra, nūc trans æquora, nunc disiunctissimas utriusq; maris [illegible]las, Siciliam, Britanniamq;, nunc extrema Galliarum solitagus circumiret, egenus intere[illegible]n[illegible]ctarum rerum, sed prædiues animi, itaq; cùm Arelatem casu quodam in manus ex[illegible]tium uenisset, interrogatus. Quis esset? Nomen suum, quod dissimulare poterat, [illegible]ltis dicentibus dixit, seq; ciuem Romanum intrepido ore professus est. Quanta autē Deus bone, unius capitis maiestas, quem odiosas etiam, & armatas manus à furore deterru[illegible] E[illegible]o proposito sollicitabantur reges, ne quis eum foueret hospitio, cuius obtētu, cum [illegible] decedere iuberetur, eo animo paruit, ut exul in ea prouincia remansisse, rex abij[illegible] [illegible]der[illegible]ur. Sic illum, sic alios toto persecutionis suæ tempore reges uidit, tanquam ipse rex [illegible]let. Altissimo animo nec ullis aduersitatibus contracto, & supra fortunæ fluctus eminēte, prorsus ut uni sibi dictum uideri posset Poëticum illud:

Aspice securum uultu non supplice reges:

Quotiens Romæ, & per Italiam nunciata mors eius erat, quotiens actum esse de rebus Columnensium fama fuit, & cum illo uiro egregiam corruisse familiā? Nulla usquā de illo spes, præter quàm in sol[illegible] ipsius pectore restabat. Nunquam tamen inde discessit, quo minùs diebus, ac noctibus uersaret animosa consilia, & omnem laborem obiret impertertitus. Vltrò enim in medio rerum suarum discrimine, amicorum bellis interdum, utriq; partiū ignotus interfuit, & omnium cōfessione, unius hominis præsentiam est secuta uictoria, haud ambigu[illegible]a, sed [illegible]ipsi, quā mihi notiora recenseo. Quis ergo miserū dicat hūc exulem, cum quo tantus uir[illegible]utum comitatus exulabat, quem post decennē sui experientiam, in priorem statum, uera animi magnitudo non fortuna reposuit? Sed quorsum hæc tàm multorum exemp[illegible]orum [illegible]onqu[illegible]io? Vt nemo præsenti malo attonitus, uenturum opinione præoccupet, & mediocriter [illegible]raui exilio, grauissimum malorum omnium desperationem accumulet, præsertim, cùm non solùm uirtu[illegible] operosa, ea quæ Stephanum ipsum in patriam reuexit, sed mutatis sæpè p[illegible]pulorum moribus, uel dissentio simultatum, uel quæ feros animos mitigat longa dies, incidens commiseratio, non digna patientium, uel ipsa tacitæ uirtutis admiratio, uel impensum ciuibus suis obsequium, uel publicæ necessitatis occasio, uel aliqua uis fortunæ finem imponere pos[illegible]t exilio. Ne quis præterea, quod ipse depulsus sit, uirtutū suarū proijciat ornamenta, graue cogitans, pretiosissima rerum in exilium ferre, cùm uiliora nō liceat. Neq; enim nouum est, ut efferentes gemmas, atq; aurum, Vrbana prędia, & omnē inutilem, aut onerosam sarcinam, in incendio relinquamus. Quod si aurum inter pretiosa numerandum esse persuasum est, hominibus, quid tandem de uirtutibus iudicandum est?

Vilius argentum est auro, uirtutibus aurum.

[illegible]m n[illegible] semper in exilium ferre argentum, & aurum sinam[illegible]r, quocunq; fe[illegible]imus, [illegible] & [illegible] a[illegible]ni ferre perm[illegible]ttimus. Quod fecisse uidemus e[illegible]s, quorum t[illegible]bi nunc exempla pro[illegible]t ad [illegible]um exardesceres, nec diffider[illegible] fier[illegible] posse, iterū quod [illegible] factum est. Licet [illegible] ex[illegible], & ca[illegible]erem, & in m[illegible]tem ipsam ferre uirtutes, licet dixi, i[illegible]o uer[illegible] expedit, necessarium est, oportet, aliaquin uere ex[illegible]es sunt, qui relictis his abeu[illegible]t, uerè inopes,

[illegible] infœlices & miseri. N[illegible] satis est, [illegible] affectio[illegible] exigitur. [illegible] perat, pere [illegible] cupit [illegible] longius pa[illegible] ex [illegible] bit, quibus affluenti [illegible] alimenta [illegible] Pauper[illegible] urcong[illegible] hic te un[illegible] cias, præclaram [illegible] reliqua [illegible] non impor[illegible] nec diff[illegible] ilis, [illegible] & amœna res est. Labo[illegible] tanta res [illegible] tur: cæterū [illegible] ua quæsita fuerit, sine labore custodietur. Quasi [illegible] eam ab adolescen[illegible] seruaui eam [illegible] m nunc senior, & peregrinus amittere, sed quantū habui [illegible] amplio[illegible] em, [illegible] tendit necessitas, [illegible] quanquā id tibi nolenti sciam [illegible] sponte sua, [illegible] hoc nunquā usu consumitur, sed augetur potius. [illegible] in medijs diff[illegible] crescunt, donec possess[illegible] suum, [illegible] premū [illegible] xerit. [illegible] acco n[illegible] ex[illegible] tui nō spernenda solatia, si sub Ar[illegible] æterno [illegible] Scythiæ [illegible] aut sub ardenti sole in hospitale mundi [illegible] incolere iuberetis. Denique [illegible] d extra Italiā pro[illegible] ctus, haberes fortasse aliquid, quod [illegible] tunæ tuæ poss[illegible] [illegible] nde, quàm digna querela tua sit, iussus es Florentiam [illegible] & illic manere donec te [illegible] ocet. Non ne animaduertis quantas grates agere d[illegible] ma[illegible] [illegible] qui [illegible] consopitum excitarent, & ex diuturna [illegible] onsuetudine mate[illegible] [illegible] erunt, reçp ex patria (ut pace tua dixerim) multum impari, in cui[illegible] [illegible] e uoluerunt. Hoc (inqu[illegible]) præterea, quoniam sic sumus natura alteri [illegible] incul[illegible] ac desertum scopulum, ubi natos nos, educatosq; memin[illegible] [illegible] teris ar[illegible] itremur. Quod si aliquando error iste cessaret, igno[illegible] profecto [illegible] [illegible] ucram peteres, quod beneficium suum n[illegible] ante cognoueris. Adde quod [illegible] præclaræ indolis filios tecum eduxisti, alterum iuuenem, infantem u[illegible] [illegible] ætatum gradibus distantes, ut scilicet cum illo curarum sarcinam partiri posses, [illegible] c etiam obliuisci. Hinc præsidium uides, illinc solamen profectionis tuæ, hi tibi dul[illegible] patriam faciebant, hos habes, quid requiris aliud? Expectas ut uxor pudi[illegible] sima, ut pa[illegible] p[illegible], ut blandissimæ filiæ reuiuiscant? Non illos tibi exiliū abstulit, sed mors, quàm [illegible] fultante, & rerum tuarum dulcissima quæq; rapiente, ut ceris non debes [illegible] omnia [illegible] ite prioris adminicula, & præ[illegible] natos tantorum p[illegible] pro[illegible]. Verum ego (ut dixi) & hoc [illegible] latium omne, q[illegible] [illegible] ctum est [illegible] quæ pat[illegible] abstulit, in filios ius habere, redeo ad uirtutum [illegible] b[illegible] præsidia, quas tibi nec ciuium tuorum decreta, nec imperia tyrannorum, nec prædo[illegible] num [illegible] olentia, nec nocturni fures eripient. Hæc [illegible] ecū detulisti, mentietur quisquis te exu[illegible] [illegible] xerit, si autem reliqui[illegible], omnes dies, nouum aliquid quod lugeas feret, omnis locus, [illegible] lestus tantum, sed hostilis, nec exilium modò, tibi, sed carcer erit. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SEVERO APENNICOLAE, S. Ep[illegible] IIII.

Exilium non ægrè ferendum.

E[illegible] cidisse tibi omnem spem uideo, quod quàm rectè patiaris, epistola superiore testa[illegible] sum, doleoq;, nil illam tibi remedij contulisse. Nec satis scio, utrum in Me[illegible] [illegible] ægrotante sit uitiū, qui si ad salutem peruenire cupis, credulū se c[illegible] [illegible] ssimum medicorum legibus præstare debet. Ego quidem in [illegible] id ag[illegible] ut [illegible] p[illegible] tna, spem seruares, cuius tar[illegible] aus est, ut præsentes molestias, non [illegible] dum [illegible] pr[illegible] mittens, euenturum temp[illegible] is cogitatione comple[illegible] titur. Quid autem te sperar[illegible] [illegible] ebat, patriæ ne releganus aspentas? Quæ'nam uero, seu quid prorsus est, tibi præt[illegible] hoc nu[illegible] exilij nomen ablatum, illatumue quo doleas? An ad hæc tibi clarorum uirorum exempla de[illegible] uerant? Sed multa ante oculos posui, & plurima ponerem, nisi illa pen[illegible] ent, ex quibus agn[illegible] eres, spem bonam euentus habere fœlicissimos, an uerò timuisti patria [illegible] sine fine [illegible] uituram quod tantillum ex solita dulcedine remisisset? Sed an ignorabas, nu[illegible] [illegible] patres esse mitiores, quàm ei, quem semel mal[illegible] tractauerint? nul[illegible] am[illegible] rēm[illegible] gis [illegible] m [illegible] qui erga benè meritam se gessit asperius, aut e magis [illegible] ruit edictum [illegible] p[illegible] a[illegible] ibi[illegible] is, caueto, ne reuoc[illegible] exul[illegible] us m[illegible] ad [illegible] debes, populorū uoluntates, sicut ingressu frementes & uanæ [illegible] sta[illegible] les fore, sed est quædam in animi[illegible] mortalium, quàm & [illegible] ui ne queo, miserabilis & funesta peruersitas, aures obstru[illegible] um uoces, atq; omnibus modis agentium, ut miseri[illegible] es [illegible] [illegible] d d[illegible] em leni[illegible] posit, obrepat, quod nihil exco[illegible] otest, ne d[illegible] [illegible] uoniam sic te affectum inuenio, ut desperati[illegible] nem reditus tui, pro qu[illegible] (ut ita

(ut ita dixerim) uoluptate suscipias, ab illa parte manum, retraham in qua multum intractabilem, medicamenta n[illegible] relet[illegible]ant, quid autem prohibet, illorum more, qui uno, aut altero membro perdi[illegible]o, ne per [illegible]eliquum corpus infectæ partis contagia dilabantur, proxima circumliniunt, uulneris [illegible]uoq; tui oras ambire, & (ne in totum animum dolor serpat [illegible] [illegible]nq[illegible]tis propè f[illegible]mentis occurrere? Noli, quæso, trepidare, non illûc digitos inferam, ubi tu [illegible] san expectas [illegible]il contra opinionem tuam hodie dicturus sum, illud potius, ne cum un[illegible]us rei desperatione, cæterarum omnium subeunte fastidio, totius uitæ tuę tranquillitas pereat: enitor, quando ita uis, ut reintegrandæ tibi spei, nulla mihi spes superit. Finge itaq; in [illegible] uiuendum, ti[illegible] i[illegible]n exilio moriendum. Habes, credo, q[illegible]od peti[illegible], ut me fauente, [illegible]reditu[illegible] in patriam desperare tibi liceat. Verùm ut cumulatiùs mos geratur, ægri[illegible]dini tuæ, indulge[illegible] ti[illegible] amplius [illegible]ō ut in tantum exilio, sed toto diuisus ut orbe à terra m[illegible]riare [illegible]ua, hac t[illegible] barbara tellus inc[illegible]nbai, plus ego quàm tuipse dolon tuo perm[illegible]it. Tu lętius, nihil ego etiã tristiora propos[illegible]ti, [illegible] tamē uideo, quid in hac re tàm miserum sit, ut uirum fortem cogere possit ad lachrymas. Certè si aut insani amons, aut ambitionis facibus ardere te crederem, quæ procùl à patria conflag[illegible]æ uidentur intensiùs, uel si exilij comes inopia, sequeretur abeuntem, multa mihi lim[illegible]contrahenda fuerant, quibus seu blandum illud, seu uentosum malum mitigari posset, seu præstari solatium paupertati. Quæ quanquam mihi dictu facilia uideri, & ubi auditu credibilia debuissent, non tamen facile uariorum remedia morborum, his explicabantur angustijs, quam tristis enim res, quàm luctuosa sit, iste quem amorem dicimus, quàm miserabiles exitus inueniat, quàm fucata, & mendaci fulgore cælata [illegible] quàm nihil e[illegible]rum, quæ pollicetur præstare posit ambitio, quàm magno animo tolerabilis sit [illegible]aupertas non potest à quoquam hominum breuiter dici. In præsenti uerò qua[illegible] nec amoris [illegible]ammas, morum tuorum grauitas nouit, & si quid olim tale sensisses, iam [illegible] extinxit. Ambitionis præterea suspitionem, bonorum per omnem uitam fuga non recip[illegible] paupertatem remisit, patriæ pietas, magnus mihi labor uberioris consolationis exim[illegible]. Patria tua nullo te alio affecit incōmodo, quam ut eius careres amplexibus, omnia tua, aut tecum sunt, aut tibi seruiunt. Non illa solum dico, quæ nec eripi poterant, magnanimitatem, modestiam, aliasq; uirtutes, quæ siue Bias ille sapiens (ut Cicero, ut Va[illegible]us, tutiq; omnes, siue ut Seneca ait) Stilbon, incensa patria profugus, sua secum se ferre [illegible]. Sed uulgariter intelligo tua, etiam quæ de fortunæ manibus accepisti, ueteris enim patrimonij dominus, perinde locuples exul excedis, ac domi fueras ciuis, ac nescio, an eò fortè loc[illegible]letior, quòd manentibus diuitijs sumptus est partior. Accedit quòd maior pars hom[illegible], non prius se cadere posse, quàm tota ceciderit, suspicatur: tu uerò non cecidisti, sed [illegible]pulsus es, integer igitur, ac rectus sentis. Iam (ut arbitror) nutare fortunam, & quam fra[illegible]bus fundamentis inhæseris, cùm tibi magnus uidebaris, intelligis, nec deinceps dubitas, eam [illegible]uæ impulit po[illegible] prosternere: ita (quòd rarissimis contingit) exul diues, & cautior tradis, [illegible] facilè duobus [illegible]dibus bonis, malum unum, & illud exiguum, consoleris, siquid tum in uita bonum, ni[illegible] uirtus, aut malum aliquid, nisi uirtutis oppositum dici debet. Vade itaque securus, non te repetet patria, non reuehet casus: at uerò, quod tantoperè defles, ex[illegible] & pertinax illustrabit iniuria, multos magnos uiros calamitas fecit, multos declarauit, neminem ex diuerso miserum fecit aduersitas, sed detexit, nec latitare diutiùs passa est. Quid palles, quasi magnum in te ius habeat fortuna? Non illa partes iudicis obtinet, sed testis. Qualis sis, in tua potestate est, non est in illius, quale de te testimonium ferat, sed ut ferat, tantū mentiri nō potest, loqui potest. Quis aūt, nisi culpę sibi conscius, testem metuit uerè locuturum? Non est, quæ te ad ignauiã cogat, est quę digressus tuos dinumerat, patientiam exerceat, suscipiat, aut despiciat pectoris tui robur, demū populo referat, quicquid inuenerit, eri[illegible]e [illegible]mum, discute tenebras errorum popularium, non pateant aures tuæ muliercularū uoc[illegible] nunquam lætus eris, nūquam securus, si te populo regendum tradideris. Quicquid magna pars hominum, aut miratur, aut metuit, ridiculum est, quicquid prædicat falsum, cōmitte potiùs te paucorum consilijs, non sunt ut uidentur illa terribilia, inter quæ uulgus exilium n[illegible]merat, & si lectio longa non profuit, experientia proderit fortassè. Noli semper terrã intueri, interdum oculos attolle, confestim ueritas occurret, & exilium nihil esse fateberis, nec peius uiuere uirum bonum quantumlibet procul à patria, imò uerò, nō posse extra patriam [illegible] re cui totus hic orbis est patria. Quid enim refert, quàm diuersa parte consistat, ualles q[illegible] & lacus, & flumina, & colles, alios uidet, cœlū unū est, illi se infert, illuc animū ex[illegible]it, eò c[illegible]tationes suas ex omni mundi parte trãsmittit, nec aliud, quàm sub tecti unius am[illegible]lexu ex[illegible]lio in aliū thalamū trãsiuisse se cogitat. Tu quoq; (nisi meã, & multorū spem diuti[illegible]simè f[illegible]lisit) absit ut ad unū huius immensi ædificij angulum, sis astrictus, quò minus ubic[illegible]q; [illegible]

[illegible] m [illegible] nd [illegible] cu [illegible] uit [illegible] um [illegible] m [illegible] ecu [illegible]. V [illegible] m [illegible] dicat. [illegible] us [illegible] es [illegible] a [illegible] mi [illegible] m [illegible] laude [illegible] ac gene [illegible] e p [illegible] fcio V [illegible] n, [illegible] inuenis [illegible] qui ig [illegible] amici est, qui ue [illegible] lug [illegible] re [illegible] ra [illegible] fallo & dele [illegible] sui fert. [illegible] gens gloria, n [illegible] moleftijs nil [illegible] eor, ne alienis p [illegible] [illegible] etiaris arbitrio, qu [illegible] idian [illegible] prios e [illegible] cidan [illegible] p [illegible] m [illegible] um milia, pe [illegible] m [illegible] em lenti [illegible] a proli [illegible] aucri, [illegible] & præsertim [illegible] ora [illegible] qui quò [illegible] cautiùs contagiosus morbus e [illegible] ādus e [illegible], pal [illegible] in ho- m [illegible] c [illegible] iens. Si alios audire uolueris, nō deerunt qui fortunam tuam mul [illegible] qu [illegible] is, ut te incolumen, atque optimè ualentem lu [illegible] ant [illegible] a [illegible] deant. Audies uo [illegible] es miserabiles, [illegible] debis forsan & lachryma [illegible] ut [illegible] æ proximas, miser esse incipies, quia miseris aurem præbe [illegible] qu [illegible] d conuictus assiduus, in ho [illegible] num ingenijs non [illegible], qu [illegible] [illegible] e, [illegible] umque quàm cum al [illegible] loqui malueris, nunquam d [illegible] [illegible] um iudice, te dicere, & inuidiosum magis ext [illegible] m [illegible] s pronus es & cur, & mihi non credi [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] ede, corr [illegible] sti nec corrues quidem [illegible] s, [illegible] [illegible] glo [illegible] æ penit [illegible] s [illegible] limine opinionem ha [illegible], [illegible] us. Non labor e [illegible] iste sed requies [illegible] exilium, sed [illegible] s. Q [illegible] gientem quærebaris, occurrentem ultrò complectere.

Et [illegible] tanta fuit Romam tibi causa uidendi?
Libertas, quæ sera tamen respexit inertem.

[illegible] c [illegible] ri, ut libertatem inueniret, patriam se reliquisse gloriat [illegible] fo- [illegible] V [illegible] lij, diu incipe iam tandem tibi uiuere. Nemo properasse te [illegible] guet qui [illegible] iam pal [illegible] or ipse Mar [illegible] neus, sed

[illegible] ior postquam tonden [illegible] barba cadebat:

[illegible] u [illegible] b [illegible] euntе ætate c [illegible] bu [illegible] sti retribuerunt inex [illegible] ma [illegible] & ut longæ uitæ reliquias [illegible] tem [illegible] dec [illegible]. A [illegible] hic propriam erga [illegible] am [illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] marus perseuerād [illegible] laxat [illegible] iter [illegible] a tanquam inqui [illegible] tum [illegible] p [illegible] ar [illegible] cont [illegible] git [illegible] bēt [illegible] us [illegible] a hot [illegible] is te [illegible] uerte quibus ado [illegible] n [illegible] tranq [illegible] quam a [illegible] uc [illegible] a [illegible] & ue [illegible] lem senectutem [illegible] m [illegible] ce [illegible] er [illegible] s [illegible] & [illegible] gistra [illegible] nqu [illegible] m a [illegible] ne [illegible] s arceret [illegible] u [illegible] iam [illegible] m [illegible] nou [illegible] s [illegible] m h [illegible] s æm [illegible] teperis exortas, qu [illegible] d aut se quisque [illegible] p [illegible]

uelles

uel [illegible], an [illegible]
orem al [illegible]
prouincia [illegible]
n qu [illegible], [illegible] an [illegible]
[illegible] is [illegible]
[illegible] est, & impo [illegible] a [illegible] uo [illegible], [illegible]
populus al [illegible]
[illegible] uir [illegible] gna [illegible], [illegible]
[illegible] bi m [illegible] ratus [illegible] et, [illegible]
[illegible] Aphri [illegible] transire, [illegible]
[illegible] ex [illegible]
pr [illegible] n [illegible] ac [illegible] totius O [illegible]
[illegible] d [illegible], [illegible] tribus, [illegible] a [illegible]
arma [illegible] tempo [illegible] tinct [illegible] L [illegible], Th [illegible]
cis me [illegible] perd [illegible] ad [illegible] m [illegible]
Romanæ [illegible] ad [illegible] per [illegible]
qu [illegible] ritan [illegible] m uno [illegible] ale [illegible], ne [illegible] m [illegible] n [illegible], a te [illegible] rum [illegible] c [illegible]
ger [illegible] Scipionibus, Pompeijs, [illegible], Catonibus, Aemilijsq; reteru [illegible]
& [illegible] mu [illegible] bu [illegible] ris ablentibus, certamen [illegible] m h [illegible] ngingquo, tibi cum exili [illegible]
cu [illegible] us impetũ non fe [illegible] s modo, sed repelles, [illegible] s, si cu [illegible] ias [illegible] odeun [illegible] necel [illegible]
mo tuo [illegible] rsualeris [illegible] ũ aduer [illegible] us aspera clypeum esse pati [illegible] iæ, & illam [illegible] uberrima [illegible]
au [illegible] is uoc [illegible] m Latinum ab Anneo Seneca translatam, in tuu [illegible] pectus altè dimiseris:

Ducunt uolentem fata, nolentem trahunt Vale.

FRAN. PETRACHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, S. Epist. V

Animam in corpore multa pati.

EX [illegible] e me [illegible] deuntem, epistolam [illegible] uam au [illegible] dissimè suscepi, o [illegible] ab [illegible] et [illegible] m ardenti [illegible] st [illegible] um tuum prosperum aud [illegible] e, quòd amo [illegible] s [illegible] om [illegible] ze [illegible] mor per absentiam crescunt. Angebar au [illegible] em & tu [illegible] batum erat cor meum, [illegible] & tur [illegible] atum te disce [illegible] e noueram, & hos qui turbationi tuæ m [illegible] teriam [illegible] ne ar [illegible] uo [illegible] omp [illegible] tes uidebam sub oculis meis, uelut triumphaliter obse [illegible] uari, [illegible] uod [illegible] in exil [illegible] m pepul [illegible] ent, & me præsentia oris tui, conuictuq; sobrio, ac del [illegible] ctabili [illegible]
Terruer [illegible] nt me [illegible] a [illegible] uoq; mea, & somniorũ imagines, quę turbulentæ miris mo [illegible]
[illegible] ne [illegible] [illegible] mã dormienti [illegible] impleuerant, [illegible] o quod ignorarẽ somnijs temere [illegible]
[illegible] e [illegible] da [illegible] hdem, [illegible], ho [illegible] iter ingressus sum, iter dico, uitæ huius labentis [illegible]
te [illegible] & æstuare [illegible] rtet, & algere, & famem, & sitim, & somniũ, & som [illegible] m [illegible]
a [illegible], & [illegible] m [illegible] idam scij [illegible]. Deniq; m [illegible] lta pat [illegible] donec [illegible] la dies expectata [illegible]
[illegible] d [illegible] is, [illegible] alem h [illegible] exuat [illegible], & animos niten [illegible] ad [illegible]
[illegible] t [illegible] dem h [illegible] s [illegible] al [illegible] p [illegible] at. I [illegible] terea, fateor, nec [illegible]
[illegible] de [illegible] aut sedandis [illegible] au [illegible] llendi [illegible] Philosoph [illegible]
q [illegible] [illegible] um obnoxi [illegible], hæc mihi nascenti lex cum corpo [illegible]
[illegible] a p [illegible] r, aliter non passurus. Secretorum naturæ c [illegible] nscius [illegible]
[illegible] us [illegible] n [illegible] nc [illegible] quendam igneum uigorem, & cœlestem dixit orig [illegible]
[illegible]

> [illegible] *um non noxi corpora tardant.*
> [illegible] *b* [illegible] *nt artus, moribundaq; membra,*
> [illegible] *t, cupiuntq; , dolent, gaudentq; nec auras.*
> [illegible] *n æ tenebris,* [illegible] *carcere cæco.*

[illegible] od de te post digressum tuum, aures meas, [illegible]
[illegible] tæ fu [illegible] t, agno [illegible] nu [illegible], & iam se [illegible]
[illegible] festi [illegible] abat, [illegible] res [illegible] s ue [illegible] bis eger [illegible]
[illegible] piam [illegible] n h [illegible] c [illegible] m forte pr [illegible]
[illegible] Vn [illegible] m quo [illegible] ter dici pot [illegible]
[illegible] m, nod [illegible] s im [illegible] n [illegible] p [illegible]
[illegible] ua me disced [illegible]
[illegible] u [illegible] a [illegible], siqu [illegible] m [illegible] ac [illegible]
[illegible] gratias agentem, quod te saltem, per multos labor [illegible]

[illegible] tenet, aut pleno subit ostia [illegible] quendi desiderium incess[illegible] Vale.

[illegible] Epist. VI.

Amicitiam inter absentes durare.

S[illegible] audire, sapientia enim tua [illegible] mihi uide[illegible] quibus [illegible] personas [illegible] in unam [illegible] Cuius iam [illegible] est, te acerri[illegible] quod huius exoptatissimi [illegible] me [illegible] faciem uidere [illegible]. Motum te de digre[illegible] naturam enim animi, & suauitatem [illegible] ut [illegible] mentis aspectione, non conu[illegible] intelligo, innumerabiles causæ segregant amicos, amicitiam uerum [illegible] amicus absens esse [illegible] poterit: quantum enim locorum interuallis, a[illegible] conuersatione distinguimur, tantum absentiæ detrimentum, assidua [illegible]us. Cuius si tanta uis est, ut morte superata, defunctos etiam [illegible] quod post obitum iunioris Aphricani, sapientissimo & omnium Ro[illegible] imo uiro Lælio, docente didicimus. Quod tam magnum est, [illegible] uicta, [illegible] positos amicorum uultus, pro præsentibus habemus. A[illegible] est:

Hærent infixi pectore uultus, Verbaq;.

[illegible]erum:

Absentem [illegible]ens auditq;, uidetq;.

[illegible] amor, hoc poterit: pius ac sobrius non poterit? Imò uero multò [illegible]us eodem P[illegible] dicente:

Ante leues [illegible] pascentur in æthere cerui.
Et freta destituent nudos in littore pisces.
Ante (pererratis amborum finibus) exul.
Aut Ararim Parthus bibet, aut Germania Tygrin,
Quàm nostro illius labatur pectore uultus.

[illegible] de amicissimo uiro loquens, uide quibus uerbis utatur. V[illegible] amaui, quæ extincta non est. Tu quare non dicis, uirtutem illius, [illegible] ut longinqua non est, sed ante oculos, omni tempore uersatur [illegible] in honore semper [illegible]pud me. At iucundissimum est, amicos præsentes habere, intueri [illegible] atq; oculos, [illegible]os uocibus alloqui, & colloquentium admotis auribus uerba [illegible] neq; enim [illegible] e Poeticis testimonijs uti uacat) sine quadam animi dulcedine [illegible] Ar[illegible] occursu alacrem, tensis ad cœlum palmis, & profusis lachrymis dicere:

——Datur or[illegible]
Nate [illegible] & notas au[illegible] reddere uoces.

[illegible] dulcissima [illegible] præsentiam amicorum, quis enim h[illegible] idem ac f[illegible]? Sed tu mihi [illegible] absentia [illegible] [illegible] animi [illegible] ubi [illegible] charitas [illegible] famem, sitim, æstus, al[illegible] explicet, quibus [illegible] per uo[illegible] audire [illegible] non æquum [illegible] relinqueretur [illegible] enim [illegible]

potiùs quæso, non quã longè sis corpore [illegible] ${}$ ctu unius breuitate, cuius nos homines, uix integ [illegible] potestate, ut animo, & cogitationibus præsens sis [illegible] giter aspice, l[illegible]rarum identidem frequenti comm[illegible]

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, S. [illegible] VII.

Futurorum expectatio an[illegible]

MOlesti[illegible]mam moram traxisse te Niciæ [illegible]do d[illegible] grum, expectantem aliquam nauem, quæ in [illegible]m perf[illegible] eras, dum ad Italiam suspirabas. Ita dico [illegible] quod [illegible]ctus, atq; [illegible] cet Italiæ term[illegible]us Varus sit, intra quem à parte [illegible] ciuitas illa [illegible] de se constat, [illegible] Italiam in animo habebas, & pro Italia Romam dice[illegible]. Se[illegible]o iam mo[illegible] [illegible]em, expectationibus enim talibus plena est. [illegible] quarum illi æ[illegible] [illegible]enia debetur: senectutem autem, quę omnes [illegible] tergum spec[illegible] de[illegible]et [illegible] longa [illegible] huius & anxia expectatio [illegible] nior de te uideo [illegible] de me [illegible] qui adolescentia iam exacta ætatem [illegible] huc longè [illegible] longum est, ante me uideo. Cæ[illegible]m quò rarius passionis [illegible] m[illegible]as expe[illegible]or [illegible] frequenti[illegible] ueteris mali reliquias [illegible]cuso, eoq; certis intel[illegible] prouectum, nec p[illegible]enti[illegible]s frangi, nec fu[illegible]s an[illegible], sed utrunq; tempus æquè [illegible] spicere, & quicqu[illegible] uel præmisit, pa[illegible] pen[illegible]e: Præsentia taceo, quon[illegible] nem de futuris [illegible] mentes hominum uan[illegible] expecta[illegible]ibus suspe[illegible]un[illegible] bus [illegible] fa[illegible] [illegible]. Expectans alijs peregri[illegible] aduentum, totis [illegible] undas pro[illegible]picit (ut [illegible] apud Lu[illegible]anum)

—nutantiâ longè

Semper prima uidens uenientis uela carinæ.

A[illegible]is iamiam moturus à littore, serenam cœli tranquillitat[illegible] omnibus expo[illegible] [illegible]onesto negotio intentus, id agit semper, quod agebat [illegible] ille æ magister [illegible] g[illegible] enim impiger (ut ait Virgilius) o[illegible]es explorat uentos, atq; a[illegible] captat.

Sydera cuncta notans tacito labentia cœlo.

Alter beati senis hærens tabulis, segnem mortem increpitat, alter nuptias, aut par[illegible] [illegible]gis, amicæ noctem alter expectans, dies, horas, momentaq; dinumerat. Quid mu[illegible] [illegible] credo in Philologia nostra quam ob id solùm, ut curas tibi iocis excuterem, [illegible] quid Tranqui[illegible] noster ait:

[illegible] pars hominum expectando moritur.

[illegible], pauc[illegible] [illegible] uenies, qui non toti ex incerto pendeant. Alexander Mace[illegible] [illegible]q; al[illegible] uel nostr, uel externi duces, quàm multa parantes ab hac luce subtra[illegible] me[illegible] [illegible] bus mors occurrit, tantò, ut mihi quidem uidetur, difficili[illegible]or, q[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] Hinc est, quod idem ille Iul. Cæsar fragili carinâ, in ancipiti tempestate [illegible] bensus, [illegible] ti[illegible]re cœpisset, h[illegible]c unum uidetur lamentari, quod

—ingentes abruperit actus

Festinata dies fatis.

[illegible]ouet [illegible] Poeta, qui [illegible] axime [illegible]o, aut molestum fuisset, in e[illegible] sta[illegible] aut esse d[illegible] [illegible] por[illegible] q[illegible] elis [illegible] fe[illegible] V[illegible] autem aduersis hunc morbum medicina, p[illegible] [illegible] f[illegible] ssis am[illegible] a[illegible] aute[illegible] & [illegible] & placida. A[illegible]um à t[illegible] e[illegible]s abd[illegible] [illegible] otest, [illegible] minus, [illegible] re[illegible] exti[illegible]pare radici[illegible]. Qua[illegible] e[illegible] erum[illegible] [illegible]e & offen[illegible] [illegible]rò tamen, ut uide[illegible], a[illegible] corpo[illegible] [illegible] atur, q[illegible] ta[illegible] o[illegible] a[illegible]us, & in quam, & ueheme[illegible]res mo[illegible], & fre[illegible] [illegible]nt Ho[illegible] & p[illegible]æ[illegible] ti[illegible] ætus, nulla futuri t[illegible] [illegible] ne [illegible] nauim expecto, uel q[illegible] dices, [illegible] bus munda[illegible] o consuetæ delectation[illegible] hæret. At [illegible] [illegible] enim magis expediat, nouit Deus, homines ignorant. N[illegible] [illegible] sed non minus aliquem expecto, qui n[illegible] nonuen[illegible] uram nunci[illegible] & u[illegible] [illegible]em æ[illegible] auribus [illegible] cipiam. Sed habeo [illegible] quies in Italia magn[illegible] [illegible] qu[illegible] [illegible] b[illegible] ulolo[illegible] hiæ studium contulit, uide[illegible] (ut arbitror) qu[illegible] d[illegible] Ma[illegible] [illegible] n p[illegible] quotiens me ad unum locum coacta[illegible], d[illegible]nit [illegible] ma[illegible] [illegible] ur [illegible] in [illegible] salem m[illegible] & p[illegible] re [illegible] p[illegible]. Qui [illegible] a[illegible]huc Ita[illegible], ut magn[illegible] animus nondum est. Quid enim p[illegible]

[illegible] m[illegible]erer[illegible] [illegible]umo[illegible] [illegible]n [illegible]amenta, ubi [illegible]anguinis superuacui ua[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible] ipse iaceas [illegible] [illegible]. Certe [illegible] corpus c[illegible]nsideras, tua nihil inter[illegible] [illegible]a [illegible]eo[illegible]m p[illegible]essa. Nu[illegible] [illegible]tem derelicta [illegible]paterì, [illegible] relu[illegible]aris, abla[illegible]a: si [illegible] [illegible]ouus eum [illegible]ocus [illegible] [illegible]trin[illegible] [illegible]aut[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible]us, & sine ad [illegible]m [illegible] [illegible]s descender[illegible] [illegible]m unde [illegible] [illegible]d. c[illegible]mus e[illegible] [illegible]ab[illegible]. Sed dulce [illegible] ma[illegible]us [illegible]pe[illegible] [illegible]uædam dulc[illegible]a tacis, non insi[illegible]s sapor, sed corruptus m[illegible]du[illegible] [illegible] Quid d[illegible] [illegible]tis, a[illegible] nihi[illegible] sentienti, a[illegible] [illegible] huiusmodi obsequium cõ[illegible] [illegible] ad p[illegible] [illegible] r[illegible] [illegible]xpec[illegible] condi[illegible]o dum uentu[illegible] [illegible]æ sint ante o[illegible] non uident, [illegible] [illegible]m s[illegible] am[illegible]ig[illegible]a spe. Hæc [illegible] [illegible], [illegible]la autem r[illegible] plena fide [illegible] [illegible]edu[illegible]t. Adde quod uel s[illegible]perue[illegible]a se [illegible] [illegible]a, & in cap[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible]tio [illegible] rec[illegible]sura quæ cupimus ut sicut sæpe reiect[illegible] d[illegible]o, si[illegible] [illegible]tum, prouect[illegible]s uel [illegible]quum uel improuisa peri[illegible]ties sequatur. Adhuc [illegible] [illegible]em spem, omne desi[illegible]erium auerte, ab fallacibus bonis, incipe unum sol[illegible]m & ue[illegible] [illegible]mum bonum optare si tamen usque ad hanc ætatem, rem apprimè necessariam di[illegible] [illegible]e discurrendi libido cessabit & odium longioris m[illegible] [illegible]m uerò n[illegible] mod[illegible] N[illegible] [illegible]ors tulerit, inter Libycas Syrtes, sine molestia sta[illegible] [illegible]us tu[illegible] conten[illegible] ni[illegible] [illegible]uirens. Dicet aliquis: Nunquid illud s[illegible]ltem unum, quod memoras [illegible] [illegible]m erit, ut præsens præsenti gaudio desiderantem animam impleat. Minime [illegible] [illegible] desideras, si sanctè, si sobriè (aliter quippe tanta res optari non pote[illegible] [illegible]am [illegible]od p[illegible] [illegible]m est, [illegible]ntus in anima illum quem diligis quære & inuenies, non est, ut eo p[illegible] [illegible] eu[illegible]gendum. Et si quid fortè restat adhuc, quod amplius uelis, aut [illegible] la[illegible], erit expectatio illa suauis [illegible] iucunda. Qui ad hanc regulam se formabit [illegible] t[illegible] m[illegible]s, quotiens exacta luce cubiculu[illegible] intrabit, de præterito quidem di[illegible] [illegible]. Secutus Virgilianum illud à Seneca relatum:

Vixi, & quem dederat cursum fortuna peregi.

[illegible]turo illud Horatianum:

Cras uel atra nube cælum patet occupato: uel sole puro

Nec[illegible]nqu[illegible] [illegible]uentur [illegible]di[illegible] [illegible]æsenti oblitus, aut sibi, aut alijs inut[illegible]ter uitã aget. Vale.

FRAN PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, [illegible]. Epi[illegible]. VIII.

Aduersa & naturæ leges toleranda esse.

QVe[illegible] [illegible]atum [illegible]arum uocibus plenus sum, iam res ad f[illegible]stidium inclinat, iam m[illegible]li[illegible]ciem [illegible]u[illegible]ferre non ualeo, neque enim aliter, quàm si in hanc uit[illegible]m nuper intrasses, ad occursum rei cuiuslibet expauescis? Pudeat inter lam[illegible] [illegible]tescere, imò uerò pudeat, olim senem, pueriliter lamentari. Puerorum est [illegible]mnia, quæ uiderint obstupescere, quippe quibus noua, & admiranda sun[illegible] omnia, senibus & [illegible] [illegible]iditus, nihil nouum, aut inopinatum euenire solet: nihil itaque stupendum, nihil [illegible]m. Vnde igitur tot querelę, de rebus assiduis, & secundu[illegible]n [illegible]aturæ l[illegible] tua fluen[illegible] [illegible]tenta mouent animas interdum, [illegible] bicipitem puerum, si [illegible]uadriman[illegible]m uides. [illegible]m lapide[illegible]m, bouis uerba [illegible]ulæ partum, in Annalibus le[illegible]mus, q[illegible]otidia[illegible] [illegible]n[illegible]s T[illegible] [illegible]d uidisti propter [illegible]uod nunc totus in admiratio[illegible]m, & lame[illegible]ta [illegible]is? Admirando quidem a[illegible]tionem, cogi[illegible]t admi[illegible]er, n[illegible]n t[illegible]m gra[illegible]ter [illegible] a[illegible]n imm[illegible]tum hunc [illegible], qui totiens ina[illegible] transisti: totiens medijs peri[illegible] cul[illegible] to[illegible]s è faucibus m[illegible] ereptus es, admirando & fortunam tuam acc[illegible] [illegible]d[illegible]is, passi[illegible] maris mag[illegible]iam (& ut Satyri[illegible]ci uerbo utar) po[illegible]icam tempes[illegible] [illegible]tus [illegible] flatu contrario impe[illegible]lente relatum. H[illegible]nc tu maris in[illegible]ur[illegible]am [illegible]ma[illegible]naqu[illegible] [illegible] querelæ causam præferres, si uel illud tibi contigisset, qu[illegible]d [illegible] C[illegible] clas[illegible]is, inter Italiam, Græciamque sustinuit, quando per Hadriaticum ma[illegible] [illegible]lui[illegible] [illegible]strictum cursum expedire non ualuit. Vel illud, quod terra sub [illegible]menie P[illegible]anus exercitus tulit in Libya, ubi nullus potest consistere mi[illegible]es [illegible] etiam [illegible]uas calcat arenis. Nunc uerò si per terram rigidos lapides, aut tum[illegible] [illegible]re[illegible]ctus inc[illegible]nstan[illegible] iam pertulisti, nihil est quod lamenteris, tan[illegible]am [illegible]lementa, quod natur[illegible] p[illegible]s suæ, [illegible]a ue[illegible] [illegible]m uoluntati tuæ [illegible] [illegible]pars, non m[illegible]s delica[illegible] ac fle[illegible] te[illegible]e eum [illegible] P[illegible]s app[illegible] [illegible]n [illegible] [illegible]isse memo a[illegible]n a[illegible]er quàm [illegible] [illegible]æ[illegible] te[illegible] lo[illegible]a, [illegible] mo[illegible] [illegible] au[illegible] [illegible] pr[illegible] [illegible]. Sed ne latius [illegible]und[illegible] a[illegible]

Accipe breuiter, quæ [illegible] de his querelis à me [illegible] di[illegible] alijs dici solet. Nimis faciles [illegible] ad accusandum naturam, nemo quod uiuit, at quod egestatem [illegible] quod labores [illegible] quòd senescit, quòd ægrotat, quòd moritur, quisque conqueritur, quasi [illegible] mus ita, q[illegible] Et nasci, & uiuere, & comedere [illegible] late, & laborare, & senescere, [illegible] ægrotare, & mor[illegible] natur[illegible] ut nemo h[illegible] u[illegible] senescendi necessitatem mortis præcipi[illegible]. Quid igitur inutiles querelas effundimus? an quia nobis solis ista [illegible] nobis [illegible] permittitur? An quia omnibus cunctorum simul in nos lam[illegible] ta trans[illegible] mus, [illegible] ueluti humani generis procuratores, [illegible] accusamus immerita[illegible]. Odiosum [illegible] negotium, & importunum. Illa enim mitissima, nos beneficia eius per impatientiam exacerbauimus, in parentem optimã ingrati, in nosmetipsos impij. Oro itaq; Pater amantissime, & [illegible] ætate hanc non dederet [illegible] ulo, ut quicquid euenerit, inducamus in animũ, ferre fortiter, ferre moderatè, ferre sine eiulationibus, & sine ulla lamẽtatione mulie[illegible]. Habuimus enim deliber[illegible] gratias CHRISTO. [illegible] mus adhuc deliberata exequendi spacium, & licet uulgus [illegible] mat, sunt tamen nob[illegible] to magis sobrij consul[illegible] res, quorum potiùs monitis o[illegible] quendum e[illegible]. Nec te [illegible] ita me[illegible] quotiens epist[illegible] las meas legis, nec in frontem [illegible] xeris [illegible] suadentis. Vi[illegible] enim int[illegible] pallentem medicum, qui suam non poterat, [illegible] rius ægritudinem curare.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IACOBO COLVMNAE, S. Epist. IX.

Varia continet cum Romæ urbis laudibus.

SEmisopitum epistolæ tuæ clamor excitat, quàm iocosis refertam conuitijs, [illegible] riden[illegible] perlegi. Et, ut primum uenienti iaculo prius occurram, unde quæso Pater optime, de m[illegible], quæ contra me colligis, quantum ab intentione tua prima [illegible] scribentis ue[illegible] discordent. Mirari solitum te ais, quod mundum in ætate ad[illegible] nera, sic artificiosè decipiam, ut scilicet ars hæc sit, tàm experientiæ quàm naturæ. P[illegible] cum plurimum certè uerborum, sed minime amplioris gloriæ [illegible] mihi poteras [illegible] dus deceptor generis humani, quot uitam laqueis implicitam, quàm amaræ dulcedinis aspersione comendet, nouit quisquis apertis oculis iter hoc agit. Cuius & nos fraudibus deindustria fatemus, studioseq; ut ip[illegible] gnoti, scimus aduersus Apollinis [illegible] labo[illegible]. Hic super [illegible] inflat, sub specie magni & excelsi animi, illum malitia & fraus, & [illegible] prudentiæ proximum uidetur, sub amictu finitimæ uirtutis infat[illegible]. Ille se fortem [illegible] ferox [illegible] se humilẽ uocat timidus & imbellis. E[illegible] & quẽ [illegible] o frugalitat[illegible] aua[illegible] prodigalitatis specie largitatis exhauriat, personata sic t uitia, & imma[illegible] sub pellibus delitescũt. A[illegible] dit delectabiliũ, sed transiturarũ, imo uerò transeun[illegible] rerum turba, am[illegible] honorem nobis, & plausum, auras q; uulg[illegible] s, lu[illegible] blandas & uarias uoluptates, pecunia plurimarum rerum su[illegible] o[illegible]. N[illegible] hamus sine esca, nullus sine uisco ramus, nullus laqueus sine spe. Accedit humana cupiditas præceps, inopsq; consilij, & fall[illegible] facilis, & insidijs opportuna. In [illegible] igitur an[illegible] & lubrico, & suspecto itinere, si quem forte tàm cautum, uel natura, uel [illegible] fecisset, ut mundi fraudibus eluis, mundum ipse deciperet, frontem scilicet ostend[illegible] pulo similem, tota intus mente dissimilis. Quem tu hunc uirum diceres? hunc tam[illegible] quærimus? & natura optima, & ætate [illegible] lida, simul ac sobria opus est, & alienorum [illegible] obseruatione [illegible]. Tu tamen hoc mihi nomen imponis: immẽsum quidem (mod[illegible] ideas) quòd si hodie uerum non est, Deum oro, qui potens est etiam ab inferis excita[illegible] ut uerum fiat, antequàm moriar. Sed quo hinc iocando progrediens? Mul[illegible] opiniones, de me co[illegible] cepisse magnificas, fuit ars hæc fateor [illegible] ut ingenio quodam ueras uirtutes mirantibus. Hinc & Num[illegible] & Publio Afri[illegible] no diuinæ etiam stirpis fama quæsita est. Mihi a[illegible] ea, [illegible] habeo quod ost[illegible] tem, & tamẽ nescio, quis me ab incunabilis su[illegible] nonor [illegible] scio de me quatuluscunq; sim, in uttam [illegible] parte multa iactari, [illegible] o nec d[illegible] nec extollor. Scio populi totidem ferè mendacia esse, quot uerba. Et hæc [illegible] dem h[illegible] ut [illegible] turbæ displiceam, magnoperè laborandum est. Nec dum [illegible] tua [illegible] me, non modò uulgus insulsum, sed cœlum ipsum fictionibus [illegible] Aristotelem & eius libros simulata quadam ben[illegible] compl[illegible] Poet[illegible] & Philosophi non audi[illegible]. Quid autem inde d[illegible] ellere, ubi p[illegible] quod [illegible] ita e[illegible] nunquam [illegible] de Ciuitate Dei [illegible] Philosophorum & Poetarum [illegible] t. Nunquàm tantus O[illegible] rum ac

rum ac Historicorũ coloribus exornasset, nimirum, nunquàm enim in somnis ad tribunal æterni iudicis tractatus accesserat Augustinus meus, sicut Hieronymus tuus. Nunquam exprobrati sibi Ciceronianum nomẽ audierat, quod cùm audiuisset Hieronymus, fidemq́ dedisset, quod nunquam amplius libros gentilium attingeret, quàm diligenter ab omnibus, sed à Cicerone præsertim abstinuerit. Nosti Augustinum uerò, cui nullo somno interdictum erat, non solum familiariter illis uti non puduit, sed ingenuè etiam fateri, se in libris Platonicorum, magnam fidei nostræ partem inuenisse, & ex libro Ciceronis, qui uocatur Hortensius, mutatione mirabili, ab omni spe fallaci, & ab inutilibus discordantium sectarum, contentionibus auersum, ad solius ueritatis studium fuisse conuersum, & lectione libri illius inflammatum, ut mutatis affectibus, & abiectis uoluptatibus uolare altius inciperet. O uirum ineffabilem, dignumq́, quem Cicero ipse pro rostris laudet, cuiq́ publicè grates agat, quòd inter tàm multos ingratos, unus uelit esse gratissimus. O uirum magnificè humilem, & humiliter excelsum, non qui alienis plumis ornatus, auctoribus hic insultet, sed qui iam Christianæ religionis fluitantem puppim, inter hæreticorũ scopulos agens, præsentisq́ magnitudinis, sine arrogantia sibi conscius, ueritatem primordiorum suorum, & adolescentiæ rudimenta commemoret, & doctor tantus Ecclesiæ non erubescat, ducem tum Arpinatis hominis licet aliò tendentis. Cur autem erubesceret? Nemo dux spernendus est, qui uiam salutis ostendit. Quid ergo studio ueritatis obesse potest, uel Plato, uel Cicero. Quorũ alterius schola fidem ueracẽ, nõ modò nõ impugnat, sed docet, & prædicat alterius libri, recti ad illam itineris duces sunt. Eadem & de alijs dici possent: sed piget in re notissima, testes superuacuos conquirere. Nec tamen ideò negauerim, multa apud illos esse, quæ uitari oporteat, cum & apud nostros quædam sint periculosa incautis. Et Augustinus ipse, in quodam operoso uolumine. De uberrima messe suorum studiorum, inter nascentis erroris lolium, proprio pollice decerpat, quid ergo? rara lectio est, quæ periculo non uacet, nisi legenti lux diuinę ueritatis affluxerit, quid sequendum, declinandumùe docens. Illa autem duce, secura sunt omnia, & quæ nocere poterant, iam Syrtibus, & Charybdi, aut famosis in alto scopulis notiora sunt. Vt uerò iam tandem huic lasciuæ calumniæ finis fiat, uerône, an falsò Augustinum animo complectar, ipse nouit. Etenim ubi nec fallere uult quisquam, nec falli potest, unde deuia uitæ meæ, erroresq́ cernentem, misereri arbitror: Præsertim si adolescentiæ suæ meminit, quam uagam, & aberrantem miseratus omnipotens, retraxerit ad rectum iter, & nunc pro arenosis Aphricæ littoribus, ubi aliquandiù noxiè delectatus. Vergebat ad mortem, æternæ frondentis Hierusalem sine fine municipem esse dedit. Inde mihi fauet, inde me diligit, quid enim dubitem, cùm audiam in eo libro, quem de Vera Religione conscripsit, cum spe firmissima dicentem: Quisquis angelorum Deum diligit, certus sum, quod me diligit? Si enim ille contemplatione communis Dei, angelicum amorem sibi promittere non metuit, cum sit homo audebo, & ego, qui homo sum, amorem humanum, animæ illius sacratissimæ, quæ nunc cœlo fruitur sperare. Sed enim nouis hic salibus aspergor, ais enim, mihi Physica etiam nunc & Poëtica ruminanti, Augustini dicta, quasi quædam somnia uideri. Melius dixisses. Illa relegenti, totam mihi uitam meam, nihil uideri aliud quàm leue somnium, fugacissimumq́ phantasma. Itaque lectione illa excitor, interdum uelutẽ somno grauissimo, sed urgente mortalitatis sarcina, palpebræ rursus coëunt, & iterum expergiscor, & iterum obdormio. Voluntates meæ fluctuant, & desideria discordant, & discordando me lacerant, sic aduersus interiorem hominem, exterior pugnat, nunc dextera ingeminans ictus, nunc ille sinistra, nec mora, nec requies, & si pater æternus uoce prælia dirimens, fusum Dareta, de manibus Entelli ardentis eripiat, uincet exterior. Quid multa? adhuc de fine sum incertus, uinoq́ in spe, ad uictorem mortis exclamans:

Eripe me his inuicte malis:
Da dextram misero & tecum me tolle per undas.
Sedibus ut saltem placidis in morte quiescam.

Sed nihil iocis lentius, nihil flexibilius, quocunq́ traxeris sequuntur. Quid ergo ais, finxisse me mihi speciosum laureæ nomen, ut esset, & de qua ego loquerer, & propter quam, de me multi loquerentur. Rem autem ueram in animo meo lauream, nisi illam poëticam, ad quam aspirare me longum & indefessum studium testatur, de hac autem spirante laurea, cuius forma captus uideor, manu facta esset, omnia ficta carmina, simulata suspiria: in hoc uno uerè ut iocateris, simulatio esset urinam, & non furor. Sed crede mihi, nemo sine magno labore diu simulat. Laborare autem, gratis ut insanus uidearis. Insania summa est. Adde quod

ægritudinem geſtibus, imitari benè ualentes poſſumus, uerum pallorem ſimulare non poſſumus. Tibi pallor, tibi labor meus notus eſt, itaque magis uereor, ne tu illa feſtiuitate Socratica (quam Ironiam uocant) quo in genere, nec Socrati quidem cædis morbo meo inſultes. Sed expecta, ulcus hoc cum tempore matureſcet, uerumq́ue fiet in me Ciceronianum illud. Dies uulnerat, dies medetur atque aduerſus hanc ſimulatam (ut tu uocas) lauream. Simulatus ille mihi etiam Auguſtinus fortè profuerit: multa enim & grauia legendo, multumq́ue meditando, antequàm ſeneſcam ſenex ero. Quis autem erit facetiarum modus? Vbi deſines? Quid ais? Tentatum te quoque fictionibus meis, ac propè deluſum, imò uerò deluſum, aliquandiù expectaſſe me Romæ, ſimulantem ingens ueniendi, teq́ue reuiſendi deſiderium, tandem, quod ſpectatores callidi in circulatorum præſtigijs ſolent, aperienti tibi oculos, & in artes meas profundiùs intendenti, omnem ingenij mei ſcænam patuiſſe. Deus bone, quid hoc eſt? Calumniando tu quidem facies, ut magnus ſim. Iam Zoroaſtres uideri mihi incipio, repertor magiæ, ſiue unus ſuorum. Eſto ſim Dardanus, uel Domigeron, uel Apollo, uel alius, ſi quem ars ea notiorem fecit, parum'ne præſtigij eſt, præſtigiatorem uerbo facere? Sed iam ſatis, ſuperq́ue iocum traximus, ſeriò uelim mihi reſpondeas. Ceſſet quamuis ardor, faciem tuam uidendi, quem laborioſiſsimè in quartum annum iam protraxi, dum cogito: ecce ille cras aderit, ecce tu poſtridie mouebis. Excidat quidam curarum non mediocris cumulus, quem cum nullo mortalium, niſi tecum æquo animo partirer, quieſcat affectus cernendi, præclariſsimum Patrem tuum, magnanimos Fratres, honeſtiſsimas ſorores, exoptatos amicorum uultus. Quanti demum exiſtimaturum reris, mœnia urbis & colles, & (ut ait Virgilius) Tuſcum Tyberim, & Romana palatia cernere? Credi non poſſet, quantum Vrbem illam (deſertam quamuis) & ueteris effigiem Romæ ſpectare cupiam, quam nunquam uidi, ubi ſegnitiem meam ſi tamē ſegnities, & non neceſſitas fuit, inculo. Exultare mihi uidetur Seneca ad Lucilium ſcribens, ex ipſa uilla Scipionis Aphricani, nec modicum ducit, uidiſſe locum, ubi ille uir tantus exulauerat: ubi negata patriæ oſſa reliquerat. Quod ſi contigit Hiſpano homini, quid me hominem Italicum ſentire putas? non de uilla Literni, aut de Scipionis ſepulchro, ſed de urbe Roma, ubi Scipio natus eſt, ubi educatus, ubi uictor idem, & reus pari gloria triumphauit: ubi non unus ille, ſed innumerabiles uixerunt uiri, quos nunquam fama tacitura eſt. De ciuitate (inquam) illa, cui nulla ſimilis fuit, nulla futura eſt, quæ ciuitas regum etiam ab hoſte dicta eſt. De cuius populo ſcriptum legimus. Magna eſt fortuna populi Romani, magnum & terribile nomen, cuius ſine exemplo magnitudinem atq́ue incomparabilem monarchiam futuram, præſentemq́ue diuini cecinerunt uates. Neque ego nunc Romanas proſequor laudes, maior res eſt, quàm ut poſsit à tranſcurrente tractari, ſed hæc curſim attigi, ut intelligeres, non paruipendere me Reginæ Vrbis aſpectum, de qua infinita perlegi, & ipſe multa iam ſcripſi, plura fortè ſcripturus, niſi primordia mea præcipitata dies mortis abrumpat. Finge me his nequaquam tangi, quam dulce tamen eſt Chriſtiano animo, Vrbem cernere, cœli inſtar in terris, ſacroſanctis martyrum neruis atque oſsibus confertam, & ueri teſtium pretioſa cæde reſperſam. Videre uerendam populis ſaluatoris imaginem, & in ſaxo duriſsimo, æternum gentibus adoranda ueſtigia. Vbi ad literam luce clarius impletum cernitur illud Eſaiæ: Et uenient ad te curui filij eorum, qui humiliauerunt te, & adorabunt ueſtigia pedum tuorum, omnes qui detrahebant tibi. Circumire ſanctorum tumulos, uagari per apoſtolorum atria, melioribus iam curis comitantibus, & inquieta ſollicitudine uitæ præſentis in littore Maſsiliæ deſtituta. Quæ cùm ita ſint, quid me ſegnem uocas, cùm ſcias, quod iter meum ex alieno pendet arbitrio? Ego meipſum tibi dederam, paruum quidem, ſed perpetuum munus: tu me alteri parere uoluiſti, ſi alter propriè dicitur talis: & tàm unanimis germanus. Nihil hic mihi conſcius ſum, ſi culpa eſt, uel tibi parce, uel fratri. In extrema literarum parte ueritus forte, ne lepidiſsimis iocis tuis offenderer, ſolet enim leonis quantumlibet blanda contrectatio, animantia parua proterere, ſuaue olentis unguenti drachmam adhibes, ubi pupugiſſe uidebare, dum me ad te amandum, imò uerò ad tibi reddendas amoris uices, prędulciter cohortaris. Quid dicam? Multa loqui, non magis dolore quàm gaudio præpedimur. Hoc unum me tacentem non ignoras, uſque adeò ſaxeus non ſum, ut ad tàm debitum amorem, ſit mihi neceſſarius hortator, atque utinam in amando non magis freno, quàm calcaribus egerem. Tranquillior iuuenta ſequeretur, hoc ſaltem oro, ne finxiſſe me fingas.

Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA A... Epist. X.

Stu... a bominum in d... riora prolabi.

N... querimus, ... & in me autem queror, & lugeo, publi... poterant, certatim quærimus, quod ap... curandum ... neglig... Quàm fertilis ager, quàm domus com... quàm ... ruins, quàm ... llicitus procurator, quàm splẽdida ue... quàm pulchra uxor, quàm nostri corporis ornata superficies, om... quàm ... animus, curat nem... nec se curatu... spondet, ... primum esse debuerat, differimus ad extrema:

O ciues, ... es, quærenda pecunia primùm,

Virtus post nummos.

Si ... erat ... hic erit temporibus pronepotum, nisi fortè meliora de po... sperare possemus. Sed, ut res eunt, indies peiora c... quà ... in peiora ... ossim, n... dum timere, ... fugere, certè hic uiuitur, eoq; ... ... uentum ... procedi ulterius, sine publico præcipitio non possit. Nunc, ... est, quod ante tempus dixerat Satyricus:

Omne in præcipiti stetit.

... men pro uiribus, ut semper aliquid accedat insaniæ, nec nunquam à ... bus contenti erimus, nunquam committemus, ut ment...

Aetas parentum peior auis tulit

Nos nequiores: mox daturos,

Progeniem uitiosiorem.

Et, ut in tem... aliud grauiorem hanc querimoniam differamus, insistentes cœpto, sem... faciemus, quod Marco Varroni uiro lõgè doctissimo uisum est. Quoniam ... mam curæ partem, quam impendimus, ut pistor bon... panem faciat, ... nobis ipsis, iam pridem boni essemus (ut de anulis, de calceis de ... dubiò, sic erit, semper curabuntur ... semper ... tamen tuis clarissime uir, unum de te bonæ spei ... mihi ... ximus ad salutem gradus est) statum tuæ me... magnifica, cùm primum se facultas obtulerit, ex his compedi... urus. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AGAPITO COLVMNAE, S. Epist. XI.

Ad Cœnam poëticam amicum inuitat.

A... am expectatis ... memor... n... hic cupidi... esse, ... ibi con... præstò est, idq; non ... aut ... sed quæ à Virgilio ... orale describuntur

—*Mitis poma,*

Castaneæ molles: & pressi copia lactis.

C... d mora, ... panem, fortuitum leporem, aut peregrinã gruem: ... callum fort... sis apri rancidi... Inuenies. Quid multa? Neq; loco... nec ui... ta est tibi. Itaq; ... pedibus tantùm, sed ut facetè Plautus ... parasitis ait, C... Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, S. Epist. XII.

Hetruriæ loca quædam describit.

P... meis locum, si non aliò properat animus, nactus sum in Re... mana Cap... mons dictus est, ... quòd syluestri... us ... capris quàm hominibus frequentior ... Paulatim ... spectata fertilitas, habitatores aliquot spontè cõtraxit, à quibus arx emi... ndata, & domorũ quantũ collis angustus patitur, ... Capraru uo... Locus ignobilis fama, nobilioribus cin... Est hinc Sociate mons ... la, sed & ante syluestrum poetarum carminibus ... Cyminũ ... Virgilii. Hinc Sutrium, ... Cereri ... Saturni ... Cam... ditur non longè à muris, ubi primum in Italia ... rege ia-

ctum dicunt, primã messem falce desectã, quo bene[illegible] miraculoq; delinitis [illegible] tem tegni uiuens, in opi[illegible]onem diuinitatis, ut[illegible] ctus fauore hominum ac[illegible] rex, & falcifer Deus el[illegible]er[illegible]c, quantum bre[illegible] tempus o[illegible] di[illegible] sal[illegible]errimus [illegible] colles innumeri, altitudine, nec accessu difficiles, [illegible] expedita perspectui [illegible] brosa latebrum conuexa, & opaca cir[illegible], [illegible] frondosum nemus erig[illegible]r, nisi quod ad [illegible] qu[illegible] r, apr[illegible] mellificis apibus floream stationem, fon[illegible] aquarum dulcium, [illegible] mi[illegible] uallibu[illegible] cerui, damæ, capreoli, & feri nemorum greges aperti[illegible]gant [illegible]us. Omne uolu[illegible]m genus, uel undis, uel ramis immurmurat [illegible] nam [illegible]um, & [illegible] m[illegible] sueti pecori[illegible] arm[illegible] & humani laboris fructus Bacchi dulcedinem, & Cere[illegible] ubertatem. Ad hæc & illa naturæ dona, uicinos lacus ac flumina, & non longinquum mare prætereo. Pax una, [illegible] nam [illegible] entis crimine, quibus cœli legibus, quo fato, seu qua [illegible]deium ui, ab his terris [illegible] tigit[illegible] Quid enim putas, pastor armatus syluis inuigilat, non tàm l[illegible]os metuens, quàm [illegible] apt[illegible] res, loricatus arator, hastam ad usum rustici pu[illegible]ionis inuertens, recusantis bouis terga sollicitat. Auceps retia clypeo te[illegible]it, & piscator hamis fallacibus, h[illegible]etem escam ne[illegible] ne suspendit (qu[illegible]q; ridi[illegible] dixeris) aquam è puteo pet[illegible]s, rubigi[illegible] dido fune conn[illegible]ect[illegible]t. D[illegible] nihil [illegible] armis hi[illegible] ag[illegible], [illegible] ille pern[illegible]x [illegible] in mœnibus? Quæ uoces ad [illegible]na conclaman[illegible]m? Quæ mihi in sono[illegible]d blandi[illegible] è fidibus exprimere consu[illegible]uetam, successêre. Nihil incolis latum reg[illegible] se aut tutum uideas, aut pacatum audias, aut humanum sentias, [illegible] bellum & o[illegible] bus dæmonum cun[illegible] af[illegible]m[illegible]ima. His in locis pater inclyte, inter [illegible]tem ac [illegible]ole[illegible]em dabius iam sextumdecimum diem ago, & qua[illegible]um potest in rebus omnibus [illegible]onsuetud[illegible] fragore militum, & stridore lituum cæteris in aciem concurr[illegible]bus me sæp[illegible] per hos coll[illegible] ag[illegible]m, uideas, atq; aliquid quod posteritatem mihi concil[illegible]et assiduè medi[illegible]antem. Omnes [illegible]e cũ ad[illegible]ratione respi[illegible]unt, ociosum, intrepidum & iner[illegible]em, cont[illegible]à c[illegible] admiror pauidos, sollicitos, & arm[illegible]. Hæc est humanarum uarietas actio[illegible]m, q[illegible] for[illegible]an interr[illegible]get, an hinc migra[illegible] m[illegible]lim, nõ facilè dixerim, & ire [illegible]t. & mane[illegible] e[illegible] Ad primum pronior [illegible]m, non q[illegible]od hic molesti qui[illegible]quam pati[illegible] se[illegible] Roma[illegible] mo moueram. E[illegible] autem secundùm naturam, ut usq; in finem [illegible]orum, ani[illegible] non q[illegible] scat, ex quo maximè col[illegible]em mihi uidetur habuisse, opinio illa, quæ beati[illegible]ca[illegible]ne Dei, in qua consumata fœlicitas hominis cõsistit, defunctorum animas, tàm diù cari[illegible]s astruebat, donec corpora resumpsissent, quod naturaliter n[illegible] optare non possunt, quamuis [illegible]a sententia multorum, saniori iuditio uicta, & cum auctore suo, da ueniam quæso, quru[illegible] cum, sed non errores eius dilexisti, sepulta iam pridem sit. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLUMNAE, S. Epist. XIII.

Causas moræ apud Caprarum montem recenset.

IN hoc ecce Caprarum, imò uerò le[illegible]um, ac tygridum monte, quolibet a[illegible] Vrsus iste t[illegible] h[illegible]itat, Anguillariæ comes, amator pacis, sine bellorum metu, [illegible] la securus, [illegible] pa[illegible]is desiderio, hospitalitate secundus memini, con[illegible]s, [illegible]lande seue[illegible], & [illegible]gide beni[illegible]s, pi[illegible]m famil[illegible]issimus, & excell[illegible] ingenio[illegible]m mirator elegantissimus, ac lauda[illegible]or. Et[illegible] cum non aduersu[illegible]t ille, sed [illegible] niens moribus suis, no[illegible] so[illegible]a Agnes c[illegible]x[illegible]ius præclar[illegible]ssima soror tua, [illegible] de Carthagine salu[illegible] ne[illegible]lius p[illegible]o, [illegible]m p[illegible]rum [illegible]ere. Sunt enim quæ[illegible]m, quæ nullo melius modo, quam [illegible]up[illegible]re, & silenti[illegible] lau[illegible]dantur, horum ex genere soror tua est, hoc concors, & mite par con[illegible], ceu rosas, aut lilia totidem, notau[illegible] inter spineta ac tribulos odiorum, horum suauitate utrimq; reliquorum temperatur asperitas. Acc[illegible]ssit diuinus & singularis uir Iacobus [illegible] Columna, Lombariensis Epi[illegible]pus, germanus tu[illegible]s, ad quem cum aduentu[illegible] [illegible]cium præmi[illegible]issem, per literas [illegible]d me agere uelles i[illegible]te[illegible] gans, quomodo [illegible]identi[illegible] omnes aditus domus tuæ ho[illegible]ibus, non tu[illegible] mam peti[illegible]us. R[illegible]psit ille, congratulatus aduentui & expectare iubes, pa[illegible] post dieb[illegible]s ad VII. Cal. Februarij aliu[illegible] cum Stephano fra[illegible]e p[illegible]imoge[illegible]o, cuius e[illegible] exim[illegible]a, ma[illegible]a qu[illegible] in [illegible] a uat[illegible], neq; am[illegible]ius, qu[illegible]m ce[illegible]um armatis eq[illegible] [illegible] sp[illegible] ho[illegible]ore transtulerat, cum quingentos, & eò amp[illegible]s [illegible] is e[illegible]a, quæ sæpè bellum conficit, fama ducum, interstra [illegible] unc gen[illegible] bus habito[illegible] tanta dulcedine, ut sæpè alibi, quàm [illegible] [illegible]s[illegible]at[illegible] nec iam Romam magnoperè requiram, ibimus tamen, quamuis denuò di[illegible], adu[illegible] ditum, in ut[illegible]em accuratiùs obstruxisse. Vale.

FRA-

FRAN. PETRARCHA [illegible] COLVMNAE, [illegible] Epist. XIIII.

Ruinas Vrbis [illegible] obstupescit.

A [illegible]be Roma [illegible]d expectet, [illegible] a de [illegible]s acceperit, putabas me grande [illegible] Romam [illegible]s mihi forsan in poste[illegible] m[illegible]di m[illegible]ia ol[illegible]ta est, in [illegible]d inchoare ausim, miraculo re[illegible]arum & stupo[illegible] m[illegible]le[illegible]. Verum hoc tacitum noluerim, [illegible]on[illegible] [illegible]cabaris ac[illegible]t. Solebas enim, memini, me ueniendo dehortari hoc maxime [illegible] mos[illegible] [illegible]ctu [illegible]am [illegible] respondente atque [illegible]nioni me[illegible], ex libris con[illegible] æ ardor meus ille [illegible]ntesceret. [illegible]o quoque, [illegible]uamuis desid[illegible] flagrarem, n[illegible] intutus dif[illegible]ebam metuens ne quod ipse mihi animo finxeram, exten[illegible]arent oculi, & ma[illegible] semper [illegible]minib[illegible] [illegible]imica præsentia. Illa [illegible]erò, mirum dictu, nihil im[illegible]nuit, sed auxit omnia, uerè [illegible]a, maiores [illegible] suot reliquiæ quàm rebar. Iam non orbem ab hac Vrbe domi[illegible], [illegible] tam [illegible]ero domitu[illegible] mi[illegible]t. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, S. Epist. XV.

Laudatoria.

S[illegible] Romanorum ueteres matronas [illegible] laudibus [illegible]tollu[illegible]. [illegible] L[illegible] [illegible]em pudicitiam attribunt, Ma[illegible] pi[illegible]m impetum V[illegible], [illegible]s amoris ardorem Porcæ, Claudiæ hilari[illegible]tem [illegible]briam, Iuliæ face[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]am muliebrē, urbanitatem Cæciliæ, Liuiæ maiestatem, Corneliarum [illegible] [illegible]ur animi, alteræ morum, uerborumque d[illegible]edinem. Sunt & qui pe[illegible] [illegible]quan[illegible] honestatem in Penelope, in Artemisia amorem immor[illegible], in Ipsicratea [illegible]tiam, in Thomyri fortitudinem, consilium in Thætide, modestiam in A[illegible]gia, pietatem [illegible] Antigone, in Didone constantiam admirantes. Vellem ut duo laudatore[illegible], ueterum [illegible]s tuas Ioannam & Agnetem cernerēt, haberent profectò in una domo amplissimam laudandi materiam, neque fœmineis titulis conquirendi[illegible] per omnes ter[illegible]s & per [illegible]m [illegible] [illegible]agarentur. Quicquid usquam sparsim quæritu[illegible] apud has sim[illegible] inueni[illegible] [illegible]tute tantùm propria, sed magni Genit[illegible] gloria, frat[illegible]que concordia, & tal[illegible]m pie[illegible] fœlicissimus. Vale.

FRANCISCI PETRAR-CHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS FAMILIA-RIBVS,

LIBER III.

FRA[illegible] PETRARCHA THOMAE MESSANENSI, S. Epist. I.

Tule siue Tyle insula.

PERAMBVLANTI ueterum confinia, accessu quidem aspera, sed amœna cum perueneris, creber scrupulus ingenij pede calcandus est. Hoc sanè, quem tu tibi nuper iniectum scribis, ego iam pridem premor, quærisque itidem quánam mundi parte Tyle [illegible] insula, quæro? Sed, ut uerum fat[illegible] nec certo iudice, nec ad r[illegible] ducentibus coniecturis, aut ipsam, [illegible]ut nullā inueniend[illegible] [illegible]em in[illegible]uenio, & hæc tibi quidem, ex ipsi[illegible] Britannici Oceani [illegible] propinquior, ut fama est, ipsi quam uesti[illegible]amus insulæ scri[illegible]. Profectò unde uel antiquo litera[illegible] st[illegible]dio, uel [illegible]ua ac sollic[illegible]a locorum indagine, certiùs aliq[illegible]d [illegible]ere posse d[illegible]ceram, ulri[illegible] [illegible]é terrarum esse non ambigit[illegible], hoc Virgili[illegible] [illegible]oc Seneca, hoc secutus u[illegible] [illegible]us: hoc omnis denique scriptorum cohors, [illegible]d [illegible]que [illegible]us in[illegible] m[illegible]tos conue[illegible] [illegible]u[illegible] tractu sitam, quam longissimè ab ortu solis & [illegible] meridie [illegible]ce[illegible]sse. Cæterum [illegible]de[illegible]e positis [illegible]imulos addidi[illegible] ipsa uicinitas, [illegible] ad orientem [illegible]a e[illegible]t, fortè non

magis Tylem, quàm T[illegible]robanem [illegible]. Cùm u[illegible] Britan[illegible] Hybern[illegible] [illegible]ctasq; Orchadas [illegible] Oceano [illegible] ad Aquilonem, [illegible] Austrum, [illegible] meare [illegible] testi[illegible], [illegible] alie[illegible] p[illegible], [illegible] [illegible]am, aut Gallias [illegible] cre[illegible] [illegible] q; [illegible] inquirere, sicubi undis emer[illegible] [illegible] hæc [illegible] quàm in [illegible] & antiquorum [illegible] cau[illegible] [illegible] etiam [illegible] [illegible] opinio. Qui[illegible] mu[illegible] [illegible] uit, quod sæpe [illegible] ac[illegible], ut ubi [illegible] in p[illegible]a notiores [illegible] perconctare occidêtus accolas ind[illegible] insulæ nomen [illegible] [illegible], literis [illegible] insulæ est. Insula uer[illegible] [illegible] ta, quàm uul[illegible] [illegible] quid[illegible] de hac re cum [illegible] Anglo[illegible] is ca[illegible]o, sermo n[illegible] sus fuit, uiro ar[illegible] in[illegible] nec litera[illegible] [illegible]cio, & [illegible] Brita[illegible] [illegible]enit[illegible] atque edu[illegible]catorum abditarumq; rerum ab [illegible] adolescen[illegible] supra fidem [illegible] ta [illegible] quæ [illegible] culis enodandis aptiss[illegible]us [illegible] etur. Ille autê, seu quia [illegible], seu qu[illegible] et igno[illegible]rantiam fateri (qui mos hodie mu[illegible] est, qui non intelli[illegible] quanta [illegible] homini nato, nec nosse omnia uolenti [illegible] fiteri ingenuè se n[illegible]re, quod nesciat [illegible], quod non suspicor, quia [illegible] mihi [illegible] notitiam in[illegible] et: Respondi[illegible] cert[illegible] meæ satisfactu[illegible], sed n[illegible] quàm [illegible] libros suos, [illegible] rum nemo côpi[illegible] in p[illegible]triam reuerti [illegible]. Erat enim [illegible] in am[illegible]m eius incidi, tractandis dom[illegible] sui n[illegible] apud sedem Apostolicam [illegible]grinus, ea [illegible]licet tempestate, qua inter prælatum [illegible] suum [illegible] rancorum [illegible] pri[illegible] futurni belli semina pullula[illegible]ant, quæ cruenta [illegible] postea [illegible]. Nec [illegible] rep[illegible] falces, aut clausa sunt horrea, sed dum promisso [illegible] [illegible], siue nihil [illegible] siue nou[illegible] pont[illegible] officij g[illegible] m[illegible]ere di[illegible]stractus, quamuis sæpe [illegible]latus, expecta[illegible] me [illegible]iter, [illegible] obstinato si[illegible]lentio [illegible]aris fecit. Ita mihi Tyle am[illegible] Britannica nihil notior [illegible] Po[illegible] uero [illegible] manus meas [illegible] bellus de mirabil[illegible] Hyberniæ à Giraldo quodam aulico, Henrici se[illegible]cundi regis Anglorum, licet tenui [illegible] stylo, non rudi tamen uerborum arte contextus, quem ne [illegible] biblio[illegible] nostræ f[illegible]bus excluderem, breuis quædam [illegible] particula pro[illegible] meruit, ubi de hac eadem [illegible]ula nostræ similis, & operosa dubitatio in[illegible] erat: itaq; simi[illegible]tudo una ingenij, mih[illegible] [illegible] peris commendauit, auctorem. Aliquot ib[illegible] scriptor[illegible] senten[illegible]tias attin[illegible] qu[illegible] in[illegible] Oceani, quæ circa Britanniam, quæue inter Arcton & Occasum sunt, extrem[illegible] Tyle. [illegible] æstiuo nulla nox, brumali contra solstitio nulla dies, ultra quàm pigrum atq; con[illegible]etum iaceat mare. Ad hæc Solinum, & Isidorum testes citat, ignotam [illegible] hilominus [illegible]m occidenti, nullamq; huius uel naturæ, u[illegible] nom[illegible]is illic e[illegible] confi[illegible] ideoq; conie[illegible] sequens, aut famosam, sed fabulosam in[illegible]m exi[illegible] aut infinito ab alijs spatio se[illegible], nusquã alibi, quàm in intimis Boreali Oceani se[illegible]s requ[illegible]. Cuius senten[illegible] [illegible]ulato[illegible]em facit Orosium, Poetam & Claudium, ubi Hyperboreo [illegible] natam [illegible]dere Tylem ai[illegible]. Hoc tamen [illegible] em agit, & ad [illegible] ferè modum ille d[illegible]. Tu te[illegible], qu[illegible] ind[illegible] examinã, qu[illegible]m [illegible] et, & quanta sit dictis fides intell[illegible] [illegible]o enim nunc a lib[illegible] s[illegible] us, quàm long[illegible] mè a[illegible]sum, & id unũ in hac peregri[illegible] lesti[illegible] imum exp[illegible] o[illegible] essus, n[illegible] m Latinæ linguæ murmur aud[illegible] sus, com[illegible] [illegible]ibus loq[illegible]m [illegible]itus, [illegible] habeo, omne mihi [illegible] memo[illegible] a est. Hæc i[illegible] tur extemp[illegible]e & [illegible] ita scribo, ita ut [illegible] tem uideo, silentio p[illegible] c[illegible] mmittenda credide[illegible] [illegible]ta sane n[illegible] q[illegible]m si sub oculis li[illegible], [illegible], qu[illegible] fre[illegible]ens [illegible] cogitatio, mihi altius atq; [illegible] impresit. Pl[illegible] e[illegible] fore n[illegible] leger[illegible] quo nemo c[illegible]us rem ex[illegible] quam u[illegible] de[illegible] e non a[illegible], [illegible] semper occurrat, quid ita om[illegible] habe[illegible]tur in[illegible] g[illegible]ta [illegible] tam ui[illegible]na, tàm celebris. Sed dicam quid ipse Plinius Secundus, secundo n[illegible] [illegible]is historiæ libro senserit. T[illegible]em esse insulam, sex dierum nauigatione in Septentrionem a Britannia distantem, ubi [illegible]trem æstiuũ diem ac par[illegible] spatij brumalem noctẽ [illegible]e co[illegible]iectat: & uident[illegible] tũ [illegible] uidet[illegible] rationis argumẽto. Et præt[illegible]rea nesci[illegible] qu[illegible] [illegible]ensi Pythia Massil[illegible] [illegible]utur. Quæ [illegible] a sit, quantu[illegible]ũ hinc [illegible]best Tyle ipsa qu[illegible] [illegible]mus, [illegible] a[illegible] Indus [illegible]er, [illegible]gens, apud nos n[illegible]titia nulla est. Ser[illegible] [illegible] meli[illegible] nec [illegible]graphus uel Poeta, sequens tamen p[illegible] [illegible]a, super[illegible] [illegible]

T[illegible] a Tyle

[illegible] Ty[illegible] Ocea[illegible] [illegible]tentri[illegible]nalem, & occidentalem plagam ultra Brit[illegible]niam, H[illegible] c[illegible]m, Orchadas [illegible] unum ferè signum om[illegible] a[illegible] ut inter Sept[illegible]trionem & [illegible]um, ac non [illegible] à Britan[illegible]a ua[illegible] [illegible]t, ubi si c[illegible]ore

conuenissent, re cogente, mutassent forte sententiam. Duo longiùs abscedunt, à cæterorum dictis, sed an ad uerum propiùs accedant, an propter distantiam, non ita manu, ut aiunt, mēdacium prendi possit, incertum est. Horum alter Orosius est, cuius suprà est mentio habita, alter uerò Pomponius Mela, nobilis Cosmographus, quem Plinius in multis sequi solitus, hic neglexisse uisus est. Is enim toto anno, unum solis ortum, uerno, unumque autumnali æquinoctio, occasum, atque ita una die dūtaxat, unaque nocte distinctum anni spatium, Hyperboreis populis assignat. Primis in littore Asiatico super Aquilonem, Riphæosque montes habitantibus, omnium (si quid sibi credimus) mortalium innocētissimis, fœlicissimisque. Tylem autem inter Oceani insulas, Belgarum littoribus oppositam testantur, noctes ibi breues, hyeme quidem fuscas, æstate lucidas, solstitio nullas. Adest tanta discordia, ut mihi quidem nihilo [illegible] tur occultior insula ipsa, quàm ueritas. Sed benè habet, quia quid laboriosè quærimus, impunè nescimus. Lateat ad Aquilonem Tyle: lateat ad Austrum Nili caput, modò non lateat in medio consistens uirtus, & huius uitæ breuis semita, per quam magna pars hominum palpitando, titubandoque proficiscitur ad incertum finem ambiguo calle festina [illegible] e ergo nimis magnam operam impēdamus, in inquisitione loci, quem forsan in uentum cupide linqueremus. Claudenda iam epistola, & tempus curis melioribus impendendum est. Hæc sunt, quæ de hoc ambiguo tibi, nunc ex ipsa (ut ita dixerim) inquisitionis area excutere potui. Reliqua à doctoribus exige. Mihi quidem, si hæc ne latibulo rimari, & ad ita nosse negatum fuerit, meipsum nosse sufficiet. Hic oculos aperiam, hic figam inuitum: orabo eum qui me fecit, ut se mihi neque simul ostendat, & (quod uotum sapientis est) notum mihi faciat finem meum. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMAE MESSANENSI, S. Epist. II.

Curas hominum superuacuas esse.

QVid ad literas tuas dicam? Vereor'ne humanorum torrens rapidissimus, eorum amicum nostrum, sundo alueí rotatum, cum uniuerso rapiat. Senescit, ut uides, inter ludos atque præstigia fortunæ, multa sibi promittens, quæ, mihi crede, nunquā uenient. Vna tamē excusatio est: omnes idem ferè morbus habet, quem inuenies, qui nō sæpè crastinæ quietis hodie laboret. Hæc fœlicitas, hęc mortaliū uita est, mirus furor, nec miror ideò quia publicus, hiare inueūis, & certis bonis abiectis, incerta sectari ignorant homines, quantum lucri sit spes inanes, & fallaces perdere. Nulla grauior sarcina, nulla tamen tristius deponitur, usque adeò malis etiam propriis delectamur. Laborat ille quidem & suspirat, & anhelat superuacuè, & contra Flacci sententiam, *Terras alió calentes sole permutans, breui fortis iaculatur æuo multa*. Non accuso in alijs, quod in nobis excuso, tulit & nos [illegible] dendi ardor, per terras, ac maria, & nunc maximè ad extrema terrarum, ea me uoluntas traxit, pellente hinc tædio rerum, inorumque odio, quo rursum dura necessitas retraxit, [illegible] ustictius applicuit, & cum multa inde sibi scripsenm reuersus puluerulentū calamum [illegible] primum nomine detersi. Amicus autem noster, non ut doctior redeat, nullum [illegible] accessum finit, & omni uento caducæ frondis more circumuoluitur, suspi[illegible] eius nullus, ut auguror, finis erit, nisi qui uitæ. Hoc sibi uerbis meis dicito. Rarò quidem præmeditata succedunt: sed finge succedant, crescit cum fœlicitate miseria, id haud difficile persuaden posset experto, nisi consuetudo pessima, aures salutaribus uocibus obstrueret. Sed ipse de se uidebit, tu uerò cœptum tene, & ne turba delirantium animum à proposito conuellat caue. Senecæ, imò uerò ipsius naturæ uerbum est. Nec multo opus est, nec [illegible]. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA STEPHANO COLVMNAE IVNIORI, S. Epist. III.

Vsum uictoriæ non amittendum esse.

POtuisti uir fortissime uincere: scito sapientissime uir uti uictoria, ne quis, unquam [illegible] um tibi possit obijcere, quod Cannensi quondam die Maharbal Hannibali, qui si consilio obsecutus, recto calle ab acie Romam, sanguine nostro rotantia signa uertisset. Quæ'nam sit historicorum opinio, non ignoras. Sed illius impijs ausibus, obstitit [illegible] Deus. Idem pios adiutuans conatus, aciem tuam comitabitur, diriget, [illegible] ucem uictricia signa non deseret. Ille tibi nunc perpetuam uictoriam, ultimumque tuorum [illegible] um exterminium pollicetur, qui de tot olim Barbaricis legionibus, piam paucitatem [illegible] dosi principis saluā fecit. Et tu profectò iustissimā causam foues, & qui illius tūc iusti[illegible] unc testis est CHRISTVS, deuotissimè tibi diebus, ac noctibus inuocandus, ut [illegible] quod incœpit, non equidem procul ille, sed tecū est, & tecū erat (mihi crede) dū uinceres.

ceres. Alioquin quo'nam modo cum paucis tantum fudisses exercitum, atq; unus duos superbissimos hostes, incautusq; idem ac propè semiermis, præmeditatos illos, & instructos inopino Marte tàm celeriter oppressisses? Aderat proculdubiò cœleste præsidium, aderitq; quotiens nō mutata iustitia, partis tuę piè, reuerenterq; postulabitur. I tanto securus duce, & de cæsorum sanguine renascentem puerum, Ecclesiarum spolijs oneratum, prædam uerius scito esse, quàm prælium. Prior nempè uictoria, ut gloriosa, sic inops fuit, hæc tàm opulenta, quam facilis. Vade igitur, ad certam uictoriam, potius iam ad ambiguum certamen, & uade non tàm proprijs uiribus, quàm diuino fisus auxilio. Ipsa pro te etiam elementa pugnabunt, quæ pro Theodosio pugnauerunt (quodq; ait Claudianus)

Tibi militet ab antris
Aeolus armatas hyemes, tibi militat æther.
Et coniurati ueniunt ad classica uenti.

Nam & tu quoque cum crucis hostibus, licet CHRISTI nomen usurpantibus, bellum geris, quod sic esse nouus Eugenius ex agno lupus, tyrannus ex clerico, oppressæ ac nudatæ per Italiam testantur Ecclesiæ. Te non tuarum magis, quam suarum iudicem offensarum poscit læsa diuinitas, noli geminæ deesse uindictæ, neque in his, quæ gesta sunt, spem usque adeò posueris, ut quæ sint gerendæ non uideas. Aliquid est actum, imò multum, imò plurimum, imò nihil cum principio finis desit. Ne quæso cum uictoria uti possis, frui malis, qua in re nostro quidem optimo, sed pessimo facto suo, errasse tantus ille militiæ magister arguitur. Quamuis autem unum illud omnibus bellorum ducibus qui sunt, quiq; erunt omnibus seculis, abundè cautionis, ac documenta præstare debeat, ne tamen in tàm magno negotio, unius exempli commemoratione mouear, & nostra, & peregrina subijciam. Magnus Pompeius ad Dyrrhachium uictor, Iulium Cæsarem propè captum, dum retinere posset, abire permisit, siue ignorantia rei bellicæ in duce probatissimo, siue fortuna familiari suo, in extremis necessitatibus opem ferens. Siue (quæ uulgatior fama est) mira prorsus atq; utinam fœlix humanitas illa fuit, ex qua mox in Thessalia calamitas publica, & in Aegypto ducis ipsius mors miserabilis consecuta est: & in Africa Catonis simul ac libertatis interitus, & in Hispania tristis reliquiarum strages, & Romæ spoliatum ærarium, oppressæ leges, atque ibidem succinctus ferro abdito Senatus, & uictor in Capitolio, quod quatuor triumphis ornauerat interfectus. Hinc Perusij ac Mutinæ grauis obsidio, & crudelissima Parmensium clades, cuius in Philippicis Cicero meminit, & Pharsalia nostro sanguine rursus infecta, & sub Leucadio atq; Actio uerticibus, illa ingentia bella naualia. Postremò inde usq; in seculum nostrum, tantorum series malorum, ut impossibilis enumeratio sit, & amara memoria, nec dum miseriarum finis ullus appareat. Quid de Cyro rege Persarū loquar, quid (ut propriè dicam) uictor in prælio, in uictoria uictus fuit? Quid de Alexandro Macedone, qui bello incolumis, in conuiuio perijt? Agamemnon non famosum illud ac superbum Ilion strauit, Africanus minor noster (ut ita dixerim) Poliorchetes Carthaginem atq; Numantiam funditùs euertit, uterq; in bello, quàm post uictoriam tutior, militiæq; fœlicior quam domi, quos non minus moribus, quàm locis, temporibusq; distantes, sciens, in hac breuis epistolæ parte coniunxi, quod propè par fatum, atq; idem amborum exitus uideretur, uictores hostium, quisq; sua perdomita, ac subacta barbarie, inter amplexus nefandissimarum coniugum periêre. Nihil hæc, fateor, ad nostrum propositum. Itaq; rem omnium ad unum finem deduco, ut ostendam multa etiam uictoribus metuēda. Nunquam igitur gestarum rerum fiducia subsistendum, prodendumq; longius assiduè, ac more Cæsareo urgendum impigrè successum, instādumq; fauoris numinis, credendumq; nihil actum, dum agendum aliquid supersit, alioquin multis bello suspectiorem fuisse uictoriam, & uerendum ualdè, ne melius fuerit non cœpisse, quàm cœptum medio procurrentis facti calle deserere. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA STEPHANO COLVMNAE IVNIORI, S. Epist. IIII.

Literas & carmen misisse indicat.

DE uniuerso rerum tuarum statu, quid sentirem, breue quiddam tibi, bellacissime Vir, materno pridem sermone conscripseram, ut posset militibus etiam tuis innotescere, tecum in partē laboris, & gloriæ profecturis. Subinde autem pariente noui aliquid semper ingenio, eidem tibi carmen, ex meo, alienoq; contexui: ea lege, ut primus meus, secundus alicuius probati Poëtæ uersus esset, atq; ita, ut legentem non sententiarum modo artificiosa connexio, sed uerborum quoq; consonantia delectaret. Quo in re, ceu noui poëmatis (tenui licet inuentione) gloriabar, donec misso iam carmine deprehendi,

[illegible] os ante me hoc [illegible] gisse, ut [illegible] quod Hebræus [illegible] dixit: Nihil noui [illegible] quodq; ait C[illegible]:

Nihil dictum [illegible] non [illegible] dictum [illegible]

[illegible] tum [illegible], quò plures [illegible] ceptio [illegible] ne [illegible] & libe [illegible] est quod [illegible], nihil [illegible] m, q[illegible] ui [illegible] m[illegible] ff[illegible] rasti, tamen [illegible] non uisse [illegible] satis est. Vale.

FRAN. PETRAR[illegible] COLVMNAE IVNIORI S. Epist. V.

Experientia laud[illegible]am.

P[illegible] tum [illegible] artæ, quem hac ætate secu[illegible] uideor [illegible] ut a[illegible] eris [illegible] præter [illegible] minum [illegible] m, breuibus uerbis expo[illegible] utrum imitandi, an imitandi [illegible] hòs, nescio, tu [illegible]. Cæterùm quam magnam [illegible] em, in [illegible] gulias [illegible], ac lo[illegible] cui [illegible] dici uelis, forsan [illegible] noras. Sunt de hoc ipso [illegible] storu[illegible] [illegible] im mihi uidetur) à quoquàm sufficienter adhuc lau[illegible] es [illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] erea liquid imp[illegible] t, & fecissem, nisi qui [illegible] aut i[illegible] [illegible] iæ satis fido. Quod ad te, precesq; [illegible] attin[illegible] uiden[illegible] [illegible] laudatorem tutæ huius audiam, nisi [illegible] mo [illegible] em eius a[illegible] [illegible] t, cùm innumerabilibus bonis hæc a[illegible] uæ ne[illegible] do, ne le[illegible] [illegible] e nec al[illegible] quàm experiendo discuntur, sic frustrà quenq[illegible] eu, u[illegible] [illegible] ca[illegible] p[illegible] magis[illegible]. Quid enim ref[illegible] quant[illegible] uio re[illegible] r, a[illegible] le-ct[illegible] ut m[illegible] d[illegible]? T[illegible] q; si te[illegible] dinis meæ admi[illegible] m[illegible] an [illegible] m [illegible] præd[illegible] noli mecum alijs intent[illegible] fatigare noli narrationem [illegible] re. Sed si modo tu (quod ego, q[illegible] ualde uereor, [illegible] pe[illegible] o) p[illegible] ra m[illegible] tentandi animo interrogas, ueni [illegible] quodq; ipse t[illegible] debere potes, a[illegible] eas. Desine tuarum aurium pruritum, alie[illegible] monis u[illegible] entibus scalpere, le[illegible] us tab[illegible] idem consequi non prohiberis, idq; [illegible] onestius qu[illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] dis exto[illegible] s, ad nihil aliud aut annuenti profuturum, aut p[illegible] enti, quam ut leg[illegible] tentio culpari posit, & [illegible] scribentis uerba contemptui. V[illegible]

FR[illegible]. PE[illegible] ARCHA STEPHANO COLVMNAE IVNIORI, S. Epist. VI.

Summa fœlicitas quæ.

O Vt [illegible] quæsti[illegible] [illegible] osita sentiendum putes, ipse uideris, nec [illegible] ec [illegible] rum lectu[illegible] entia defuerit, apud me quidem rerum [illegible] hone[illegible] [illegible] a consul[illegible] tentiam extorques, absit à me non mod[illegible] m-[illegible] m, sed (quon[illegible] & in ha[illegible] uam Peripate[illegible] & in omni-[illegible] bus Stoicus, m[illegible] ò quàm [illegible]) ne aliq[illegible] quidem bonum [illegible] n uol[illegible] ptate reponere, commod[illegible] hæc, & adminic[illegible] æ mortalis itaq; [illegible] c corporis bonum [illegible]. Bonum uerò quod q[illegible] animo est, nec [illegible] nec fortunæ: cæt[illegible] bona fateor, sed non esse [illegible] do. Neue me [illegible] p[illegible] um putes inaduert[illegible] hoc dicere, non sum nesci[illegible] qui[illegible] d[illegible] e Aristo[illegible] [illegible] uru[illegible] sentiat, sed [illegible] ophan[illegible] um auctoritas non impedit [illegible] libertatē. [illegible] Philosophorum d[illegible] uer[illegible] rq; sententia uidetur. Beatos esse non posse, [illegible] na [illegible] nt [illegible] rò. V[illegible] m est, [illegible] quod fœlices faciat, nec [illegible] quidem n[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] fœlicitas [illegible] ad quam, [illegible] ò forma corporis, & prospe[illegible] ualetu[illegible] æ e[illegible] tt[illegible] ur, se[illegible] potius ex[illegible] r, nimis furum in[illegible] s expo[illegible] [illegible] ta semper ac[illegible] nihil est a [illegible] citate rem[illegible] tius. Nam illa Ep[illegible] [illegible] s, nō s[illegible] illa fœlicitas, sed extrema mise[illegible] est. Quid enim hom[illegible] bonum bono p[illegible] dis, hoc est, ratio[illegible] m sensib[illegible] abstrauil[illegible] Sed non [illegible] apiti [illegible] ebor, qui inter tantas partes, super lite tàm dubia i[illegible] el[illegible] dat [illegible] uisq; quod credidit, durū est enim ab [illegible] etera [illegible] o[illegible] on [illegible] Phon[illegible] atus sarij, quo[illegible] uix nomina epist[illegible] erent [illegible] Ext[illegible] [illegible] nis lib[illegible] qui de Fine bonorum & mal[illegible] um [illegible] cit[illegible] s, [illegible] an [illegible] bus, u[illegible] ingenio rel[illegible] ctū[illegible], [illegible] equiren[illegible] Sed quoni[illegible] e, non [illegible] id enim fortè abditū est, sed quid [illegible] uid[illegible]. Breui[illegible] ne co-[illegible] uniqu[illegible] au[illegible] ē præbe[illegible] q; fa[illegible] [illegible] furē tua d[illegible] tantùm [illegible] id [illegible] eb[illegible] erent, uel [illegible] ant, [illegible] nihil præt[illegible] o[illegible] ta-[illegible] debes. At [illegible] el[illegible] us, si cum ho[illegible] nunctū

sit: [illegible]

sit: alioquin nil nouerim [illegible] posse damnosius. Vulgatum est quid de hoc ipso in [illegible] bus libris Cicero idem [illegible] putet, sed magnam partem [illegible] rerum negligen[illegible] inhias, & præcepta uitæ, iuditio aurium [illegible] plectam: tu me quoque [illegible] lic, non linguæ, sed animi negotium agi [illegible] est, non R[illegible] sed [illegible] mones. Sit ante oculos [illegible] quod A[illegible] olim A[illegible] tum fuit, & Th[illegible] consilium, & Aristi[illegible]s interpretatio, & iuditium concionis: pre[illegible] muis uulgus [illegible] demum le[illegible]e, emolumentum non aspernor, si nihil [illegible] fert, si secus, [illegible] aurum quasi scopulum uitabo. Aurum enim, ut ait [illegible],

[illegible] ulis multis sæpe suasit perperam.

Denique (ut eodem cum auctore concludam)

Non ego omninò lucrum omne esse utile homini [illegible]imo. Vale.

FRAN. PETR[illegible]HA TH[illegible] M[illegible] MESSANENSI, S. Epist. VII.

Mediocritatem amplectendam.

Quamuis non [illegible]us, quantò plus sub multorum, quàm sub unius [illegible] Romana res c[illegible]erit, multis tamen & magnis uiris uisum scio fœlicissim[illegible] pub. statum [illegible] sub uno, eodemque iusto principe. Ita pugnare simul aucto[illegible]s, & experientia [illegible]dentur, [illegible] maior est quæstio, quàm ut tàm breui sit explicanda literula. Certe ut no[illegible]um rerum p[illegible]sens status [illegible] in hac animorum tàm implacata di[illegible]dia, nulla prorsus ap[illegible]os dubitatio relinquitur [illegible]rchiam esse optimam re[illegible], reparandisque uiribus Italis, quas longus bellorum [illegible]um sparsit. Hæc ut [illegible] n[illegible]fateorque) regiam manum nostris morbis necessariam, sic te illud credere non dubi[illegible], n[illegible]m me regem malle, quam hunc nostrum: cuius sub ditione uiuimus, adeò suauiter [illegible] tranquille, ut nec Pyrrhi humanitatem, nec fortunam Alexandri, nec Zeleuci iustitiam, [illegible] ut Romanis potiùs exemplis utar, Romuli ardorem, nec Numæ religionem, nec Tulli m[illegible]tiam, nec Anci magnificentiam, nec Tarquinii habitum, nec Seruij prouidentiam requiramus. Et profectò si regem à tyranno sola iustitia discernit, iste rex uerus est, quemlibet tyrannum uoce[illegible]t. V[illegible]ensissimi omnium tyranni, qui se Patres Patriæ dici uolunt, cum quibus nullus Phalaris, nullus Agathocles, nullus Dionysius, nullus denique Caius, aut Nero, [illegible] niumque fœdissim[illegible] Heliogabalus, possit de impudicitia, & feritate contendere. Sanè [illegible]niam pruden[illegible]s est, nō tàm quid delectet, quàm quid expediat aduertere, inque hoc ipso n[illegible] principia rerum, sed exitus contemplari, ubi cuius ille consilijs agitur, optimo consilio [illegible]ius de prudentia, & fide dubitari nusquàm sinis. Tibi (inquam) amice, cuius animu[illegible]s notus est, hoc rusticum fortè, sed fidele consilium dedisse uelim, ut suadeas sibi, fin[illegible]os fa[illegible]tis patêre, siue opes siue gloriam spectet. [illegible]tati nihil est satis, illa eum, nō fallat promissis ingentibus, au[illegible] ea mediocritas est in omni fortuna humana quidem fœlicitas, nu[illegible] fine proposito pr[illegible]endi auida, & in infinitum tendens, ut sollicitudinis plurimum [illegible] solidi, nihil [illegible] nihil quieti habet. Ideoque semper mihi placuit Africani modest[illegible]eris, qui censor lustrale carmen, quo à dijs Romanæ fœlicitatis augmentum posceb[illegible] uelut nimiæ cupiditatis plenum, & ipsis importunum deis mutari, & ex illo nō aliud, [illegible] status, qui tunc erat stabilitatem solam iussit exposci. So[illegible]e quidem, ac prudenter, si & [illegible] talia consistere scirent, & ab omnipotenti Deo petitum [illegible] quod à dijs fallacibus petebatur. Multa hîc dici posse uideo, sed quid opus est uerbis? Vides animum meum, qui cupiam, & quid metuam nosti, audio illum nouas res moliri, opto fœliciter, si pergi[illegible] sed malo desinat: tutior enim uia est. Oppone te oro principijs, ingeret sibi illud abstinenti[illegible] du[illegible], Romanos non tàm aurum habere, quàm imperare aurum habentibus, uoluisse. [illegible] ro rectè dicitur, quod addi potest, quid de terris atque urbibus? Itemque si de h[illegible] rectè dicitur, quid de amicis dices, quos non coacto, sed spontaneo moderêris imp[illegible]rum non terris modò uel aurum, sed corpora, sed animos pleno iure possideas, [illegible] st[illegible]s, tum [illegible]itius est, amicos habere, quàm patrimonium amicorum. Et ubi uolenti[illegible] sis, stultum est uelle no[illegible]s imperare Philosophorum, quin ponus naturæ uox est. [illegible] hi[illegible]lentum di[illegible]. Modestos regni fines, facile tueâre, immensum imperium d[illegible]le quæ[illegible]r, difficillime custoditur. Vale.

FRAN.

FRAN. PETRARCHA [illegible] S. Epist. VIII.

Praeter[illegible] & futur[illegible] [illegible]randa.

A[illegible]to si[illegible]um [illegible] & tristem pr[illegible]oriam, & anxiam sollici[illegible] [illegible]re[illegible] torqueat eum d[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] acti[illegible]s, uitę nostrę [illegible] Q[illegible]id anhe[illegible]m[illegible] Q[illegible]d att[illegible]g[illegible]mur? Nec transacta [illegible]len. Q[illegible]id Mat[illegible]m[illegible]ticis opus, aduersus quos, [illegible] & [illegible] rum, & [illegible]im uera sententium, cla[illegible]mat [illegible] ut [illegible] um ph[illegible] praeteream, peruulgato Maronis testimonio:

[illegible]narat uatum mentes [illegible]gnorat?

[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]ud Acti[illegible]

Nihil [illegible] quit) [illegible] auguribus aures uerbis ditant
Alienas, suas ut auro l[illegible]cuplent domos.

[illegible] Pacuuij ue[illegible]sim[illegible] Poetae:

Nam quae si uentura [illegible] praeuideant, aequiparentur Ioui.

[illegible] Philosoph[illegible]a p[illegible] ac in re diuers[illegible] [illegible] A[illegible] [illegible]im, & sciemu[illegible] quia Dij estis uos. [illegible] in[illegible] [illegible] parte [illegible]nsilium, qu[illegible] [illegible]os ute[illegible] ab [illegible] om[illegible] [illegible] h[illegible] [illegible]um modò, sed ampl[illegible] dum censeo. Au[illegible] c[illegible] [illegible]i [illegible] en[illegible] Aduersa falso [illegible]unc [illegible] contra [illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] us m[illegible] e[illegible] rin[illegible] [illegible] laeta u[illegible]re, & d[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]is, qua nesci[illegible] an ul[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible]r, & d[illegible] [illegible]era[illegible] o[illegible] dij cum ue[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ratio. Quod quidem [illegible] ueniat sperand[illegible] [illegible] ment[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ere consumptum sit, aut [illegible] [illegible]anem pro[illegible]cto [illegible] ulamque lae[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]tum [illegible] erditae dolore, mixtoque simul pu[illegible] desinere. [illegible]udi[illegible]d[illegible] peni[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] quidem sibi, nobis etiam inutil[illegible]a promittente. Qu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] CHRISTV[illegible] pu[illegible] quod Amphitryoni uerò Iuppiter apud Plautum:

Bono animo e[illegible], adsum Amphitruo auxilio tibi & tuis.
Nihil est quod timeas, hariolos, aruspices,
Mitte omneis, quae futura, & quae facta eloquar.
Multò adeò melius quàm illi.

[illegible], qui[illegible] sum [illegible] [illegible]t ait ille) sed quia sum Deus. Id[illegible] sanè mu[illegible]ta [illegible] a[illegible] [illegible]em [illegible] è [illegible]tur, [illegible] a[illegible]ire uoluerimus, facilè pote[illegible]mus h[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]tem [illegible]re. Mo[illegible]ta est [illegible] mortis incerta, ut om[illegible] in h[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ec salutariter [illegible] [illegible] Qu[illegible]ritur horum impude[illegible] [illegible]d[illegible] [illegible]ta [illegible]gine obs[illegible], solique Deo [illegible]tentu[illegible] [illegible]mpo[illegible]is d[illegible] [illegible]s co[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]um fateor, in hac tota uanitate mira[illegible]ile, quod cum in reli[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]mendacio subeat mendacis infamiam, hic quan[illegible] [illegible]dax, [illegible]a for[illegible] [illegible]ici famam conseq[illegible] [illegible]iratur hoc Cicero alijs l[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]bris, [illegible]o[illegible]p[illegible]io diuinationem [illegible], euertitque. Augustinus autem [illegible] & [illegible]rsarum quaestionu[illegible] [illegible]mè aduersus eos loquens, qui nunc (ut i[illegible]se a[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]thematici, uolent [illegible] [illegible]ros c[illegible]rporibus coelestibu[illegible] subdere [illegible] no[illegible] ue[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]m [illegible] q[illegible], à no[illegible]is accipere, rationem affert. [illegible]um autem [illegible]ta [illegible] s praedi[illegible] [illegible]deò fit, [illegible]a non tenent homines memo[illegible]ta, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ed [illegible] [illegible], nisi in ea, q[illegible] illorū responsis prouenerunt [illegible]e [illegible]ae [illegible] [illegible]memorantur, quae non [illegible] (quę n[illegible]lla e[illegible] [illegible] qua [illegible] m [illegible]. Quod si perit[illegible]ae [illegible] [illegible]lum tribue[illegible] [illegible]ta[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible]am m[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]ranas scriptas qua[illegible]libet, ac q[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. Quòd [illegible] no[illegible] a[illegible] de e[illegible]dic[illegible] ex[illegible] saepè uersu[illegible] [illegible]s. [illegible] m[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible]entis, n[illegible]n arte, se[illegible]rtè exit al[illegible]qua praedi[illegible] [illegible] H[illegible]c [illegible] m A[illegible]ni sunt, quae l[illegible] ho[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]acijs omn[illegible]bus, [illegible]id puta[illegible] al[illegible]am fecit, [illegible] [illegible]cam rabies, sciendi ea tantum, [illegible] nec [illegible]ciri p[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]h[illegible]minū temerariū & procax [illegible] t[illegible]anqu[illegible] [illegible]e est, [illegible] euis [illegible]mum hoc tempus, [illegible] erua[illegible] [illegible] Sic[illegible] [illegible]eto[illegible] do[illegible]ec [illegible]itionum pondu[illegible] abieceris [illegible]tam uitam [illegible]e, [illegible]ui, c[illegible]ntraria se uici[illegible] tradunt, nunq[illegible]am met[illegible] [illegible] foel[illegible] as c[illegible]tant. Vale.

FRAN.

[illegible] ARCHA THOMAE MESSANENSI, S. Epist. [illegible]

Ebrietatis incommoda.

TAce[illegible] quæ aduersus ebrietatem copiosi[illegible]mè dici p[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ulosa, quàm tristis ægritudo est, quan[illegible] [illegible] spumanti dolio rati[illegible]nem, quod sin[illegible] [illegible] nec pedes, neq; [illegible]uam, neq; an[illegible]mu[illegible] [illegible] temulum ca[illegible] stabile[illegible] man[illegible], [illegible]llantes [illegible]los, grauem corpori [illegible] reliquas [illegible]tantes. Taceo [illegible] regnum, u[illegible] [illegible] ac [illegible] odium, atq; contemptum, mutationem repentina[illegible], [illegible] & qua[illegible] [illegible] tiam, ac cu[illegible]slibet æ[illegible] infantiam [illegible]mnium iocis ac fra[illegible] om[illegible] [illegible]rio expo[illegible]m, rimu[illegible] qu[illegible]q; mentis opp[illegible] [illegible]c futulis, & graui pon[illegible]ere [illegible]centis. Vnde fec[illegible] [illegible]uunt, [illegible] sæpe cum [illegible]iena pecuniæ, quæ m[illegible]ltis, [illegible], & ext[illegible] [illegible] an[illegible]a [illegible]. L[illegible]ctum [illegible] & inane gaudium, & [illegible]ontentiones, & [illegible] [illegible] præcip[illegible]tium, & [illegible] con[illegible] [illegible]ermium cum armatis. Hæc ut nota, inquam, [illegible] tere. L[illegible] Apulei Man[illegible]is liber [illegible] inscribitur Floridorum: [illegible] quid prim[illegible] ga[illegible] quid sec[illegible]ndus, ac de[illegible]ceps faceta narratione differitur, cuius sententiam non [illegible] sed c[illegible]o. Nescio enim, cur, aut quomodo plus hodie bibitur quàm olim. Vtinamq; [illegible] [illegible] modus ei[illegible], q[illegible]oc[illegible]nq[illegible] euertas [illegible]diores ad uirtutem, fortiores ad uitia facti sumu[illegible] [illegible]undum me igitur, p[illegible]us crater p[illegible]ne[illegible] sitim, secundus [illegible] lætitiam, tertius ad uoluptatem, quartus ad ebrietat[illegible]m, quintus ad iram, sextu[illegible] [illegible]gium, septimus ad fur[illegible]em, octauus ad somnium, nonus ad morbum. Hæc illi Marco [illegible]bul[illegible], co[illegible]legæ non lul[illegible] [illegible]fatis sed t[illegible] [illegible]us assiduè cum u[illegible]tijs [illegible] lasciuiaq; litigas, si pro[illegible]utur a credideris, me[illegible] [illegible]ucibis di[illegible]ito, [illegible] fo[illegible]te [illegible] irreprehensibilis [illegible]d[illegible]ur, eo quòd nond[illegible] ad ebrietatis extrema perue[illegible]rit, sciat [illegible]e sobrietatis ac modestiæ fastigio, uel modicum descendisse, quàm u[illegible]mel la[illegible]peris, in fundum excidere. Gradatim subeunt uirtus & nequitia, nemo uel optimus, uel pessimus [illegible]repente. Vale.

FRAN. P[illegible]RACHA THOMAE MESSANENSI, S. Epist. X.

Ad bellum hortatur amicum.

FIdes silentium interrumpit, charitas loqui cogit, testor CHRISTVM, coactus [illegible] be[illegible]dum uenio, quæ [illegible] eodem animo lecta fuerint, qu[illegible] scribuntur, poterunt [illegible] apud te beniuolentiam a[illegible]gere, & tibi gl[illegible]am ap[illegible]d gentes. Q[illegible]oniam e[illegible] di[illegible]im[illegible]are possum, [illegible] am[illegible] [illegible] gero, quin te mag[illegible]s p[illegible] [illegible]umuen[illegible]um, uel dormientem excit[illegible] [illegible]monefaciam uigilantem? Vid[illegible] g[illegible] bellum i[illegible]er Gal[illegible]m, Bri[illegible]num [illegible] ol[illegible], nulla proculdubiò tanta res [illegible] [illegible]or[illegible] in temp[illegible]us, certè nec ab a[illegible], pr[illegible]rum in Europæ finibus ap[illegible] [illegible]latus [illegible]pus, f[illegible]rtibus uiris ob[illegible] [illegible]ncti reges ac populi [illegible]spe[illegible] [illegible]ont[illegible]onis [illegible]um, præcipuè qui a[illegible] [illegible]liæ ad Oc[illegible]anu[illegible] in[illegible]olunt, [illegible]ns [illegible] tum[illegible]s exci[illegible] fragor, in armi[illegible] [illegible]us tantò sub turbine dormi[illegible] dem V[illegible]rg[illegible]iana premit inc[illegible]epat[illegible]o, & tibi cœlo mil[illegible]uncius exclamat:

Potes hoc sub casu ducere somnos?
Nec quæ circumstent te deinde pericula cernis?

P[illegible]ofectò si nihil aliud, quam pudor o[illegible]streperet, debebas celeriùs exp[illegible]isci. Qua eni[illegible] te, quo animo cæteris ad æstiuum solem, sub galea & umbone deg[illegible]ntibus, t[illegible] a[illegible]gmine uxorum, fœmineaq; circumstipatus acie, conquisiti[illegible] [illegible]stus epulis, & m[illegible] contectus, uin[illegible]a t[illegible]rpes [illegible] ocio? Homo olim (ut putabam) a[illegible]us honoris & gl[illegible] potens & nobil[illegible] homo iuuenis & robustus, quid oro te impedit. Munditias [illegible] labores. Sed au[illegible] fortis uni uiri uerbum à Salustio relatum: Munditias mul[illegible] rem uir[illegible] conuen[illegible]te. Sitim metuis, & calles arenosos, & serpentes sub leone ter[illegible] alterius, & [illegible] minus b[illegible] non minùs fortis uiri dictum accipe: Serpens, siti[illegible], a[illegible] dul[illegible]a uirtu[illegible] gaudet [illegible] duris. At mortem, gladiosq; formidas? Sed [illegible] hic u[illegible] [illegible]d [illegible]currat alterius u[illegible] fortis:

—Mors u[illegible]tima [illegible]œna est
Nec metuenda u[illegible]

[illegible]n pl[illegible] [illegible] q[illegible]m [illegible] aut requies. Qu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ed[illegible]ctus, in [illegible]uorum [illegible]

[illegible]um. Sed ne ab opinionibus u[illegible]lgarium recedamus, a quibus tamen, si ad sa[illegible] quàm longissimè recedendum est, detur timendam esse mortem, & [illegible]d [illegible] Stoicis audi[illegible]tur. Mortem [illegible] ibilium, qu[illegible] & [illegible] [illegible]on m[illegible]um d[illegible]e, [illegible], sed extre[illegible]m.. [illegible] maximum putas [illegible] [illegible]te, quia [illegible]nes, aut mari? Notum & illud alterius Poëtæ

[illegible] Mart[illegible]
[illegible]. Frustrà per autumnos nocentem,
C[illegible]us metuemus A[illegible]m.

[illegible]m curam nostri corporis habentibus, morien[illegible] est, sed prolatandæ m[illegible] [illegible] et esse mortali[illegible]us fateor, & excusatione[illegible] pu[illegible]icæ imbecillitatis a[illegible] [illegible]um [illegible]te, quàt[illegible]la ista d[illegible]atio est: deinde quot, & q[illegible]m duri[illegible] c[illegible]bus exp[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ocuit, [illegible] uitæ gloriam imminuit mors dilata: Q[illegible]o[illegible] [illegible]is exemp[illegible] [illegible]euerentius antiqua commemoro, nostra quoq; [illegible]s quam [illegible]xte[illegible] [illegible]us Hostilius uixisset, ictus fulmine non fuisset, [illegible] an[illegible] T[illegible] [illegible]s erat, ille non exul. Appio Claudio [illegible] lon[illegible] [illegible] M[illegible] [illegible]em fugam, latibulum limoiç paludis attulit. Quid Pompeio Magno [illegible] [illegible] tanti nominis, uitæ diuturnitas, & quæ illam secuta est m[illegible]rtis indignit[illegible] [illegible] Qui[illegible] de duobus Africanis dicam, quantò melius [illegible]ras, alte[illegible] [illegible]nte mœ[illegible]a [illegible]a [illegible]te ante port[illegible]s Numa[illegible]æ perij[illegible] [illegible]no[illegible] primus ing[illegible]tam patriam, ex[illegible] [illegible] epigrammate, secundus inul[illegible]æ mortis iniuria condemnasset? Ipse Cæl. Au[illegible] qu[illegible] ex [illegible]mnibus fœlicissimum iudicares, quàto fœlicior moreretur, priusquàm h[illegible] [illegible] is adulteria, & quas execrari solitum accep[illegible]us, uomicas suas in[illegible] [illegible] Re[illegible]ulum Catonem, & reliquos, quos no[illegible] mors [illegible]rat, quam [illegible] Ca[illegible] [illegible]ue sum [illegible]stris sentire cogat. De Cicerone loq[illegible]or & Seneca: No[illegible]o an[illegible] [illegible]m obierit, ne constantiæ suæ, testes fide dignissimi detrahantur. Laborac [illegible] m[illegible] intrepidum: miror colluctantem anguibus: miror atenis Lib[illegible]is [illegible]em [illegible] [illegible], contumaciam, laudo libertatem, accersitam mortem, despe[illegible] [illegible]tem me forsan extrema putes exempla negligere. Clarior Pyrrhus, c[illegible]ar[illegible]o H[illegible] [illegible]rus erat, si sepulchrum ambobus Italicum contigisset, infaustus u[illegible]q; [illegible] [illegible]t. Clarior C[illegible] lus [illegible] antè moreretur, quàm Scythicos fines [illegible] [illegible]uàm [illegible]elphicū limen attigeret. Quid uene[illegible] Mithrida[illegible] Q[illegible] [illegible]adi[illegible]. Quid Themistoclis exilium? Quid Ari[illegible]is catenas. Q[illegible]id incendiu[illegible] [illegible]rar? Raro uita longior, coæquæuam fœlicitatem habet, quæ u[illegible] o[illegible]cidit, non [illegible] [illegible]em esse nisi præsens calamitas trans[illegible]ctæ fœli[illegible]tatis memoria, recrudel[illegible]t. E[illegible] [illegible] accidat uiuendo, tamen multa spectare [illegible]ogim[illegible]r in nostris, q[illegible] [illegible]os be[illegible]o. [illegible]sse [illegible] fœlix hinc abijsset Priamus, fœlix Pileus, fœlix Nestor, si [illegible]s præcessissent [illegible] [illegible] generis exempla non desi[illegible]n Socratem uenenatus calix, [illegible]n E[illegible]ipidem ca[illegible] Demosthe[illegible]em, ac Ciceronem [illegible] consumerent, non ob[illegible] [illegible]a peruaderet, si opportuna [illegible]rs, instantes miserias præue[illegible]sset. Exempl[illegible] [illegible] satus est, in repræsent[illegible] b[illegible]ua. Vides igitur ut longioris [illegible] recup[illegible] [illegible] mors optanda est, in qu[illegible] neminem posse cōstat, neminem pœnit[illegible]: sed q[illegible]o [illegible]ti[illegible] noc[illegible]ura pas[illegible] caput nostrum recasura [illegible] [illegible]eat o[illegible] ta- [illegible]lo an tamen ignauiæ [illegible]emita speras [illegible] opt[illegible]um, piouchi? La[illegible] q[illegible]em[illegible] [illegible]opor im[illegible]odicus oppressit, quos labor & uigiliæ præ [illegible] q[illegible] [illegible] rapula, [illegible] suffocau[illegible] ebrietas, qui ieiun[illegible] salui forent. V[illegible] [illegible]m[illegible]dere quà[illegible] gladium. Quoru[illegible] cibo[illegible] genere [illegible] [illegible]ntes, mors [illegible]nueniet [illegible]um s[illegible]m exorab[illegible]s [illegible] ex- [illegible]e[illegible] [illegible]ramur, si ad mortem n[illegible] [illegible]rimus, [illegible]a nos se[illegible] [illegible] an[illegible]delite[illegible] & fug[illegible] [illegible]d [illegible] [illegible]e qu[illegible]d debe[illegible]s, a[illegible] [illegible]ne[illegible] re[illegible] [illegible] sin[illegible] [illegible]uauitas [illegible], quisquam [illegible] [illegible]ntus anni spat[illegible] uitam [illegible] ar[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] de[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]m [illegible] T[illegible]m[illegible] [illegible] manetes: nunc a[illegible]me [illegible] rèp[illegible] ali[illegible]

(est enim mu[illegible]formis humanorum ca[illegible]m & mi[illegible]a uarietas [illegible] tibi [illegible] gas fortaßis eripiet. Quæ cùm ita sint, h[illegible]rtor atq; o[illegible] secro [illegible] iam tandem caput a[illegible] circumspicias, uidebis [illegible]mmensam molem, tantis regum, & [illegible]opulorum apparatu [illegible] tem, ruituramq;, quo ca[illegible] fort[illegible] [illegible] pulcri[illegible] non est di[illegible]simi[illegible] [illegible] us [illegible] uigilant, & regem iugi obse[illegible]io circumstant, [illegible] uict[illegible]ria c[illegible] [illegible] somnum [illegible] to nunc eius discrimine cõtemplanti, & præter hoc ab olim t[illegible] [illegible]o, q[illegible] animi habiturum reris? Sin aliter successerit (om[illegible]a enim rotat ad [illegible]m fortun[illegible] [illegible] san, tibi ex præsenti ocio securitatẽ, in illo ardore [illegible] [illegible]artam [illegible]eras. Tu uer[illegible] n[illegible] u[illegible]lueris, sed quia timueris, cessasse uideberis, teq; [illegible] ruina, cum uni[illegible]er[illegible]tate [illegible] ter inuolui. Crede mihi, pars [illegible] atq; spectat[illegible]rem te ce[illegible] minis [illegible]ocabit, [illegible] næ nutum, atq; ad uictoris arbitrium circumuolui: ita [illegible]squam fau[illegible] und[illegible] [illegible] Meminisse profuerit, Metij ducis Albanorum, qui quadrigis in diuersum act[illegible] ab Ho[illegible] Romanorum rege discer[illegible]tus est, quod inter armatas acies, se medium præbui[illegible] [illegible]xp[illegible] g[illegible]scere oro, uelociter, [illegible] adhuc tempus est, neglectum hactenus ad offi[illegible] red[illegible] [illegible] do enim tremente dormire, [illegible]scio quid morti simil[illegible], quam sopiti e[illegible]. Va[illegible]

[F]RAN. [P]ETRAR[C]HA THOMÆ MESSANENSI, S. Epist. XI.

Vim amoris ingentem esse.

MAgna prorsus amoris, & mira potentia est, qui tàm ualidè, tamq; tenaciter [illegible] sibili quidem, sed haud quaquam insensibi[illegible] nexu, mu[illegible]ma nectit imme[illegible] quorum nulla paritas, pari regit imperio. Quid ni, aute hoc iuris habear in a[illegible] mis hominum sensu & ratione uigentibus, qui certis fœderibus, [illegible]urda & a[illegible] sa inuicẽ elementa conglutinat. Non flammis aër, non terra fluctibus hæreret, non rip[illegible] u[illegible], nõ æquor littora, nõ semitas suas astra cognoscerent, nisi omnipotens, & (ut eũ uocant)

Sacer orbis amor

uniuersa connecteret. Qui cœlum igitur ac terras æquo iure moderatur, is inter humilita[illegible] tem meam, & tuam altitudinem, non discernit, habet hoc ille præcipuum, æquare noui[illegible] æqualia, amantemq; fideliter uix patitur non amari. Sensit olim claritas tua, nullis q[illegible] meorum actuũ argumentis, sed solo (ut dici solet) mentis augurio (habent enim & su[illegible] los animi, quibus sese mutuò superatis corporeis uelaminibus intuentur) sensist[illegible] inqu[illegible]m uir clarißime, quæ nam erga tuum nomen deuotio mea sit, ut amanti uicem referas. A[illegible] cogit, id cum sæpè multis indicijs, tum ex duabus nuper epi[illegible]lis tuis, quas mi[illegible] Are[illegible]s Cancellarius tuus ostendit, iucũdiß[illegible]ime te [illegible]ognoui, in quibus, mirum di[illegible] pro tot [illegible]llum, tantisq; rebus, huc miseris, non de Romanæ curiæ statu. Quo nihil [illegible] state deform[illegible]us, nihil incredibilius, non de maiorum fortunis amicorum, nõ de ip[illegible] [illegible]arum successibus. Postremò, nihil omninò n[illegible] de me, meisq; rebus interrogas, a[illegible] increpitas, quod curiosius in reliquis, id unum q[illegible] singulariter, præq; omnib[illegible]s n[illegible] sideras tacui[illegible]set. Ac ne quis te fortuito loc[illegible]tũ putet, bis idem per literas quęstus e[illegible] a[illegible]as [illegible]s fortasse mirabilia, qui nescirent, quam fami[illegible]ariter olim cunctorum domin[illegible] [illegible]stus Cęsar, Virgilium ciuem tuum rusticanæ origi[illegible]is, [illegible]ed minimè rusticani uirũ in[illegible] xit, & Horatium Libertinum patre, sed ingenuum [illegible]ylo, quiq; principis illius, ad [illegible] miles amicos, uelut ex æquo missas, & [illegible]pe dulcib[illegible] [illegible]lan[illegible]itijs refertas epistolas [illegible] Quo[illegible]um [illegible]ecordatio q[illegible]am [illegible]racu[illegible]o adimit, a[illegible] ad[illegible] [illegible]ę d[illegible] tal[illegible]s ex[illegible] mi[illegible]eri sen[illegible]o, ta[illegible] [illegible]s mihi aditũ aperiri. Quoniã ut alter ex his Cæsareis

Principibus [illegible]cui[illegible] [illegible]uiris, non ultima laus est.

[illegible]uero n[illegible] hi[illegible] mi[illegible]c[illegible]lum emergit, ut enim multa illis, sic mihi, fateor, n[illegible] plac[illegible]m. Quo modo enim sperem alijs placiturum qui mi[illegible] [illegible]pse non pl[illegible] tunaram [illegible] [illegible]em non quæ formosa est, sed q[illegible]æ u[illegible] ui[illegible]er [illegible] [illegible]ra n[illegible], [illegible]ed in quem amor d[illegible] q[illegible] [illegible]ideor opinione t[illegible] a me [illegible] dix[illegible] [illegible] placeo sati[illegible] e[illegible]. Agerem [illegible] [illegible]m [illegible]s meis æ[illegible]itari po[illegible] dif[illegible] d[illegible] quæ[illegible] [illegible]entis n[illegible]tum exc[illegible] [illegible] Val[illegible]

FRAN. PET[illegible]A MAR[illegible] SVO, [illegible] Epist. XII.

Diuinus Amor [illegible]mmendatur.

A[illegible] tuum, quàm u[illegible]ilis fuit optime Vir, apertè satis in literis ostendi[illegible], ne[illegible] loqui taliter qu[illegible]squam [illegible]ote[illegible] qui taliter est [illegible]ctus, sentio aculeo[illegible] [illegible]nu[illegible] tu[illegible]amor uerba dictauit, occurio[illegible] a[illegible]ide, & pulsanti amicitiæ meæ [illegible]res [illegible]ætus a[illegible]. Q[illegible] loquor, aperio quæ tibi suauissime po[illegible]lant[illegible] iam ante [illegible]adrie[illegible]m patuerunt. Agno[illegible]o Marcum meum, amplector[illegible] cum gaudio, in his literi[illegible] tui[illegible] d me longo [illegible] ut ita dixeri[illegible] [illegible]lentij postliminio redeuntem & [illegible]unc illius flo[illegible]idæ in[illegible] f[illegible]ctus ube[illegible]rimos, [illegible] [illegible]cipio. Semper equidem speraui, u[illegible] ta[illegible]tus d[illegible] [illegible]ente uir fieres. [illegible]ed [illegible]tate[illegible], iam citò fieri p[illegible]e non credidi, præuen[illegible]em m[illegible] [illegible]x, eo[illegible] gratior [illegible]irtus tua. Cęterùm & ardentissimi propo[illegible]iti tui memini, [illegible]od [illegible]n paucis olim uerbis, in ipso amicitiæ nostræ primordio [illegible]imè reuela[illegible] [illegible]tatum, uel (quod magi[illegible] au[illegible]or) dilatum esse [illegible], modò m[illegible] [illegible]x[illegible] [illegible]d optimo principio pollicitus es, ut in om[illegible] fort[illegible] [illegible]m artes: illi [illegible]æreas, [illegible], atq[illegible] ad illum totius animi intentione [illegible]res, nō [illegible]ssibilem t[illegible]egem sta[illegible] te ire iubeo. Trita est uia, quam multi u[illegible] arissimi, ma[illegible]na cū gloria, [illegible]er Reip. [illegible]tes, ad cremetici portus silentium pe[illegible]uenerunt. Quam [illegible] etiam [illegible]ide [illegible]h[illegible] nauigationem uitæ præsentis fœlicissime compleuerunt. Nouit [illegible] m[illegible]us ille sidereus: Scit quid nobis expediat, & animæ nostræ sæpe inenarrabili[illegible] m[illegible]us se tramitibus adi[illegible]i uelut insinuat. Tu ig[illegible]ur ne desperes, quasi deuium, [illegible]t P[illegible]ici uocant) [illegible]guum iter [illegible]gressus sis, aut quasi tuorum c[illegible], q[illegible]m ge[illegible] di[illegible]m pe[illegible]is gratiæ. Sit aduersa, perge, age, ne titubes, ne ful[illegible]s, ne [illegible]uæ [illegible]is, ad[illegible]le, qui tempus tuum, quod quale dispoiucras, nondum uenit præ[illegible]dit inf[illegible] [illegible]ter [illegible]b æterno. Nec est, quo te interim inutiliter natum putes, si patriam t[illegible] præser[illegible]tim tempor[illegible]us tui egentem, quæ (ut Plato uult) ortus tui patrē sibi iure [illegible]at, ope, c[illegible]lio[illegible] adiuuas. Notum est apud Ciceronem cœleste illud Africani mei d[illegible]: Omnibus qui patriam conseruauerint, auxerint, adiuuerint, certum esse in cœlo definitū locum, ubi beati æuo sempiterno fruantur. Et quod sequitur. Nihil enim est (inquit) princip[illegible] illi [illegible], qui omnem hunc mundum re[illegible]it, quod quidem fiat in terris acceptius, quàm consi[illegible] [illegible] hominum iure sociati, quæ ciuitates appellantur. Sanè cum ex[illegible]tat[illegible] t[illegible] am[illegible] [illegible]e tempus aduenerit, ut teipsum humo tollere, nō tantùm ut Marco uel [illegible]s, [illegible] ut Am[illegible]rosius, uel Arsenius possis, alis ad uolatum ualidis. Facies tandē re ipsa, quod anim[illegible] iam[illegible] [illegible]dem facies, eodem adiutore, qui inspir[illegible]tor fuit, & facies ut spero, secu[illegible]is ætate inte[illegible]ra, [illegible]t [illegible]q[illegible] consil[illegible]o, quàm si id inconsulto, repentino[illegible] impetu iuuenil[illegible]ter attentasse[illegible]. S[illegible]ut [illegible]er terras latrunculis uacuam, atq[illegible] purgata per planum, ac solidum [illegible]llem, sub [illegible] [illegible]cel[illegible] temperie, tutum uiatori iter est, sic sedatis passionibus, [illegible]mato[illegible] proposit[illegible] & [illegible]æ insolentiæ timore compresso, per modestiores, atq[illegible] sereniores ætatis annos, tutis[illegible] [illegible]gitur ad salutem. quamuis [illegible] ætas repulsa, nullum (ut dixi) genu[illegible] hom[illegible]m, [illegible]ui in aliqua honesta exercitatione uersantur, ab hoc tramite sit ex[illegible]m, [illegible]ste[illegible] [illegible] ta[illegible] Plotini sententiam, non pur[illegible]atorijs modò, purgati[illegible] iam animi, sed p[illegible]iticis quoque u[illegible]utibus beatum fieri. Vt enim [illegible]quid more nostrorum loquar, actuosæ Marthæ sollici[illegible] [illegible]on spernitur, quamuis sublimi[illegible] contempl[illegible]sit Mariæ. Habes ergo charis[illegible]ime, [illegible]m inter huius temporis angustias licuit. Vnum de postulatis tuis, qu[illegible]d f[illegible] ut tibi [illegible]rmatione uitæ aliquid scriberem. Habes hoc inquam, pro unius antelucanæ u[illegible]gi[illegible] [illegible]re[illegible] q[illegible]dem, sed in se (ut arbitror) absolutum. Si illud addidero, compendiosam [illegible]ad [illegible]tutem uisam esse Philosophis, ut tales effici studeamus, qua[illegible]es cupimus ap[illegible] [illegible]illud, quo nihil reor efficatius, quoniam ut eiusdem placet, to[illegible]a d[illegible] [illegible]mi[illegible] [illegible]a, non ni[illegible] commentatio mortis est. Hactenus hæc, quę non ut te doceam, sed u[illegible] ad[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible] memoriam excitem dicta sunt. Reliquum erat, ut te memori[illegible] commen[illegible] [illegible]ha[illegible] [illegible]uat enim uerbis etiam tuis uti) id uero iam [illegible] actum esse con[illegible]di[illegible] [illegible] primum uidi, imaginem tuam ex adamante pu[illegible], [illegible] præ[illegible]drijs [illegible] de[illegible] [illegible]am nulla reuellet dies, nullus locus excutiet extremum est, ut & [illegible], & [illegible] gratuler, quibus tanti principis a[illegible]atem a[illegible] beni[illegible]entiam me[illegible]tu[illegible], & pro charitate h[illegible] imper[illegible]a, [illegible] gratias agamus. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, S. Epist. XIII.

Araneæ & podagræ apologus.

Anilem tibi fabellam, sed ex re (ut Flaccus ait) garrio. Aranea iter agens, forte obuiam habuit podagram. Et quo (inquit) tam mœsta proficisceris? Rusticum ait illa, & hirsutum hospitem nacta eram, qui me fame ac labore perpetuo cruciabat, qui cum à mane ad uesperam, me inter glebas, & saxa tenuisset, uix serum puluerulentam atque inopem domum repetebamus, miseri. Nunquam integris calceis, nunquam sine fasce grauissimo, illic infœlicem diem, nox haud quaquam fœlicior sequebatur, tristi quidem ille me cœna, mucidi ac lapidosi panis, ueteribus fragmentis, allioque & praeduris oleribus solabatur, aceto turbidam superinfundens aquam. Saturnalitii dies erat, quotiens caseus sardus accesserat. Sic exceptam, agresti demum, & ipsius agelli duritiam: superante grabatulo componebat. Ad auroram inde consurgens, rursus in campum, & ad inusitum cogebat opus: sic diem dies urgebat, nulla interim quies, nulla spes quietis. Festo enim die, aut domini lauabat oues, aut riuo uiam praeparabat, aut sepem noualibus praetendebat, immortalem malum, & domum meis moribus aduersam, perosa diffugio. His auditis Aranea: Heu (inquit) quam diuersa conditio mea est. Hospitem habui effœminatum & mollem, apud quem non summum modò, sed solum bonum uoluptas erat, raro pedem domo efferebat, cœnam ad auroram, prandium trahebat ad uesperam, reliquū somnus habebat, purpureis accersitus stratis, quod conuiuijs, luxuriæque superfuerat quieti datum. Conquisitæ intus epulæ peregrinæ, species odorum, Bacchus alienigena uasa aurea, gemmata pocula, serico uestitus, paries, ostro tellus instrata. Hæc inter sollicita, semper familiarium turba discurrens, locis omnibus aderat, nulla domus pars neglecta, nullus angulus inaccessus, dum ueritur solū scopis, dum de laquearis trabibus puluis excutitur, uix usquam artificij mei telas sineb. tordiri, & quo nihil est tristius, si cœpissem, primo rerum apparatu, spem caducam, & labores meos irritos uidebam. Agebar infœlix, præceps ejciebar, quærebam latebras, nullæ erant, solidus niueo murus ex marmore, nulla mihi miseræ diuersoria relinquebat. Fugi igitur à facie persequentis, ubiuis quietum exilium, domesticis sine fine laboribus prælatura. Hæc cùm illa dixisset, respondit altera: Heu quàm multa sunt bona, quæ uel nesciendo, uel negligendo perduntur, ignorantia cæcitas mentis est, negligentia torpor est animi. Aperire oculos oportet, & quę salutaria sese offerunt, non differre. Ecce nunc ex his quæ dixi, quæque audio, cum pessime in nobis, erit optimè, si permutemus hospitia, tuus mihi, tibi meus hospes aptissimus fuerit. Placuit cōsilium, mutant domos, & ex illo obtinuit, ut podagra inter delitias, & in palatijs diuitum, aranea in squalore, & pauperum tugurijs habitaret. Domum tuam amice podagram subintrasse audio. Miror, nō putabam illi locum esse in domo tam sobria, uereorque ne quid ibi sui iuris inuenerit, quod si uerum est, non malum magis, quam mali causam horreo. Malo iam hospitem habeas aranam, principijs resistendum est, nulla melius resistitur ope, quam uigilijs, labore, ieiunio. Vidi ego puer iuuenem podagricum, eundem senem podagra liberum uidi. Quæsiui causam, nullam mihi aliam reddidit, quam quod se uino penitùs abdicasset. Refert Cicero, & post Ciceronē alij, quosdam diuites podagra inutiles, cum pauperes facti essent sanitati redditos. Non audeo iubere ut sis pauper, quamuis iubere non sit necesse si sapis. Inter cætera professus es (ut audio) spontaneam paupertatem. An mentior? Certè intra religiosum limē, & pręsertim intra cellulam mendicantis, nullus diuitijs locus est. Opulentia enim & mendicitas nō habitant simul. Si paupertas excluditur, uereor ne non iam aurum, quàm quod ait Apostolus: Thesaurizes iram in die iræ. De hoc tamen ipse uideris, qui fœderum quæ cum CHRISTO habes optimè memini... Si oblitus es, relege pactorum Chirographum, inuenies quid tu illi promiseris, quid ille tibi. Ego (inquam) non iubeo ut pauper sis, non quia uel tibi non expedit, uel me non decet, & amplecti hoc consilium, & dare, sed quia piget uerba profundere & incassum loqui. Video enim ipsum paupertatis nomen horrendum, & infame: quòd licet amplexus sis, deponere sponte non potes. Illud saltem consulo, uiuas ut pauper. Hæc est illa quæ a Philosophis frugalitas dicitur, uoluntaria paupertas. Hanc tibi suadeo, hanc tibi unam uiam corporeæ salutis ostendo, alter tibi adsum Hippocrates, amarum forte, sed salubre pharmacum offertur. Si uis sanus esse, uiue ut pauper. Latens aurum in arcula, animo tātùm nocet, usus delicatior & animo nocet, & corpori, proinde si pellere uis podagram, pelle delitias. Si malum omne uis pellere, pelle diuitias. Vale.

[illegible] s. Epist. [illegible]III.

Pecuniæ [illegible] paupertatis [illegible]tio.

R[illegible] [illegible]cibus [illegible]im pe[illegible]. [illegible] [illegible]erri[illegible]a indignatione reijcio, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] me a[illegible] [illegible]ire animum, ad maiora dispositum. Illa igitur [illegible]oniam pr[illegible] [illegible]hibeo [illegible] n patitur, & quem seruum habere no[illegible] potu[illegible] dominum dedigna[illegible] [illegible] loquor. Superbior est quam dixi, nec me [illegible]o[illegible] habere, nec comitem [illegible] [illegible]perium a[illegible] non admi[illegible]t, frangit uectes, [illegible] [illegible] spernit arculæ meæ [illegible]am: [illegible]um clau[illegible] [illegible]iam [illegible]deor, nescio quibus rimulis [illegible] dil[illegible]r. Id sanè mihi ut sæpè molestũ, sic gloriosum sem[illegible]er existim[illegible], dum circum[illegible] [illegible] illa mancipijs, & quorum so[illegible]eat hospitio dele[illegible]ari. His ita [illegible]e habe[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]d multò mi[illegible] quam tibi grauius est) præ[illegible] [illegible]em indig[illegible]tiam [illegible] pecu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]eleuo. At ne nihil putes describendo profecisse, scito [illegible]m pignor[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]m tibi, apud me, quàm ut ad te perferre nũcius tuu[illegible] [illegible]bi per[illegible] q[illegible] [illegible] e illum ad me, sed exorabilem reuerti, alioquin me[illegible] te ue[illegible]et, & [illegible] [illegible]isi Medico reuelatum uelim. Præterea his il[illegible] di[illegible]rim, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ndè literis utrinque consultum. Mihi enim conditionis meæ solamen a[illegible]ditu[illegible] non [illegible] te comite delecter, sed quod in me indignari non sit, fas quod comune [illegible]m [illegible]ntus uir, tibi uerò laborem excusationis ademptum, nisi enim tu præoccu[illegible]p[illegible]s, [illegible]mus erat in manibus. At ne [illegible] nost[illegible]arum rerum fœneratoris a[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]p[illegible]te decreueram, ut tu [illegible] cessitatibus meis accurreres, quid uis dicam, uber[illegible] [illegible]hiæ locum, copiosissimamque materiam non ignoro, ubi contra tela [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ultima [illegible]st paupertas, armantur animi, quæ licet in nostri[illegible] [illegible] ha[illegible] [illegible] q[illegible], ut eleganter ait Flaccus:

[illegible]rtæ nescio quid semper a[illegible]e[illegible] rei.

[illegible]c quoque multa, non tantùm nobis, sed in commune salubria dici poss[illegible]nt, [illegible] [illegible]ens [illegible] [illegible]ublicum sequar morem, pro rebus uerba præstantium facilis amicitia e[illegible] [illegible]ro peti[illegible] [illegible]o consi[illegible]ium dare. Certè ego in his casibus, qui domi meæ crebri [illegible]nt, [illegible] [illegible]ra[illegible] [illegible] me rei familiaris incuriosum, cura generosior effecisset: cum multa [illegible] [illegible], uel ipse mihi conficiam, uel à doctoribus confecta repertam. Tum [illegible] in prim[illegible] [illegible]um experior, quod licet omnis fortuna suas habeat molestias, sit[illegible] uerissim[illegible] [illegible] ue[illegible]s inqu[illegible]toribus uisum est, omnem uitam etiam, quę fœlicissim[illegible] [illegible]eatur esse [illegible]en[illegible]m mo[illegible]ssimus tamen & occ[illegible]patissimus, etsi profundiùs insp[illegible]a. Vere m[illegible]er [illegible] diuitum status, c[illegible] [illegible]utem, [illegible]ta quidem, sed [illegible]sima, & exp[illegible] [illegible] pau[illegible] [illegible]iocritas optima, & inter rarissima Dei dona, hanc nobis conti[illegible] [illegible]ratulor [illegible] [illegible]m deest, accidit ut unico defectu, multorum nos munerum [illegible] uber[illegible] [illegible]oneat, & breui gustu amaritudinis, prosperitatem nostra[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ulta, qui si omnia deessent [illegible] animo tamen sum, ut fœ[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]am turpiter abundare: nec no[illegible] [illegible]eram opulentiam, eos qui h[illegible]ne[illegible] mendi[illegible] [illegible]s diuitias anteponunt. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA [illegible]Æ MESSANENSI, S. Ep[illegible] XV.

[illegible]cuia ineunda.

[illegible] bonis [illegible] [illegible]imum, neque uerendum est, ne nimio [illegible] a[illegible] n[illegible]m tibi n[illegible] [illegible]a dico, si om[illegible]es bonos amico[illegible] [illegible]unt.

[illegible]ni, numero uix [illegible] quot,
[illegible]e, uel diui[illegible]

[illegible] Quid ref[illegible] roba[illegible] quid quæris a[illegible] [illegible] est, ego [illegible]quor, an [illegible] tu [illegible]gas, [illegible] [illegible] Qu[illegible] [illegible]sm [illegible] ore [illegible] [illegible]on [illegible] [illegible] omni [illegible] [illegible] etiam [illegible]

bonos esse [illegible] optimos, & pro concordia harum discordantium sententiarum Flacc[illegible] uel ut arbit[illegible]are pronunc[illegible]antem audi:

Nam uitijs nemo sine nascitur:
Optimus [illegible] est, qui minimis urgetur.

Sic est profectò, Stoic[illegible] licet obstrepant, qui omnem morbum ex anim[illegible] se radi[illegible] a[illegible]ros spondent, præclarissimi Medicorum, modò quod pollicen[illegible]ur in[illegible]lerent, sed [illegible]minum, de qua nobis amicitiæ deligendæ sunt, experimento compertum est, nullum [illegible]mum quantalibet serenitate tranquillum, leuibus saltem interdum perturbationibus non moueri, quibusdam humanarũ turbinibus agitari. Cæterùm sicut armata nau[illegible] in alto fluctuabitur nõ succumbet, eaq; ut nauis, sic animi præcipua laus erit: Ita hi (q[illegible] non placet) ut in hac uita, cui nihil scimus inesse perfectum, sanitatis locum teneat, leuis at medicabilis ægritudo. Igitur ut ad rem oratio reuertatur, ex hoc genere hominum, n[illegible] quo[illegible]m nulla sint uitia, sed quorum uitia uirtutibus cedant (quod ipsum noueris esse rar[illegible]) amicos tibi, quibus potes artibus efficito: poteris autẽ nullis melius, quàm imit[illegible]tum, ac similitudine studi[illegible]rum. Contra autẽ malis, quorum, innumerabilis mu[illegible] nec amicus esto, nec hostis, certè nec cognitus. Vultum tuum aspiciant, animum [illegible] sequere illius consilium, qui monet, ut intus omnia dissimilia sint. Frons populo [illegible]ueniat, putent illi te agere, quòd uulgò agitur: tu uerò tuũ aliud negotium, & aliq[illegible]d [illegible] per tecũ maius agito. Sic enim maximè inter mundi discrimina securus euades, paucis [illegible]rus, multis ignotus, odiosus nemini. Neire me hodi[illegible]e nihilo Philosophatum putes audi[illegible] te aduersus improbos, ingens bellum, & inexorabilem simultatem suscepisse, quos [illegible]rigere, an delere cogites, incertum est. Vtrobiq; enim par impossibilitas, nisi quòd al[illegible]tò facilius arbitror deleri posse, quàm corrigi. Generosæ indignationis aculeos laudo. certamen irr[illegible], & studium inane non laudo, si enim laborem superuacuum declinare con[illegible]lium est, [illegible]id de eo labore censeas, cuius unicus fructus est odium? Caue itaq; rece[illegible] obsecro: alioquin scito multis tibi legionibus opus esse. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ ME[illegible]SANENSI, S. Epist. XVI.

Aduersis non succumbendum.

O Quàm multa nunc ad literas tuas dici possunt, sed nec mihi ocium, nec t[illegible]borum auxilio est opus, aliud cogito remedij genus, magna est enim fortu[illegible]uis, neq; minor celeritas. Interim sanè omnium, quæ uel ex libris, uel [illegible] media hominum occurrunt, quæ sunt multa, & uaria hæc summa est. Dura fa[illegible]teor, & grauia, & inamœna quæ pateris, unum est difficilium leuamen, patientia, si h[illegible] despicias, si te non ad delitias, sed ad laborem in hanc uitæ palestram descendisse mem[illegible]. Si magno n. su aduersa sustuleris, memor in prælio militem, in tempestate nautam, [illegible] malis, bonum animum probari. Vale.

FRAN. [illegible]ETRARCHA THOMÆ MESSANE[illegible]SI, S. Epist. XVII.

De temporis iniquit[illegible]

EGo uerò absit, ut dissuadeam. petitioni haud iniustè morẽ gerere, sed illud mo[illegible] ut in [illegible]onte oculos habeas, quos ego hactenus in tergo habui. Nil iucũdius, [illegible]cius, quàm benemeritum, & egentem auxilij componere, contra autem i[illegible] ingrati uitio nil tristius. Magnæ quidem est, non solum prudentiæ, sed f[illegible] [illegible]t pectorum latibula, puros animos, fucatosq; discernere, & quanti quisq; sit, prius [illegible] experiaris a[illegible]os[illegible]re, c[illegible]ius honestæ preces [illegible]c miserabiles lachrymæ, [illegible]ius ficta nece[illegible] simulatæq; [illegible]anditiæ. Magnæ parti homi[illegible]ud inest, ut ad impetranda, quæ cup[illegible] memores, atq; solliciti, ad [illegible]efe[illegible]endam gra[illegible] segnes, obliuiosiq; sint. Tanta & iam re[illegible]tina mutati[illegible]nu[illegible]dit an[illegible]s, ut quem precantem mane uideris, ferò uoti compote[illegible] [illegible]s. D[illegible]is in E[illegible]cl[illegible]: Donec ac[illegible]ipiant (inquit) osculan[illegible]ur manus d[illegible] pr[illegible]ion[illegible]is h[illegible]nt uocem suam, & in tempore redditionis postulabit tem[illegible] qui[illegible] a tæd[illegible] & murmu[illegible]ationum. Nost[illegible] cætera. At quon[illegible]m inter ing[illegible]atos u[illegible] n[illegible] ideo d[illegible]on[illegible]dum. Alioq[illegible]in uirtus [illegible]itio [illegible]a uidebitu[illegible]ed [illegible] ca[illegible]dum [illegible]r. T[illegible] Vale, & quic[illegible]d actu[illegible]s es, [illegible] m[illegible]ta [illegible] liberatio fer[illegible] est

FRAN. PETRARCHA GERARDO FRATRI, S. Epist. XVIII.

Scripta ueterum indaganda esse.

QVod sæpe olim uel obliuio, uel torpor abstulit attingam, frater, si gloriari licet, apud te gloriabor, in illo, in quo solo gloriari tutum est. Iam ex omnibus humanarum cupiditatum ardoribus, & si non in totum, magna tamen ex parte, diuina me pietas eripuit. E cœlo enim est, seu id mihi naturæ bonitas, seu dies præstiterit, multa quidem uidendo, multumq; cogitando, intelligere tandem cœpi, quanti sint studia hæc, quibus mortale genus exæstuat. Ne tamen ab omnibus hominum piaculis immunem putes, una inexplebilis cupiditas, me tenet, quam si enare hactenus nec potui, certè nec uolui. Mihi enim interblandior, honestarum rerum, non inhonestam esse cupidinē. Expectas audire morbi genus, libris satiari nequeo, & habeo plures forte, quàm oportet. Sed sicut in cæteris rebus, sic in libris accidit, quærendi successus auaritiæ calcar est, quin [illegible] singulare quiddam in libris est. Aurum, argentum, gemmæ, purpurea uestis, marmoreæ [illegible]us, cultus ager, pictæ tabulæ, phaleratus sonipes, cæteraq; id genus, mutam habent, & superficiariam uoluptatem, libri medullitùs delectant, colloquuntur, consulunt, & uiua quadam nobis atq; arguta familiaritate iunguntur. Neq; solum sese lectoribus quisq; suis insinuat, sed & aliorum nomē ingerit, & alter alterius desiderium facit. At ne res egeat exemplo. Marcum mihi Varronem, charū & amabilem, Ciceronis Academicus fecit, Ennij nomen, in Officiorum libris audiui primum, Terentij amorem, ex Tusculanarum quæstionum lectione concepi, Catonis origines, & Xenophontis economicum, ex libro de Senectute cognoui. Eundemq; à Cicerone trāslatum, in ijsdem Officialibus libris edidici. Sic & Platonis Timeus, Solonis mihi commendauit ingenium, & Platonicum Phedonem mors Catonis, & Ptolemæi regis interdictum, Cyrenaicum Hegesiam: & de Ciceronis [illegible] stolis. Senecæ prius quam oculis credidi meis, & Senecæ contra superstitiones [illegible]rum, quærere inciperem, Augustinus admonuit, & Apollonij Argonautica Seruius ostendit, & Reip. libros cum multi, tum præcipuè Lactantius optabiles reddidit, & Romanam Plinij Tranquillus historiam, & Aulus Gellius eloquētiam Fauorini, itemq; Annei Flori florentissima breuitas, ad inquirendas Titi Liuij reliquias animauit, ut notissima, & uulgatissima [illegible] prætercam, quæ teste non egent, & tamē cum accesserit testis illustrior aliùs in animum descendunt, qualis est in declamationibus Senecę, laudatus ille Ciceronianę facundiæ principatus, ingenijq; singulare præconium. Et illud in Saturnalibus multiforme Maronis eloquium, ab Eusebio demonstratum, & illud Statij Pampinij Poëtæ reuerens, submissumq; testimonium de Virgiliana Aeneide, cuius longè sequenda, & adoranda uestigia Thebaidem [illegible]am, in publicum exituram, admonet. Et illud ab Horatio Flacco, imò uerò ab omnibus concorditer delatum Homero Poëtarum principi, pluribus ago, quā necesse est. Nam illa quidē longànimis recordatio Prisciani Grammatici, iuuenilis lectio, quot mihi librorum peregrina nomina congesserit, quot postmodum Plinius secundus, quot nouissimè Nonius Marcellus, quotiensq; saliuā excitauerint. Nemo ergo mirabitur (ut redeam unde digressus sum) uehementer his animos inflammari, atq; configi, quorum singula suas scintillas, suosq; aculeos palàm habent, aliosq; clanculum in sinu gestant, quos sibi inuicē subministrant. Itaq; pudet equidem, [illegible] fatendum ingenuè, & cedendū uero est, excusabilior [illegible]er mihi cupiditas, uisa est Athenienfis Tyranni, Aegyptijq; regis, quam nostri ducis, [illegible] antroq; nobilius Pisistrati primum, deinde Ptolemæi Philadelphi studium, quā Crassi [illegible]m, & si multo plures imitatores Crassus habeat. Sed ne Romæ Alexandria, uel Athenæ, & Italiæ Græcia, uel Aegyptus insultet, & nobis studiosi principes contigerunt, ijq; tàm [illegible] ut eos uel enumerare difficile sit, tamq; huic rei dediti, ut inuentus sit, cui Philosophiæ, quàm imperij charius nomen esset. [illegible] studiosi inquam, nō tàm librorum quàm libris [illegible]arum rerum. Sunt enim qui libros (ut cætera) non utendi studio cumulent, sed ha[illegible]dine, neq; tàm ut ingenij præsidium, quàm ut thalami ornamentum. Atq; (ut reliquos [illegible]m fuit Romanę Bibliothecæ cura, diuis Imperatoribus Iul. Cæsari, & Cęsari Au[illegible]ntęq; rei prefectus, ab altero (pace Demetrij Phalerij dixerim) qui [illegible] hac re clarum, [illegible] Aegyptios nomen habet. Nihil inferior, ne dicā longè superior Marcus Varro, [illegible] M[illegible]er, uir & ipse doctissimus, summo q[illegible]q; Græcæ, Latinęq; Bibliothecę [illegible] Pollio orator clarissimus, qui primus hanc Romæ publicasse tra[illegible] [illegible] sunt, Catonis insatiabilis librorum fames, cuius Cicero testis est,

ipsiusq; Ciceronis ardor, ad inquirendos libros, quàm multæ testantur epistolæ ad Atticum, cui eam curam non segniùs imponit, agens summa instãtia, multaq; precum ui, quàm ego nunc tibi. Quod si opulentissimo ingenio permittitur, librorum patrocinia mendicare, quid putas licere inopi? Hæc pro excusatione uirij mei, proq; solatio tantorum comitum dicta sint: Tu uerò, si tibi charus sum, aliquibus fidis, & literatis uiris, hanc curam imposito, Hetruriam perquirant, religiosorum armaria euoluant, cæterorumq; studiosorum hominum, si quid usquam emergeret, leniendæ dicam, an irritandæ sitis meæ idoneum. Cæterum & si non ignores, quibus lacubus piscari, quibusue fruticetis aucupari soleo, ne qua tamen falli queas, his seorsum literis, quid maximè uelim interserui, quoque uigilantior fias. Scito me easdem preces amicis alijs in Britanniam, Galliasq;, & Hispanias destinasse. Ne cui ergo fide, uel industria cessisse uidearis enitere. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ MESSANENSI, S. Epist. XIX.

Infœlicitatem omnes ultrò petere.

ADeò pertinax, & fixa mortalium spes est, aduersùs infœliciter experta, ut neq; sterilitas agricolam, neq; tempestas nautam, neq; tectorum casus architectum, neq; patremfamilias sobolis acerbus interitus, deterreat ab incepto. Hic illa cõmunia, ut famelicos serere, & naufragos nauigare, & ruinis uix elapsos noua super eisdẽ fundamentis ædificia moliri, & orbos senes, inter sepulchra filiorũ, alijs procreandis intendere uideamus. Piscatores frigoribus, & fame confectos, hic ante oculos habeo, mirum & prorsus incredibile, totos dies ieiuni ac nudi, noctesq;, ad aurorã insomnes agũnt, cùm interim uel retia tentantiũ una, eademq; sors est nihil agere, frustrà torqueri tempus, aliquantò forsitan utilius consumendum perdere, neq; tamen obstinatis ad inceptum animis, à fatali gurgite diuelluntur. Vsq; adeò etiam amari exercitij, consuetudo, longior dulcis est. Infaustam arenam, imò uerrentes alueo, quam fugiunt egestatem, inter undas & scopulos inueniunt, nunquam fortè quod tantopere satagũt reperturi. Illa quidem dictu minora, nescio an maiori admiratione digna sint. Ferarum studiũ totiens uacuatis cubilibus non lentescit. Nouis feris pariendis, alendisq; prioris, raptu nunquam segnior tygris redit, crebri partus solatio destitutæ, nihilò moderatior, in reliquum ardor est. Philomena postquam pastorali furto perditos natos, longo gemitu, & præ dulcibus quærimonijs prosecuta est, nidum ab eodem ramo, sequentis puerperij fortunam tentatura suspendit. Rem dicam nouã tibi, sed omnibus uallis huius notissimam incolis. Aquila iam pridẽ in his montibus habitat, subulcus aduena, nedum quos pascit suibus, sed hirsutis etiã apris asperior, clàm nido insidiatus est, neq; animam suam pluris extimans, quàm ualet de altissima rupe, quæ fonti Sorgiæ [illegible] bibus par impendet, ancipiti fune demissus. Cuius rei uel meminisse horror est, ad aëreã domum temerarius prędator accessit, & sollicitæ genitrici, spem generis, pullos implumes abstulit. Id semel, idq; iterum ausus, nil amplius aquilã mouit, quàm ut nuper tristi domicilio deserto, nidum, dumosamq; suppellectilem, in alteram rupis partẽ parumper auexerit. Illic modò sæpiùs amissę sobolis spem refouet, nihil sollicito lętius ut reor. Siquidem saxeus iste suus hostis, exigui lucri cupidus, uitæ prodigus, iam restem, nodosq; præparat, quibus per inane suspensus, & de insolito specu solitas prædas agat. Iam sensim ad minimam rerum ratiocinando descendimus, nec apibus quidem percepti mellis iniuria, mellificandi dulcedinem, nec formicis sub terra latentiũ horreorum, inundatio graniferi laboris experientiam, frequentisq; cursus, ac recursus imminuit uoluptatem. Non enim desperãt, infœliciter retata, retentari p[illegible] fœlicius. Alioquin, si cum successibus rerum, animorum simul spes intercat, torpebun[illegible]stus, ij, quos undiq; cernimus actionum uariarum quotidie interpellantibus, fatis & uitã situ marcidam, exitus inglorius manebit. Quod ne forte contingeret animantibus cunctis, & præsertim homini, du[illegible]siriq; tenacia pectora data sunt. Vrbem Romam (ut retrò iam facili saltu, ab imis reru[illegible] altissima conscendamus) à Gallis Senonibus incensam restituere maiores, qua in re Camilli auctoritas, tribunis contranitentibus ominis etiam adiuta præualuit. Idem illi maiores nostri, post Alliã, post Ticinum, post Trebiam, post Trasimenum in aciem redierunt, post Caudinæ pacis ignominiã, gloriosissimas uictorias retulerunt, & post Cannas grauissimum, ac penè mortiferum Reip. uulnus, ne ab ignauis ci[illegible] del[illegible]nqueret[illegible] Italia, contra sententiã Cæcilij Metelli fulgens Africani gladius ob[illegible]uit. Qui ni[illegible] inu[illegible] spes, unius, eius[illegible]q; admodum adole[illegible] mul[illegible]orũ sen[illegible] labantes firmasset animos, actum erat de imperio. Nulla hodie Ro[illegible] n[illegible] memo[illegible]

nulla

n[illegible] Romanæ potentiæ uestigia superessent. Faciente enim (ut Flori historici uerbis utar) de Italia Africam Hannibale, profectò non Latini, sed Afri coloni, Italiam possiderent. Et si quis fortè mansisset Italici sanguinis, tantis superstes cladibus non aliter, quàm dulcis aquæ riu[illegible] pelago mixtus, in peregrinos mores, uictricemq; barbariem concessisset. Quod non sumus igitur, & quod sumus fateamur ingenuè, spei bonæ duntaxat unius hominis debemus, & de nobis quidem hactenus. Quid Lacedæmonios, quidúe Carthaginenses memorem, qui sperare non priùs, quam e[illegible]e desierunt? Quid Saguntinos, qui dum sera nobis auxilia sperát, extremas à crudelissimo hoste miserias acceperunt: longū est per cuncta discurrere. Itaq; ut unde est ortus, illic sermo desinat, ultima iactare nauis anchora spes est, quam si quis in hoc procelloso mari, laborantibus absciderit, nulla est ad uitam uia, nullus ad requiem portus, nullus reditus ad salutem. Miraris nunc, quid tàm longa sibi uelit oratio. Scilicet unum ago, ut amicum tuum subscribas exemplorum turbæ, raras & fortè uanas, sed firmas spes habentem. Et hæc mihi quidem curiosiùs explicanda erant, ut affectum scribentis a[illegible]res. Cætera in silentio intelligis. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA LÆLIO SVO, S. Epist. XXI.

Literas amici postulat.

SAepète literis ad colloquium elicere nisus sum, inefficaciter ad hanc diem, pergam silentium tuum interrumpere, pudebit amici tot clamores tacitū audire. Labellum clausum, in indignationem fortè, uel in risus aperiam, uel in uerba. Non magnifacio quid rescribas, modò loqui incipias, uictor sum, si occupationes te ueteres tenent, nouas ingeram. Si segnitie calamum amisisti, sedulitate restituam. At si fortè superbia extolleris, & quod suspicari ne tenuiter quidem possum, amicis affatibus indignum censes humilitate, mihi ab illo animi fastigio detrahendus, & in æquum campum amicitiæ retrahendus es. Itaq; sic tibi persuade, inculcare querelas, & lamenta non desinam: donec mihi uel antiquum inter nos commercium literarum restituas, quamdiù saltem tàm propinqui sumus, ut nunciorum penuriam prætendere neuter possit, & quasi per manus ab altero ad alterum sit epistolarum transitus, uel probabilem causam tantæ mutationis expedias. Nuncius alter alterius uestigia urgebit, literarum mearum aceerui ante oculos tuos erunt, amici digitum, & anulum nosti, intactas abijcere amor, & uerecundia non sinent. Aperies (licet nolis) [illegible]e tibi blandientur, ut perlegas: itaq; qui breuis scripturæ laborem fugis, longè lectionis fastidium non euades. Si quid igitur mihi credis, oculos tuos digitorum auxilio libera, & ignobiliores corporis tui partes, nobilioribus seruire doce. Arripe calamum, non insueta suadeo, calamus ab infantia gladius tuus est, adulta ætas, & patriæ status, ad aliam te deinceps arma rapuerunt. Demum ad Romanorum Pontificū quietiores aulas retrahente fato, & ad antiqua studia redijsti. Quid igitur peto, fac quod quotidie facis, scribe aliquid: fac itidem quod nunquam facis, scribe mihi mox, nempe sublistam, & uel rariùs scribam ipse, uel breuiùs. Vicisse, & de ista silentij tui arce, te deiecisse sufficiet. Hic tamen (scio cui loquor) ueteri illo, & uulgari clypeo tectus occurres, quid quæreris frater? Nihil habeo quod scribam. Ego uerò & si tanta rerum copia, talibus ingenio, eloquioúe nunquam defuturā scribendi materiam crediturus fuerim, facilè persuaderi mihi patiar, quamlibet seu ueram, seu fictam causam potius, quàm obliuionis nebulam, tibi silentium induxisse. Hoc igitur saltem, quod multi ab amicis petierunt, sed eorum, quos ego legerim primus omnium Cicero: scribe te nihil habuisse quod scriberes, hoc ipsum scribe, sed alijs tamen uerbis, alioquin (quod intentionis meæ non fuit) breue nimis, & apertum euadendi tibi iter ostendi euades, si te noui, saltu unico, & re uno [illegible] rédimes auctore me. Sic ego (quod multis accidit) consilio meo ludar, sed iam [illegible], superquè querelarum est, nisi quia ad ultionem tendo, & taciturnitatem tuam loquacitate punio. Vt uerò aliquid etiam familiarium [illegible]tum huic epistolæ includam, quæso, ne pigeat apud communem dominum, pro fœ[illegible] re[illegible]m mearum exitu intercedere. Voco autem quemlibet fœlicem, modò aliq[illegible]s sit, [illegible]um est. Frater uana expectatione liberari, ignorant homines, quid lucri est, [illegible] & in[illegible]ta desideria proiecisse, perdita satiant, possessa cruciant miserorum animos, [illegible]s, quàm solidos occupatos: & tanta est insania, extricari ab erroribus, [illegible] locum merentur, dum sibi prosperos rerum prægrandium exitus pollicentur.

Sibi quippe placentes, ac superbi, & iniqui rerum suarum iudices, dignos se finxere, quibus ad nutum uniuersa succederent. Ita quod in amatoria materia dixit Naso.

Dum sibi quisq; placet, credula turba sumus.

Iam medium uitæ communis latè delirando perduximus: ut enim elegāter à Tullio dictum est. Metelli sperat quisq; sibi fortunam. Quot aūt in hac uanitate falluntur, imò uerò quàm pauci, quàm penè nulli non fallūtur. Hinc licet aduertere, quod si uerum scriptorum testimonio stamus, ex omnibus sæculis fœlix ille Metellus, non nisi unicum comitem, cumq; ipsum non domi, sed procul & extra Italiæ terminos dicitur inuenisse, qui tamen ipsi, quàm ritè fœlicitatis hoc inane nomē usurpauerint, locus iste non recipit, & fortassè aliud dicendi tempus adueniet. Nunc (ut cœptum pergam) si quod omnes sperant, nullus assequitur, quam multos uitæ somnijs elusos, expectātesq; mors oppresserit, quotq; in finem oppressura sit cogita. Quibus ergo territus, hanc ipse mihi legem statui, altiora me non quærere. Paria uerò pauca, quidem & modestiæ, quibus scilicet, & obtentis sobriè gaudeā, & amissa feram fortiter, & repulsæ dolore non torquear. Ad hanc legem ita me formaui, ut u x rei cu iusquam uerear euentum, modò expectationis fastidia detrahantur, quamobrē, per omnes te cœlicolas frater oro, ab hac quam primum perplexitate dissolui. Aufer mihi expectationem, quicquid erit æquanimiter feram. Finem facio, cum illo, cuius hoc mihi placet inter cætera, Pars beneficij est quod petitur, si bellò neges. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AD LÆLIVM SVVM, S. Epist. XXII.

De uiolata quadam Virgine.

IMpletum est planè in nobis, quod de Pompeio tuo, Corneliaq; sua scribitur, neuterq; recedens sustinuit dixisse, Vale. Sed nec multia inter nos uerbis opus erat, quæ nil aliud quàm amicorum, & passionum, quæ in eis habitant notæ sunt, cum animi nostri (licet in silentio) uicissim pateant, unum est, quod te nunc agere, si possibilitas adest uelim. Iuuenis quidam, uirginem cuius amore languebat, ipsa non obluctante cognouit, matrimonij pactis interpositis, idq; quod magis in aures tuas intret, nescio an & in thoro, certe apud thorum accidit. Loci dominus nobilis dicam, an rusticus, iuuenem ipsum, quem graui, & antiquo odio persequitur, ad capitale supplicium uocat. Mulier factum excusat, nihil se cōtra quàm optauerit passam dicens, & promissas amantis nuptias efflagitat. Annuit ille, si liceat, sed carcere conclusus, sub iniquissimo iudice causam dicit. Cæterum ubi compedes amouerantur, soluti ambo, & ætate & animis, & fortuna pares, optatissimas nuptias celebrabunt. Hæc ut ad me, indignantis primum populi uocibus, deinde etiam amicorum precibus, & lachrymis perlata sunt, ut primus omnium occurristi, à quo morbi talis auxilium peteretur, & nos aliquando Frater arsimus, & opem ferre decet ardētibus. Dominum autem nostrum, & si talia sublimem eius animam non attingant, non tamen usq; adeò ferreum, aut inhumanum reor, ut humanis non misceratur erroribus. Nec est quod partiùs ardere ruricolas suspicemur, in omne genus hominum par imperium habet arcipotens ille puer. Scio apud Virgilium scriptum esse, quod:

Subita in cautum dementia cœpit amantem,

Et sequitur. *Ignoscenda quidem.*

Sed terret quod in fine subiungit:

Scirent si ignoscere manes.

Vereor enim, ne durior ille Bellerephon nihil humanitatis habens, insuper ita ascensus sanguinis sitientior, quàm oportet. Vtcunq; succedat nos partes nostras implebimus, ergo apud te: Tu apud Dominum, ut ipse à præfato thori domino gratuitum munus, captiuum illum per literas suas petat. Cuius nomen & rei gestæ seriem, uillicus hic noster, ob unum ad te missus exponet, nihilo narrator urbanior, quàm amatoris, cuius amentię modo ueniam postulamus. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AD LÆLIVM SVVM, S. Epist. XXIII.

Eloquentiæ uis quanta.

QVid tibi uis dicā me? Sic est, ut audieram & legeram, nullum est tàm asperum ingenium, quod non morum, uerborumq; dulcedine mitigetur. Sic Africanus meus ille superior, Syphacem regē barbarum, atq; (ut Liuij uerbis utar) Romanis moribus insuctum, & quod mirabilius fuit, Hasdrubalē quoq; Carthaginensium ducem, non barbarum modò, sed etiam immitem, Romani nominis ... inimicum,

[illegible] ter cœnandū suaui consessu, & comi mensa refecit, [illegible] loqu[illegible] Cæsar [illegible]
clam [illegible], & æquoreis spumis aspersum, nudumq;, & inopem piscatorem [illegible]
d[illegible] cœpit, & illius Cæsareæ facundiæ retibus circumuoluit, ut inaudito uer[illegible]
[illegible] noti [illegible] admiratione, suspensus, confestim iubente illo, fragilem [illegible] cla-
[illegible] mbam, de tui littoris statione dissolueret, parandoq; [illegible]dio, [illegible]en[illegible], ad
[illegible] [illegible]peraret. At ne semper Africanos, & Cæsares loquamur, ille Ph[illegible] hor[illegible]
princeps Plato, Dionysium conciliare sibi potuit, Syracusium Tyrannum. A[illegible]
[illegible] Macedoniæ regem, Euripides Poeta, nec aut illi tyranni [illegible] spiritus r[illegible]gor, a[illegible]mma-
[illegible] o[illegible] barbarica, utramq; duritiem, ingenio & eloquentia moll[illegible] quod hu-
[illegible] omnia monstra transgreditur, orator Aphthonius, sæuos comi[illegible]es, ad se occi-
dend[illegible] mi[illegible]os, & iam strictis mucronibus irruentes, blanda oratione compe[illegible], uic[illegible] etq;
[illegible] de[illegible] tatem eloquentia, nisi unus ex eo numero, qui eum loquentem n[illegible] n aud[illegible] c[illegible]
[illegible] d[illegible] essis superueniens, uelut aspis incantatoris uoce, no[illegible], uirus [illegible] um ce-
[illegible] sterij effudisset. Sed quid hominum exempla conquirim[illegible]? Visos inde mu[illegible] para-
[illegible] leones, atque alias truces & præualidas belluas blanditijs delinitas, parui dom[illegible]
[illegible] e[illegible]ium, patienter excipere, nexus insuper, carcerem, minas & uerbera. V[illegible] c[illegible]lo
[illegible] ontra primæuam naturæ suæ legem, humanam societatem antepon[illegible] libertat[illegible]
tam in uinculis agere, operto capite, præreptoq; etiam patriæ natalis aspectu, tamen [illegible]am
[illegible]ritoris arbitrio moderari, de illius manibus cibum sumere, uocem iubentis a[illegible]e,
clamoribus obedire, ire ad emittentis arbitrium, & reuerti, opimasq; prædas non [illegible], sed do-
m[illegible] o reportare. De piscibus mihi tale (quod meminerim) legi, nisi quod Del[illegible] s[illegible],
qua[illegible] humano generi familiaritate coniunctos ferunt, unde & Arionem quendam, tergo hu-
ius piscis insidentem, per tumidos fluctus maris euasisse historica (seu potiùs) fa[illegible]ulosa nar-
ratio est. Vectorem ipsum fidibus canentem faciunt, quo nauigationi f[illegible] des in, musi-
c[illegible]te [illegible]ures musica, & nauigium subleuante. Visum est enim, fabul[illegible] ad[illegible]ico-
lor mendacio quæreretur, gubernaculum, malus, uela, remi deerāt, [illegible]ro [illegible]bus, unius
mu[illegible] c[illegible] suauitas subrogata est. Sed quorsum hæc tàm peregrina per[illegible] ab[illegible] u[illegible] intelli-
ga[illegible] me ingenium tuū summis inserere, qui non homines, non feras, aut uolucres, se[illegible] aqua-
[illegible]m hoc animal educatum, inter fontes & flumina, etiam de [illegible] elicie[illegible], con[illegible]
[illegible] sermone. In amicitiam pellexisti, redijt equidem ad me sui inimemor, [illegible] mor, cum
m[illegible]lia de domino, multa de amicis quærerem, nil nisi de Lælio respondel[illegible], illi[illegible] formam,
[illegible] mores, illius linguam, illius denique domicilium atq; habi[illegible]am adm[illegible]. illum mihi
[illegible] si incognitum ruralibus, & terricrepis uerbis extollere, de illo mihi sæpe licet interrum-
[illegible], long[illegible]mas narrationes texere. Cumq; sæpe Terentianum illud obijcerem H[illegible] mi-
[illegible] laudas? Ille eo magis, ab exordio cuncta retexere. Quid plura? Intellexi [illegible] te
[illegible]bus, meū mihi uillicum abstulisse, nec indolui fateor, nec inuidi, sed obstupui plus
[illegible] hora, quàm me toto decennio potuisse. Mirum est, nisi tu colloquijs tuis, aliquid e-
[illegible]ag[illegible]cæ artis immisceas, nunc igitur captus amore tui, cum his litteris iterum ad re re-
d[illegible]ul & per te dominicæ interuentionis auxilium sperans, per quod am[illegible]m suum, de
[illegible]die tibi scripsi, iam extremis fortunæ laqueis arctatum expediat, nisi iudicijs animo,
[illegible] iam ab initio uerebar) ad supplicium obstinato, non sit precibus locus. Fama enim
[illegible] dolore simul & inuidia delibati uirginei floris insanire, ad quem ipse [illegible] (ut
[illegible]orant) aspirabat, indignātem grauiter plus in amoris regno pauperis bl[illegible]ndi[illegible]as, q[illegible]
[illegible]eptas diuitias ualuisse. Quod si accidat, ut obstructis auribus uerba [illegible]
[illegible] tamen partus erit integer misericordiæ suæ, tibi beneuolentiæ [illegible] fru[illegible]
[illegible], amicitię suę debitum, me opitulante persoluerit. Ille autem amat[illegible], si a[illegible]
[illegible] on potest, amoris sui dulcedinem (quod multi fecerunt) mortis a[illegible]
[illegible] sane quonam humilium amico[illegible] o numeres, tuum est. Ipse [illegible] d[illegible]
[illegible] inter primos numerat, aliquan[illegible] m[illegible] de tua gratia iam, quam [illegible]
[illegible]et[illegible] sollic[illegible]ior. Itaque ut se tibi prorsus, insinuet, & allegorico munusc[illegible]lo anim[illegible]
[illegible]uauissime [illegible] deditum ostendat. Liquoris omnium mollissimi olei uasculum tibi
[illegible]id quod sponte sua, & (ut aiunt) uirginitate seruata, nullo premente deflu[illegible]
[illegible]tum nostrarum, quę in collibus istis sunt, ubi posthabitis Athenis re[illegible]tricem oleę
[illegible] a[illegible] habitare dicerem, nisi eam iampridem [illegible] littore ad portum
Veneris atq; Erycem collocassem in Africæ
meæ libris. Vale.

FRAN.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS FAMILIARIBVS,

LIBER IIII.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI C[illegible] [illegible]Æ, S. Epist. I.

Montem Galliæ quendam describit.

ALtißimum Regionis huius montem, quem non immeritò Ventosum uocant, hodierno die, sola uidendi insignem loci altitud[illegible] cupiditate ductus ascendi, multis iter hoc annis in animo [illegible] infantia enim, his in locis, ut nosti fato res hominum uers[illegible] tus sum. Mons autem hic late undiq; conspectus, fere sem[illegible] lis est, cœpit impetus tandem aliquando facere, quod que[illegible] bam, præcipuè postquā relegenti pridie res Romanas, apud L[illegible] forte ille mihi locus occurrerat, ubi Philippus Macedonum re[illegible] qui cum P.R. bellum gesit, Hemum montem T[illegible] sce[illegible] dit, è cuius uertice, duo maria uideri Hadriaticum & Euxinum, famæ crediderat. Vero n[illegible] an falsò satis comperti nihil habeo, quod & mons à nostro orbe semotus, & scriptorum dissensio dubiam rem facit. Ne cunctos euoluam, Pomponius Mela Cosmographus, sic esse nihil hæsitans refert. Titus Liuius, falsam famam opinatur. Mihi si tàm prompta mon[illegible] lius experientia [illegible]et, quam huius fuit, diu dubium esse non sinerem. Cæterum ut [illegible] so, ad hunc montem ueniam, excusabile uisum est, in iuuene priuato, quòd in rege senc[illegible] carpitur. Sed de socio cogitanti (mirum dictu) uix amicorum quisquàm omni ex parte [illegible] neus uidebatur, adeò etiam inter charos, exactißima illa uoluntat[illegible] omniū, moru[illegible] cordia rara est. Hic segnior, ille uigilantior, hic tardior, ille celerior, hic mœ[illegible]ior, ille [illegible] deniq; hic stultior, prudentior ille quàm uellē, huius [illegible]entium, illiu[illegible] rocacitas, huius [illegible] dus ac pinguedo, illius macies atq; imbecillitas terrebat, huius frigida incuriositas, [illegible] dens occupatio dehortabatur: quæ quāquam grauia, toleranter domi, omnia enim su[illegible] charitas, & nullum pondus recusat amicitia. Verum hæc eadem [illegible]nt in itinere gra[illegible] itaq; delicatus animus, honestæq; delectationis appetens, circum[illegible]iciensq; librabat [illegible] la, sine ulla quidem amicitiæ læsione tacitus, quicquid proposito itineri præuidebat, [illegible] stum fieri posse damnabat. Quid putas tandē, ad domestica ubi tot auxilia, germano [illegible] unico minori, natu quem probè nosti, rem aperio, nil poterat lætius audire, [illegible] apud me amici simul ac fratris teneat locum. Stat[illegible] a die [illegible]gresi domo Malaus[illegible] mus ad uesperam, locus est in radicibus montis uersus in Boream, illic unum diem m[illegible] hodie tandem cum singulis famulis montem ascendimus, non sine multa difficultate [illegible] enim prærupta, & pene inaccesibilis saxosæ telluris moles, sed penè à Poeta dictu[illegible]

Labor omnia uincit improbus.

Dies longa, blandus aër, animorum uigor, corporum robur ac dexteritas, & [illegible] eiusdem [illegible]tibus aderant, sola nobis obstabat natura loci. Pastorem exactæ [illegible] conuexa mon[illegible] uenimus, qui nos ab ascensu retrahere, multis uerbis enixus e[illegible] se ante anno[illegible] q[illegible]nq[illegible]nia, eodem iuuenilis ardoris impetu suprem[illegible] m [illegible] ertic[illegible] disse, nil [illegible] e, præter pœnitenti[illegible]m, & l[illegible]rem corp[illegible] saxi[illegible] unq[illegible]am aut ante il[illegible]is, au[illegible] pol[illegible] um, apud [illegible] quam aus[illegible] milia. Hæc illo uocifer[illegible] ut [illegible] incred[illegible] c[illegible]scebat ex prohibitione cupid[illegible]as, [illegible] maduerit, [illegible] quam ni[illegible] tulum, [illegible]us inter [illegible]pes, ard[illegible] cal[illegible]em [illegible] [illegible] a ter[illegible] in[illegible]s. [illegible] [illegible]uspiam im[illegible]en[illegible]et, soli dun[illegible]xat as[illegible]en[illegible] [illegible]d, u[illegible] [illegible]natum [illegible] fatigat[illegible] [illegible] ada[illegible] imus, [illegible]de [illegible]

& p[illegible]

tia [illegible] dem uia, per ipsius iuga montis, ad altiora tendebat, ego mollior ad ima [illegible] ergebam, [illegible] tiq; & iter rectius designan[illegible], Respondebam, sperare me alterius lateris faciliorem [illegible] m, nec [illegible] rere longiorem uiam, per quam planius incederem, hanc excusationē ignauiæ prætendebam, alijsq; iam excelsa tenentibus, per ualles errabam, cum nihilo mitior [illegible] de pateret accessus, sed & uia cresceret, & inutilis labor ingrauesceret. Interea cum [illegible] o [illegible] ectum perplexi pigeret erroris, penitùs alta petere disposui, cumq; operientem [illegible] item, [illegible] longo refectum accubitu, fessus & anxius attigissem, aliquandiu æquis passibus [illegible] imus. Vix dum collem illum reliqueramus, & ecce prioris anfractus oblitus, iterum ad inferiora deijcior, atq; iterum peragratis uallibus, dum uiarum facilem longitudinem [illegible] longam difficultatem incido. Differebam nempè ascendendi molestiam, sed [illegible] humano rerum natura non tollitur. Nec fieri potest, ut corporeum aliquid, ad alta d[illegible] endendo perueniat. Quid multa? Non sine fratris risu, hoc indignanti mihi, ter aut amplius inter paucas horas contigit. Sic sæpè delusus, quadam in ualle consedi. Illic à corporeis ad incorporea uolucri cogitatione transiliens, his aut talibus, meipsum compellebam [illegible]. Quod totiens hodie in ascensu montis huius expertus es, id scito, & tibi accidere, & multis accedentibus ad beatam uitam, sed idcircò tàm facilè ab hominibus non deprehendi, quod corporis motus in aperto sunt, animorum uerò inuisibiles & occulti. Equidem uita, quam beatam dicimus, celso loco sita est, arcta (ut aiunt) ad illam ducit uia, multi quoq; colles intereminent, & de uirtute in uirtutem præclaris gradibus, ambulandum est. In summo finis est omnium, & uitæ terminus, ad quem peregrinatio nostra disponitur. Eò peruenire uolunt omnes, sed, ut ait Naso:

Velle parum est, cupias ut re potiaris oportet.

Tu certè nisi, ut in multis, in hoc quoq; te fallis, non solùm uis, sed etiam cupis. Quid ergo te retinet? nimirum nihil aliud, nisi per terrenas, & infimas uoluptates planior, & ut prima fronte uidetur expeditior uia: uerumtamen ubi multum erraueris, aut sub pondere malè dilati laboris, ad ipsius te beatæ uitæ culmen oportet ascendere, aut in conuallibus peccatorum tuorum, segnem procumbere. Et si, quod ominari horreo, ibi, te tenebræ, & umbra mortis [illegible] uenerint, æternam noctem in perpetuis cruciatibus agere. Hæc mihi cogitatio, incredibile dictu est, quantum ad ea quæ restabant, & animum, & corpus erexerit. Atque utinam uel sic animo peragam iter illud, cui diebus, & noctibus suspiro, sicut superatis tandem difficultatibus, hodiernum iter corporeis pedibus peregi. Ac nescio, ad non longè facilius esse debeat, quod per ipsum animum agilem, & immortalem, sine ullo locali motu, in [illegible] trepidantis oculi fieri potest, quàm quod s[illegible] cessu temporis permoribundi, & caduci corporis obsequium, ac sub graui membrorum [illegible] gerendum est. Collis est omnium supremus, quem syluestres filiorum uocant, cur ignoro, nisi quod per antiphrasim, ut quædam alia dici, suspicor. Videtur enim uerè pater omnium uicinorum montium. Illius in uertice planities parua est, illic demum fessi conquieuimus. Et quoniam audisti, quæ'nam ascendentis impetus ascenderint curæ. Audi Pater & reliqua, & unam precor horā tuam, relegendis unius diei mei actibus tribue. Primum omnium, spiritu quodam a[illegible]ris insolito, & spectaculo liberiore permotus, stupenti similis steti. Respicio, nubes erant sub pedibus. Iamq; mihi minus incredibiles facti sunt Athos & Olympus, dum quod de illis audieram, & legeram, in minoris famæ monte conspicio. Dirigo dehinc oculorum radios, ad partes [illegible] cas, quo magis inclinat animus, Alpes ipsæ rigentes ac niuosæ, per quas ferus ille quondam [illegible] ostis Romani nominis transiuit, aceto, si famæ credimus, saxa perrumpens, iuxta mi[illegible] æ sunt, cum tamen magno distent interuallo. Suspiraui fateor ad Italicum aerem, ani[illegible] is, quàm oculis apparentem, atque inextimabilis me ardor inuasit, & amicum, & [illegible] uidendi: ita tamen, ut interim, in utroque nondum uirilis affectus, mol[illegible] iciem in[illegible] em, quamuis excusatio utrobique non deforet, magnorum testium fulta præsi[illegible] [illegible] pauit inde animum, noua cogitatio, atque à locis traduxit ad tempora. Dicebam enim [illegible] me ipsum, hodie decimus annus completur, ex quo puerilibus studijs dimissis, Bononia [illegible] excessisti. & o Deus immortalis, o immutabilis sapientia, quot & quantas morum [illegible] m mutationes, hoc medium tempus uidit, infinita prætereo, nondum enim in portu [illegible] c[illegible] us præteritarum meminerim procellarum. Tempus forsan ueniet, quando [illegible] eo [illegible] ordine, uniuersa percurram, præfatus illud Augustini tui. Recordari [illegible] tates meas, & carnales corruptiones animæ meæ, nō quod eas amem, [illegible] m te Deus meus. Mihi quidē multū adhuc ambigui, molestiq; negotij superest,

quod

quòd amare solebam, iam non amo: mentior, amo, sed uerec[illegible]ndius, sed [illegible] uerum [illegible]. Sic est enim amo, sed quòd non amare amem, quod odisse [illegible] men, sed [illegible]itus, sed coactus, sed mœstus & lugens. Et in me [illegible] so uer[illegible] mi sententiam miser experior:

Adero si potero, si non inuitus amabo.

Nondum mihi tertius annus effluxit, ex quo uoluntas illa peruersa & nequam, quæ me [illegible] tum habebat, & in aula cordis mei sola sine contradictore regnabat, cœpit aliam habere [illegible] bellem, & reluctantē sibi, inter quas iamdudū, in campis cogitationū meorum, de [illegible] hominis imperio laboriosissima, & anceps etiam nunc pugna conseritur. Sic per exactum decennium, cogitatione uoluebar. Hinc iam curas meas in anteriora mittebam & quærebam ex me ipse. Si tibi fortè contingeret, per alia duo lustra uolatilem hanc uitam p[illegible] ce-re, tantumq́ pro rata temporis ad uirtutem accedere, quantū hoc b[illegible] per c[illegible], nouæ contra ueterem uoluntatis, ab obstinatione pri[illegible]a recess[illegible]sti, [illegible] ne [illegible] nc p[illegible]e [illegible] non certos, at saltem sperans, quadragesimo ætatis anno, mortē o[illegible]petere, & illud res[illegible] uitæ, in senium abeuntis æqua mente negligere? Hæc atq́ his similes co[illegible]itationes, in pectore meo recursabant Pater, de prouectu meo gaudebam, imperfectum meum fleb[illegible]m, & mutabil[illegible]tatem communem humanorum actuum miserebar, & quem in locum, [illegible]m ob causam tren[illegible]em, quodammodo uidebar oblitus, donec ut omissis curis, quibus alter locus esset opportunior respicerem, & uiderem, quæ uisurus adueneram. Instare enim tempus abeundi, quod inclinaret iam sol, & umbra montis excresceret, admonitus & uelut expergefactus, uerto me in tergum, ad occidentem respiciens. Limes ille G[illegible]liarum & Hispaniæ Pyreneus uertex, inde non cernitur, nullius quem sciam obicis interuentu, sed sola fragilitate mortalis uisus. Lugdunensis autem prouinciæ montes, ad dexteram. Ad læuā uerò Massiliæ fretum, & quod Aquas Mortuas uerberat, aliquod dierum spatio distantia, præclarissimè uidebant, Rhodanus ipse sub oculis nostris erat: quæ dū mirarer singula, & nunc terrenum aliquid saperem, nunc exemplo corporis animum ad altiora subueherem, uisum est mihi Confessionum Augustini librum, charitatis tuæ munus inspicere, quem & [illegible]di toris, & donatoris in memoriam seruo, habeoq́ semper in manibus, pugillare opu[illegible]culum, perexigui uoluminis, sed infinitæ dulcedinis. Aperio lecturus, quicquid occurreret, q[illegible]id enim nisi pium & deuotum posset occurrere? Fortè autem decimus illius operis liber oblatus est. [illegible]rater expectans, per os meum ab Augustino aliquid audire, intentis auribus [illegible]bat, Deum testor, ipsumq́ qui aderat, quòd ubi primū defixi oculos, scriptum erat. E[illegible] eunt homines admirari alta montium, & ingentes fluctus maris, & latissimos lapsus fluminum, & Oceani ambitum, & gyros syderum, & relinquunt seipsos. Obstupui fateor, audie[illegible] auidum fratrem rogans, ne mihi molestus esset, librum clausi iratus, mihimet quod nu[illegible] etiam terrestria mirarer, qui iampridem ab ipsis gentium Philosophis discere debuiss[illegible]m, nihil pr[illegible]ter animum esse mirabile, cui magno nihil est magnum. Tunc uerò montem satis uidisse contentus, in meipsum interiores oculos reflexi, & ex illa hora, non fuit, qui me loquētem audiret, donec ad ima peruenimus. Satis mihi negotij uerbum illud attulerat [illegible]ec opinari poteram, id fortuitò conti[illegible] sed quicquid ibi legeram, mihi & non alteri d[illegible]um rebar: recolens quod idem de seip[illegible]spicatus, olim esset Augustinus, quando in lectione codicis Apostolici (ut ipse refert) primum sibi illud occurrit. Non in commessationibus & ebrietatibus, non in cubilibus & impudicitijs, nō in cōtentione & æmulatione, sed ind[illegible] Dominum IE[illegible]VM CHRISTVM, & carnis prouidentiam ne feceritis in concupiscentijs u[illegible]stris. Quòd iam ante Antonio acciderat, quando audito Euangelio ubi scriptum est: Si perfectus esse, uade, & uende omnia tua quæcunq́ habes, & da pauperibus, & ueni sequ[illegible]re me, & habebis thesaurum in cœlis. Veluti propter se, hæc esset scriptura recitata, ut s[illegible]ptorum rerum eius Athanasius ait ad se traxit Dominicum imperium. Et sicut Anto[illegible] his auditis, aliud non quæsiuit: & sicut A[illegible]gustinus his lectis, ulteriùs non processi[illegible] & mihi in paucis uerbis, quæ premisi totius lectionis terminus fuit in silentio, cogitanti q[illegible] mortalibus consilij esset inopia, qua nobilissima sui parte neglecta, diffundantur in plurima, & inanibus spectaculis euanescant, quòd intus inueniri poterat, quærentes extrinsecus, admirantiq́ nobilitatem animi n[illegible]stri, nisi spontè degenerans ab originis suæ p[illegible] d[illegible] abe[illegible] & quæ [illegible] d[illegible] in honorem Deus, ipse i[illegible] o[illegible]brium [illegible] uertisse [illegible] tiens p[illegible]o die redi[illegible]ns, & in tergum [illegible] cacumen montis a[illegible]exi, & u[illegible]x un[illegible] [illegible]do uisa est, præ altitudine contem[illegible]lationis humanæ [illegible] quis eam non in lu[illegible]m

terrenæ

[illegible] me [illegible]eret. Illud quoque per singulos passus occurrebat [illegible] ludo [illegible] cœlo [illegible] proximus heret, [illegible] non piget, quæ crux, quis [illegible] aculeus deberet terrere animum, appropinquante Deo, turgidumque cacumen [illegible], & mortalia fata calcentem. Et hoc quoto cuique accidet, ut ab hac semita, uel [illegible] met [illegible] uel mollium cupidine non diuertat? O nimium fœlix, siquis usquam [illegible] arbitrer Poetam:

> *[F]œlix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas,*
> *Atque metus & inexorabile fatum*
> *Subiecit pedibus, strepitumque Acherontis auari.*

[illegible] studio laborandum esset, ut non altiorem terram, sed ut elatos terrenis impul[illegible] [illegible] us sub pedibus haberemus. Hos inter nudos pectoris motus, sine se[illegible] ru[illegible] s, ad illud hospitiolum rusticum, unde ante lucem mouera[illegible] prof[illegible] [illegible] na pernox, gratum obsequium præstabat euntibus, [illegible] rum ergo, dum [illegible] d[illegible] cœnæ studium exercet, solus ego in partem domus abditam perrexi. Hæc [illegible] tempore scripturus. Ne si distulissem, pro uarietate locorum, mutatis [illegible] [illegible] scribendi propositum deseruerer. Vide itaque Pater amant[illegible] me [illegible] [illegible] tuis occultum uelim, qui tibi nedum uniuersam uitam meam, se[illegible] singulos tam diligenter aperio, pro quibus ora quæso, ut tam diu uagi & instabiles, aliquando subsistant, & inutiliter per multa iactati, ad unum bonum uerum, certum, stabile se conuertant. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA DIONYSIO SVO, S. Epist. II.

Diuitias esse contemnendas.

NIl dulcius audierant aures meæ, postquam uocem tuam audire desierunt, [illegible] quod ad regem uocatus accesseris: rationem (inquit) expecto, nõ possum breuiter, itaque longius incipiam. Optauit aliquando tibi genitrix, longitudinẽ dierum innumerabilibus periculis & calamitatibus obiectã. Aliquando diui[illegible] ma[illegible] [illegible] entium, non mediocrem laqueum ac funestam sarcinam libertatis, aliquando [illegible] [illegible] corp[illegible] is, deformitatis animæ plerunque materiam, quid de sodalibus, quid de nutric[illegible] [illegible] cam? Muliercularum omnium una lex est, inepta cupiunt, ridenda formi[illegible] lant, de p[illegible] [illegible] bet altiora credere. Optauerit ergo filio, quod ait Satyricus: eloquium & famam De[illegible] [illegible] is, aut Ciceronis, quæ quanti sæpe periculi plena, utriusque exitus est te[illegible] is, mult[illegible] [illegible] l[illegible] s, uel [illegible] rum pro te uotis fatigatæ sunt aures Dei Horũ tibi aliquid anxiæ [illegible] pto Quare? Quia [illegible] ultũ est, uehementer appetere, quod potest pessimo [illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] bi cupio quod mihi, beatam uitam, ad quã multi suspirant, pauci per[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] rosum iter atque angustũ, & difficile, & amœna, ac prona circum de[illegible] [illegible] si aũt [illegible] ndo, [illegible] a[illegible] a qualibet operatione mortalium, aberrare perfacile, signum ar[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] arti[illegible] finis est Idcircò difficilior, qui[illegible] illũ una tãtummodò, ad e[illegible] [illegible] les sunt uiæ. Hanc sane quam dico beatam, quanquam ingeniosi[illegible] atque [illegible] lori[illegible] e[illegible] uisum sit, in hoc corporis ergastulo mereri, quidem utcũque potest [illegible] m[illegible] nus & sperare, amplecti autem, ac tenere non potest. Hoc ergo studio de[illegible] [illegible], ubi quiescit intentio, neque nobis hoc solis persuasum est. Quid enim aliud [illegible] [illegible] ait: Quod hæc uita uia est in cœlum? Habet tamen interd[illegible], [illegible] [illegible] s u[illegible] ta simillimum, ut & si beata nondum sit (id enim [illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] dere [illegible] amen humanas miserias, longe infra se uideat, & [illegible] f[illegible] cit [illegible] e resplendeat [illegible] non diuitiæ præstant, non in[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] a, [illegible] uoluptas [illegible] tut[illegible] mi[illegible] tus atque animi tra[illegible] qui[illegible] [illegible] fo[illegible] tass[illegible] ebitur. Sed quantum op[illegible] ea se[illegible] [illegible] m in[illegible] familiaritas, & clarorum uirorum co[illegible] [illegible] d inten[illegible] m d[illegible] am tamen expressi[illegible]. Quis in Græcia clarior Th[illegible] [illegible] ntil[illegible] m[illegible] uis in Italia, im[illegible] qui[illegible] Europa clarior Ro[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible] ant[illegible] dema, quam m[illegible] res, ne[illegible] tam re[illegible] num[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] x[illegible] qu[illegible] tos m[illegible] se[illegible] e [illegible] xe[illegible] a[illegible] ones [illegible] im[illegible] [illegible] a est quidem clarior uictoria, quam seip[illegible] regere. Q[illegible] le[illegible] hi

Rex e[illegible] in quē regnat ambitio? Quomodo inuictus, quem sternit aduer[illegible]? [illegible] serenus, quem m[illegible]r obnu[illegible]? Quomod[illegible] magnanimus, quē [illegible] marum e[illegible]um pauor examinat? Et, ut fulgida uirtu[illegible]m nom[illegible]a taceam[illegible]s, qui [illegible]hi liberum d[illegible]m, qui cupidinum uariarum iugo premitur mult[illegible]lici? [illegible]infra omnia ista de[illegible]cendam q[illegible]te h[illegible]minem dicimus, quem scimus ex homine nihil præter nudam effigiem retinere, be[illegible] [illegible]m moribus deformem, & sæuorum animantium feritate terribilem? Mira e[illegible] et p[illegible]blica, dementia? Regem e[illegible] dicere, qui nec rex, nec liber, & sæpè ne ho[illegible]o q[illegible] st. Magnum e[illegible] regem esse, per ex[illegible]m regem dici. Rariores sunt re[illegible], quam [illegible]s existimat, non est titulus ille uulgaris, minus gemmarum atque eboris sceptra consum[illegible], si soli reges illa portarent. Veri reges intra se gerunt, quòd eos uenerabiles facit, semoti[illegible] et satellitibus, & abiectis insignibus reges sunt. Cæteros cultus ext[illegible] facit horribiles. Robertus uerè inclytus, & uere rex est, qui quàm sit imperiosus in [illegible]m, exempla inaud[illegible] patientiæ, & moderationis indicant, de quibus alter fortè dicendi locus fuerit. Quam uer[illegible]tatè regnet in alios, dissonantes lingua, & moribus populi, & disiunctissimi regionum [illegible]nes ostendunt. Seneca tuus in quadam Tragœdia, quid regem faciat, & quid non faciat egregiè recollegit, his uersibus:

Regem non faciunt opes,
Non frontis nota regiæ:
Rex est, qui posuit metus,
Mens regnum bona possidet,
Nil armis, & inertibus
Partibus, cum simulat fugas.
Vrbes sternere machinis
Rex est, qui metuit nihil:
Non uestis Tyriæ color,
Non auro nitidæ trabes.
Et diri mala pectoris.

Nec longè post:

Nil ullis opus est equis,
Telis, quæ procul ingerit
Admotis nihil est opus,
Longè saxa rotantibus.

hæc ille.

Ad hunc itaq; regem (ut principio conueniat finis) uocatus fuisti, quod ut ille iuberet & ut tu pareres, quid aliud quàm studiorum summa conformitas fecit? Ille quidem qu[illegible] tum curis suis solamen asciuerit dicerem, si apud alium loquerer, tibi certè ad interni ho[illegible] pacem, quam uti sæpè querebaris, Tuscarum rerum fragor impulerat, qua cōpendio[illegible]s peregeres non erat. Congratulor ergo seu prudentiæ, seu fortunæ tuæ, & uocem, quæ tūc mihi fuit in ore, aliquantò nunc fidentius repeto. Vbi enim fama primùm, deinde per literas [illegible] accepi, te Florentia digressum, esse Neapolim, & mecum, & cum amicis dixi: Dionysi[illegible]noster, ad tranquillitatem animi, magnis passibus contendit, & ad beatam uitam rectum [illegible] ingressus est. De me autem sic habe, breui te consequar. Nosti enim, quid de laurea cog[illegible], quàm singula librans, præter ipsum, de quo loquimur regem, nulli omnino mortalium debere constitui, si tanti fuero ut uocer. Benè est: alioquin fingam nescio quid audisse, uel epistolæ suæ sensum, quam ipse mihi summa hominis incogniti, & familiarissima dignan[illegible] transmisit, quasi dubitans, in eam potissimum partem traham, ut uocatus uidear. Et re[illegible] quidem stylo, quiddam modò plebeium reddidi, fulgore attonitus, nec æquis ingen[illegible]bus, & lyra (ut aiunt) longè impari. Vale.

FRAN. PETRAR. ROBERTO SICILIÆ REGI, S. Epist. III.

De Animæ immortalitate.

PRæstrinxit oculos meos fulgor insolitus, fœlix calamus uisus est, cui talia cred[illegible] tu[illegible]. Quod primum mirer? Eximiam breuitatem, an maiestatem senten[illegible]ar[illegible] diuinam eloquij uenustatem? Nunquam Rex inclyte (fateor) credidi, rem t[illegible]n[illegible] dici posse, tàm breuiter, tàm graui[illegible]e[illegible] tàm ornatè, nec [illegible] tale aliquid ex [illegible]um ingenijs expectabam. Equidem ut consta[illegible]e corda hominum in manibus habere, [illegible]o tota illustrium Oratorum suspirat intentio, le[illegible]entis animum, tàm [illegible]arijs affecti[illegible] fti, ut sine luctamine, in omnem partem styli, t[illegible]a uestigia sequeret[illegible] uolubilitate m[illegible] Ecce e[illegible]m in prima sobrij [illegible]te se[illegible]monis, dum summā hum[illegible]næ miseriæ acerrimas[illegible] le[illegible]as laborum, & necessi[illegible]tem mortis acerbissimam, tra[illegible]m ex radicis labe ramis [illegible] d[illegible]us obrepentem, magni[illegible]ent[illegible]imè de[illegible]o[illegible], [illegible]ar[illegible]ade[illegible]ebro [illegible]legend[illegible]m[illegible]p[illegible]ans, & [illegible]uctabil[illegible]ortepe[illegible]us, [illegible]hom[illegible]is [illegible] pe[illegible]ec natu[illegible]esse, nec [illegible]nquam nasc[illegible], & mihi iam tra[illegible] litas omnis exciderat, nisi quæ letale uulnus inflixerat manus, eadem mox remedium att[illegible] lisset.

[illegible]ensium unum [illegible]ntini mœroris, & consolationis artificem, nec unquam certiùs quid [illegible]entia po[illegible]eram, tàm potenter enim paucorum ope uerborum, sub immorta[illegible] animæ, [illegible] rationis obtentu, ægrum atq; labantem animum erexisti, ut gaudio [illegible] um esse mortalem. Nam quid beatius excogitari potest, quàm exutum ue[illegible]rporea, & de compedibus istis explicitum, ad illam diem, exactis temporum curricu[illegible] os absorpta morte, immortalitatem induat. Reparans indissolubiliter, ac [illegible]em, & semesam tineis, atque undiq; fluentem tunica carnis nostræ? Quam [illegible], & [illegible]hilosophorum gentilium nullus attigerit, uetustissima tamen est immortalita[illegible] op[illegible], nec nostris solum, sed illis etiam probata, quibus CHRISTI nomen inauditum [illegible]picurum enim, & nescio quot ex illo infami grege, immortalem esse animam; [illegible] qui neget. De qua re (ut Pherecydem primum apud Syrios sententiæ huius auctorem, discipulu[illegible]herecydis Pythagoram, totamq; Pythagoream familiam, Socratē; omnes [illegible] Socrat[illegible]s prætercam) Plato ipse summus uir, clarissimum uolumen edidit, quo [illegible]ato moriturus, suprema illa nocte sua, pro consiliario usus perhibetur, ut ad con[illegible] animosior, & ad amorem decretæ mortis accederet. Quam sententiā; po[illegible] Cicero, & in Tusculano suo, [illegible] in septimo Reipublicæ diuino genere orationis a[illegible]c non & in Dialogo Lælij, qui de Amicitia uera est, & in eo libro, qui Cato Maior in[illegible]tur. Defensionem continens senectutis, alijsq; prætcrea tàm multis in locis attigit, ut ualdè mihi quidem sollicitus uideatur, ne quem ueritas tàm comperta prætereat, sed cui hæc insipiens loquor? Profectò non modò regum nostri temporis, sed Philosophorum regi. [illegible] nos[illegible] autem quæso, sic hactenus me dicendi calor euexit, ut regium dogma, cui plurimum me debere fateor, non amplecterer solum, sed testibus adhibitis confirmarem, quod ita mihi animum affecit, ut securus iam ac spei plenus, formidatum gentibus diem mortis expectem. Hunc diem transuecta neptis tua, quā finis epistolæ canit ac prædicat, inuidiosā potius, ut mihi quidem uidetur, quàm miserabili sorte defungitur. Quamuis enim ab ipsa æ[illegible], & formæ flore subtracta sit, publica ferè totius orbis querimonia, multisq; præcipuè popu[illegible]rum utriusq; regni, & unde ortum, & in quod translatum, illud rarum & eximium decus [illegible], lachrymis ac lamentis. Ipsa tamen fœlix est, non solùm, quòd ad æternę uitæ delitia[illegible]er h[illegible]ricum illud mortis limen ingressa est, sed etiam, quod tu eam nobilissim[illegible] gi[illegible]m[illegible]ibus seculis illustrasti. Quis enim mortuam, imò uerò, quis nō gloriosissim[illegible] tem dicere audebis, quàm Deus in cœlo, tu in terris uiuere uoluisti? O (inquam) fœlix; mulier [illegible] terū fœlix, quæ pro una temporali uita, eademq; breui & incerta, & mille semper casib[illegible] exposita, duas æternitates, ut ita dixerim, consecuta est, quorum alteram cœlesti al[illegible]m terreno regi, illam CHRISTO debeat, hanc Roberto, ingentia duo munera, munificent[illegible]imis largitoribus accipiens, eò fœlicior uideri debet, quòd in cœlo, & in terra, gratiā dignissi[illegible]s relatura est. Plurimū enim ex persona tribuentis muneribus ipsis accedit, multum interest, à quo beneficium acceperis, & cui proinde sis obnoxius. Sanè quæsitā illi cœlitùs immortalitatis conditionem, beatissimamq; uitæ mutationem sileo, ne ineffabilia prosequentem destituant uires, quanta demum gloria est, quàm tu sibi supremis laudibus p[illegible] peri[illegible] Certè dum illud tuum siue epigramma, siue epitaphiū dici mauis, quod æternæ marisarum esse cōfido, nuper defunctæ neptis memoriam celebrabit, semper illa tecum, & cum clarissimis omnis æui nominibus uiuet. Erunt qui mortem immaturā, & iacturam modici t[illegible]oris tali cupiant cōpensasse panegyricō, quiq; quod de Achille dixisse fertur, Alexan[illegible]acedo, suspirātes dicant, ò fortunata, quæ talem præconem tuæ uirtutis inuenisti. Sed [illegible]metuo, ne prolixitas in fastidium uergat, elegantissima quoq; breuitas tua, ne longiùs [illegible] admonet. Subsistam igitur, Deum orans, cunctosq; cœlicolas, ut Serenitatem tuā, ge[illegible] bellorū, q; studiorū laureis ornatā, diu iubeāt in statu fœlicissimo florere. Va[illegible]

[illegible]. PETRARCHA PEREGRINO MESSANENSI, S. Epist. IIII.

Obitum amici deplorat.

G[illegible]auissimam querelam, epistolæ finibus non contemnam, differre cōpulsus sum, [illegible] est [illegible]tatum animi mei uulnus, aut uulgato med[illegible]mine reuelandum, altiùs [illegible]ræcordia descendit, obseruauit enim nocendi locu[illegible] ac tempus, & toto pon[illegible]e ic[illegible]ox[illegible]neubuit fortuna. Thomamq; meum nunquā mihi sine lachrymis nomin[illegible]xim[illegible]e raræ indolis, [illegible]uctus uberrimos, [illegible] magna rerum incrementa pol[illegible] sic dixerim, ætatis uerè præcipuè. Cuius immaturo obitu, ipse mihi fateor,

mortalia cuncta, uiuerunt. Video quanta rerum nostrarum firmitas, ... nunc sperandum sit, exemplo coniunctissimi fratris admoneor, una ætas erat, idem animus, summa studiorum paritas, incredibilis identitas uoluntatum. Vnum eramus, uno calle grassabamur, unum terminum petebamus, unus labor, una spes, una erat intentio, unus utinam finis esset. Hanc acerbissimam fati uim, deflere mecum, & profundissimo simul uulneri meo paria possim adhibere remedia, meq; ipsum meis literis, & iusto uolumine consolari propositum est mihi. Fecit hoc primus in morte dilectissimæ filiæ, M. Cicero, diuino ille quidem, & inaccessibili quodam stylo. Fecit idem multis post seculis, in morte fratris Ambrosius, tentare libet modò, per occupationes liceat, quid in amici morte possit stylus humilior. Interim epigramma, quod postulas, udum fletu accipe, placet, ut super sepulchri lapidem, breue carmen, & super amici corpus dolor meus emineat. Vale.

Indolis atq; animi, fœlicem cernite Thomam,
Quem rapuit, fati præcipitata dies.
Hunc dederat mundo, tellus uicina Peloro,
Abstulit hæc eadem, munus auara suum:
Florentemq; noua iuuenem uirtute repentè,
Succidit, misero, mors inimica, mihi.
An'ne igitur grates referam, pro munere tanto:
Carminibus Siculum littus, ad astra ferens?
An'ne gemam potius simul, indignerq; rapinam?
Flebo? Nihil, miseris, dulcius est gemitu.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IACOBO MESSANENSI, S. Epist. V.

Obitum amici conqueritur.

POst Thomã meum, fateor, mori uolui, nec potui, speraui, sed elusus sum, nec ignoro, quid si hoc audiat, responsurus sit Anneus Seneca. Frustrà scilicet optaui, quod in manu positum nostra sit. Ego uerò in multis hominis ingenium probans, ab eodem tamẽ, in multis & præsertim in hac præcipiti ac temeraria opinione, dissentio, quam non solum nostris, sed Philosophorum quoq; gentilium testimonijs, & auctoritate conuincere, nõ operosa disputatio esset, sed modò non id agimus. Igitur ut ad rem ueniam, infœlicissimis rumoribus affecto, & optima mei parte amissa, uitam sine illo uere solitariam, atq; anxiam peroso, peropportuna febris affuit, qua duce, lætus usq; ad ipsum limen mortis accessi, sed cum transire uellem, in foribus scriptum erat. Noli adhuc, nondum uenit hora tua: continui gradum, & repulsus inde mœstus ad uitam redij. Atq; ita sum, ut facilè cernentibus appareat, me inuitum uiuere, uiuo tamen, quòd omnes metuunt, solus sperans. & dolorem meum breuitate consolor. Scio enim quod mihi cum morte fœdus, quòd cum carne commercium, utinam sic mihi, quantulumcunq; uitæ superest, cõtingat agere, ut omnibus horis, in promptu, & (ut dici solet) in numerato habeam, quod debeo, sitq; quod ait Psalmista: Anima mea in manibus meis semper. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNÆ, S. Epist. VI.

Super morte fratris amicum consolatur.

VRget dolor, hortatur charitas, ut scribã aliquid, sola desperatio profectus dehortatur. Credo enim, recentissimum adhuc animi tui uulnus, talibus auxilijs non egere, uincet dolor, uincet amor, cedet desperatio, insitæ deuotionis imperio damnatum, sæpius & abiectum reuertor ad calamũ. Sic enim, & si nihil amplius, interim uaporabit iste, qui me intus urit, & prægrauat calamitosæ mentis affectus, atque utinam mœrori tuo, non intempestiuus, & inopportunus consolator accesserim. Scio ... sos à Tyberio principe Iliensium legatos, quibus, cùm ad eum consolandum, in morte filij aliquanto serius uenissent, mandatis expositis, respondit: Etiam illorum uicem ipse dolere, quod egregium ciuem Hectorem amisissent. Sed non ea tibi mens est, neq; hi mores, notissima tua est pietas, peruulgata humanitas, non in tuos modò, sed in omnes. Itaq; non sum nescius, quot gemitus, tam fortasis uel animi uirtute compressos, uel tractu temporis prorumper absterso, hoc sim ... aturus alloquio. Nunquam etenim casum tuum uerbis extenuare ... tabo, illud potius fatebor, nullum ex omnibus, quos ego quidem uiderim, de quibus audierim, aut legerim, plus unius morte ... amisisse. Vide quantũ lachrymis indigeo, & quàm latum suspirijs iter pando, dum extirpandis si dabitur, totius morbi radicibus

[illegible] Iam intentus. Fluant interim quacunq; libet, dum meminerint, iisdem mox tramitib. [illegible] non licere amplius niti, &, qui luctuosarum mentium mos est, alias atq; alias do-lorinmulas [illegible]quirere. Magnam igitur in primis, quandam & insignem iacturam accidisse tibi uideo, talis & tàm dilecti fratris interitu. Verum tunc ego, infinitā & inextimabilem iu-dicarem, quādo mors illum extinxisset, & nō spatio modici temporis separasset, atqui dum hic [illegible]erat, quantulam uitæ suæ particulā sub oculis tuis egit? Computa oro tempora, quod au[illegible]dissime faci[illegible]nt amantes, & ab ultima repetēs infantia, usq; ad hanc ætatem, memori ani-mo percurre. Iam ille procul à patria genitus, & sub illo gloriosissimo patris exilio produ-ctus [illegible]cem, primos uagitus edidit in terra longinqua, spectatæq; indolis puer, tenerioris uitæ annos, uel sine te, uel si tecum egit, ea tamen erat amborū ætas, quæ nec ueri iudicij ca-pax est, & solidi a[illegible]oris fundamenta non recipit. Ita uel semper eatenus absens fuit, uel ab-senti simillimus. Mox [illegible]bi adolescentiæ fines attigit, incredibili quodam amore literarum, quarum aut temereq[illegible]quam fuit appetentior, nunc per Italiam, nunc per Gallias, longè la-teq; peregrinatus e[illegible]dum anhelans, ac per diuersa terrarū generosam sitim satagens ex-tinguere omnibus fermè studiorum fontibus immergitur, usq; ad uirilem ætatem, sponta-neum ipse sibi indixit exilium. Post hęc sola uirtutis admiratione facillimè dispensante, ante annos ad Episcopatum est prouectus, quem sic gessit, ut tantum uirum, non altiori solio se-dentē cernere, cunctos bonos puderet, præter eum ipsum, qui ab omni ambitionis, aut aua-ritiæ ardore liberrimus, & sorte sua lætus, Episcopalem gradum insigniter honestabat, atq; altiorem non modò non optabat ascensum, quin potius detestabatur atq; oderat, & uelut præcipitij sedem, illud supremæ fortunæ fastigium perhorrebat. Cuius rei, cùm totius uitæ tenor, atq; unus semper secretioris textus eloquij, in quo celsum illum, ac tranquillum ani-mum uidebamus, tum præcipuè testis est, grauitatis ac modestiæ, contemptusq; terrenarū rerū, plena epistola, quā manu propria nouissimis uitæ suæ temporib. ad te scripsit. Quamq; dum relego, nunq; sine iucundis lachrymis facio. Est enim apud me, quę illius & custodia, & responso dignū credidisti, nunc etiā, & præsentē spectare, & uiuas uoces audire mihi ui-deor, nec magnoperè ullas requirere Philosophorū scholas, tàm plenè ibi paucissimis uer-bis absoluit, quæ ad sobrietatē pertinēt, & ad beatā uitā, atq; inter cætera, mirū dictu, cum de eo [illegible]ttollēdo altiùs assiduè agerēt, religiosissimo iureiurādo interposito affirmat, se supra q̃ credi posset, rebus suis esse contentū, nec ullo pacto altiùs ascensuiū, & in quo tunc erat sta-tu mori se, non sperare tantum, sed optare. Ascendisset aūt uel inuitus, quo eum & sangui-nis claritas, & merita trahebant, nisi olim quæ mentes curialiū possidet, obstitisset inuidia, & nunc postq; ea, iam gloriæ ac uirtuti cesserat, uirentissimæ iuuentutis cursum, medio callè mors obuia præuertisset. Sed ad ordinem reuertor. Factus Episcopus, cōmissi muneris exa-ctissimam curam habens, te quàm primum relicto, ad sedem propriam maturauit, nec eum tanta rerum, locorumq; mutatio exterruit. Inter Romanas opes ac delitias, enutritus, ad Py reneos saltus, serenissima fronte & æquissimo animo transiuit: ita ut aduentu eius non tàm sua, quàm locorū facies mutata, nec tàm ipse in Vasconiā, quàm Vasconia omnis in Italiam transisse uideretē. Quòd iter ego secum egi, & me fœlicem recordatio sola facit, dum memi-ni, & mansuetudinē, in ea fortuna, & humilitatē in illis tot naturę dotibus, & honestatem in ea specie corporis admirandā. Denique dum in animū redit illa cærimoniarū omniū iugis in-tegritas, atq; illa iuuenis pontificis optanda potiùs senibus, quàm speranda grauitas, sicubi errantem audieris, interrumpe. Toto quidem illo tempore germanū amantissimū nō uidi[illegible]t, at inde rediens, subsistit forsasse, usurus aliquando fratris exoptatissimo cōuictu, sperasse quidem id illum reor. Nam optasse certus sum, sed ea quæ actus hominū dispensat, domina prohibuit fortuna. Siquidē & domus, & patriæ laboribus, ac uocibus excitatus, Romā co-actus est petere, quò & ego qui tunc longè aberā, ipsum (ut scis) dulciter euocantē, te [illegible]x tandē permittente secutus sum. Credo id agente Deo, ut geminæ uirtutis mirator ac te[illegible]is, pace, belloq; illius prouidentissimi pectoris cōsilijs interessem. Septennio in patriā exacto, ea pietate, eaq; animi cōstantia, ut reliquiarū suarum illum unicū seruatorē Roma recogno-scat, & q̃ in cineres nō tota corruerit, illius etiā nunc cinerib. se debere fateatur, ad cōspectū tuū nou[illegible]ssimè remeauit. Neq; amplius substitit, q̃ ut tibi supre[illegible]ū Aue simul & Vale dice ret. [illegible]icò eñ & desertæ sedis uiduitatem miseratus, & solitudin[illegible]auidus, q̃ diuturnis popu lorum concursibus cōpensare decreuerat, aliqñ sibijpsi uicturus, qui patriæ uixerat, & ami-cis. Rursus ad Episcopatū suum sese cōtulit, ubi multa cum honestate degē[illegible], & sicut antea cæte[illegible]rū, [illegible]c tunc sui ipsius uictor, uitā suam Deo, & hominibus exemplariter comendauit.

Anno ſibi tandem uix peracto, iuuenis admodū, ab huius uitæ tempe[illegible]s, ad qui[illegible] [illegible]tam, & ad fœliciora regna translatus eſt. Recognoſce mecum ſingula, P[illegible] optime, nec [illegible] germano colloqui pigeat, cum illo, qui in fratre tuo decus ſuū ſibi præreptū luget, & tamen (quod infantibus prolapſis nutrices ſolēt) pòſt tàm grauem caſum, animo ſuo mœrenti, hæc uerborū admin[illegible]cula qualiacunq; cōquirit. Recenſe mecū, igitur fraternæ uitæ tempus [illegible] ue[illegible]m, ætatis [illegible]lū anguſtiſsimā portiunculā, tecum exegiſſe, teq; germanā eius dulce[illegible], ſemper in tran[illegible]tu, & uix ſummis (ut aiunt) labijs deguſtaſſe, fateberis, & [illegible] hactenus nō luxiſti iam tandē lugere deſinito. Eg[illegible] tamē hinc intelligo, & ſcio, fecit enim me taliū expertū, crebra mortis iniuria, ſcio quid m[illegible]hi nunc, in ſilentio uulneratus, & ulceroſus a[illegible]mus reſpondet. Tu'ne mihi mortis, & abſentiæ parem conditionem argume[illegible]taris? Atqui abſ[illegible]tē reuidere cum [illegible]eſiderio ſperabā, ubi'nam degeret nouerā, aſsiduis[illegible] rumorib. onus ſolabar abſentiæ. Nunc uerò, & ſolamen illud, & ſpes omnis intercidit. M[illegible] a[illegible], fateor, nihil omninò morte ſimilius, q; abſentia uideret, niſi in morte certiora quæ [illegible]atia reperirē. Vtraq; quidē corpore ſegregat, animo neutra diſiungit. Verum ſuſpēdit a[illegible]tia & ſemper anxias mentes habet, quibus mors omnē ſuperuacuā curā demit. Quis em̄ [illegible]ratres al[illegible]ſentes, præſertim uel amicos habere, & ſecurus eſſe poterit, ni[illegible] qui caſuū humanorū omninò neſcius, fortunæ uim atq; inconſtantiā, nō attendit? De ſe alij uiderint, ego quidē ex quo hic ſum, nunquam meorū literas, niſi tremens, & pallidus accepi: & poſtq; omnes bene ualere nunciatū eſt, adhuc curis nō exoneror. Quis enim me certum facit, ne dum per alpes ac maria ad manus meas ſcripta peruenerit, aliquid forſan inciderit aduerſi, qd in ictu oculi fieri ſolet, nec pudebit apud te familiariter gloriari, multū me in hoc temporis, ac ſtudij poſuiſſe, ut aduerſus repētinos caſus armatū, ac præparatū animū haberē: utq; ad id, ſi quo modo poſſem peruenirē, quod ait Seneca: Sapiens ſcit ſibi omnia reſtare: quicquid factū eſt dicit, ſciebā. Ego uerò, cum in alijs innumerabilibus, tùm in hoc præcipuè ſentio, me nec eſſe ſapientē, quod uſq; ad hoc tempus, hanc unā ſarcinā prorſus deponere nullo ſtudiò ualuerim, iſtā ſollicitudinem tibi mors eripuiſſe debuit: &, niſi magnitudine animi tui fallor, eripuit. Scis ubi frater tuus eſt, & qualiter ſibi eſt, neq; iam ſtatus ſui ueritatē ſolitā pertimeſcis, ſi iuſtitia, ſi fides, ſi pietas, ſi charitas uiā ſternit ad ſuperos, ſi terrenis laqueis, expedita mens, liberiore [illegible] tollitur uolatu. Si bonis & benè creatis ſpiritibus, ſedes ultima, & æterna cœlū eſt, illuc [illegible]trem tuū aſcendiſſe cōfidimus, & ſi qua eum mortalitatis noſtræ cōtagia, quod profectò nō ſuſpicor, retardaſſent, in uia eſt, & iam ſolitus, atq; alacer feſtinat ad patriā. Cęterùm ubicunque eſt, ſæpè ad te oculos reflectit, oratq;, ne fœlicisſimā profectionem eius, gemitibus tuis impedias. Nec te uidendi fratris deſideriū torquere debet, uidebis eum ſuo tempore, multò anguſtiorē ſolito, multoq; lætiorē. Quid ni, cum ego adhuc eum uidere nō deſperē? Alioquin fateor incōſolabiliter angere. Quis enim mihi Catholico quāuis peccatori, ſpem negauerit, quā gentiles homines habuiſſe cōperio? intelligis quid uelim. De Catone loquor & Socrate, quorum in hac parte ſentētias annotare nō attinet, quas multò tibi notiores arbitror eſſe, q; mihi. Nō igitur mors auferre, ſed differre potuit fraterni uultus aſpectū, quem ſi licet in perpetuū abſtuliſſet, nō tamē immoderati luctus, uiro digno eſſet occaſio. Nā ſiue illum defles, uitæ laborib. ac periculis liberatū, & uide, oro, ne inuidentiæ potiùs dici poſsint, q; cōpaſsionis lachrymæ, ſiue teipſum tāto præſidio ſpoliatū, & dulciſsimo, iucundiſsimoq; comite in medio peregrinationis huius calle deſertū dicis. Et uera quidē, ſed nequaq; ſufficiens cauſa eſt, ut egregios animos propriæ calamitatis afflictione deijciat. Accedit, quod damni tui memoria, quotiēs ante oculos mētis redit, totiens diuinæ liberalitatis admoneat æquiſsimū eſt. Ingratus em̄ eſt, qui ablati memor, obliuiſcitur accepti. Proinde ubi animū pupugit acerba illa cogitatio: Heu qualē fratrē amiſi, leniat illa iucundior. O' quantū fratrē habui, imò uerò quantū fratrē habeo, & in æternū habebo. Licet ille donec ſibi ſimul, & mihi, & patriæ, & mundo neceſſariū fuit, breuē hic morā traxerit, dum uerò ſibi uni expedientius eſſe cœpit, ab his malis ſeparari, eripuerit illū Deus ei ſcilicet cōſuiens, & nō nobis. Imò forſan & nobis. Quis em̄ ſufficit abditas, & imperſcrutabiles dominæ præſciētiæ cauſas, aut exitus cōtemplari? Dicēte, niſi fallor, Apoſtolo: Senſum dn̄i quis nouit? Aut quis conſiliarius eius fuit? Quis'nā hominū iudicare audeat, an cuicunq; mortē alterius deplorāti, nō ſatis propriè dici poſsit, qd in tabellis reddito reſpōſo, patri olim in morte filij dictū eſt tribus uerſiculis:

Ignaris, homines in uita, mentibus errant.
Euthynous potitur fatorum numine leto.
Sic fuit melius extingui ipſiq;, tibiq;.

Calcitrat

[illegible] humana [illegible], & implent [illegible] to superbiæ suæ [illegible] ob- [illegible] ut [illegible] lucem [illegible] at. Quid enim ego nunc de [illegible] [illegible] quem loquar [illegible] ueritas a [illegible] [illegible] aut [illegible], cæci cæcis [illegible] ur. Nec [illegible] tandem [illegible] agn [illegible] edelectemus a [illegible] emus. [illegible] sententia e [illegible] detur, quod non [illegible] nos, & n [illegible] committ [illegible] habemus, [illegible] æquanimiter [illegible] exire u [illegible] nostros exeuntes aspicere: [illegible] us, quàm ut inter mundi [illegible] ludibria, fo [illegible] perpetuo [illegible] tenacissimo limo, ac sordibus [illegible] mus. Q [illegible] fectò nõ [illegible] rum multiforme peric [illegible] m. Breuis [illegible] uidem in primis ui [illegible] uitæ tempus rerum humanarum inquietum ad [illegible] flatibus, & [illegible] & uix hom [illegible] us accessibiles portus, scopuli u [illegible] me- [illegible] prorsus am [illegible] gatio est. Iam uix uni [illegible] exercet, in omnes grad [illegible] ta ut quiduis obuium [illegible] agilis nostræ mortalitatis a [illegible] & po [illegible] [illegible] hæc, nobis, aut nostris longius [illegible] am [illegible] am. Imò, ut uerius dicam, lo [illegible] [illegible] Fingatur aliquis tàm benigno sydere, tàm propitia fortuna, tàm deniq; fauen- te Deo iter hoc ingressus, ut nihil ei possit asperum, molestiumq; contingere. Rem impossi- bilem, & inauditam [illegible] singi iubeo, nec ideo tamẽ, quamuis periculum absit, aberit me- [illegible] circo fortasse non intoxicius, nec [illegible] foret, modò nostri esset arbitrij. Sic cu[illegible] [illegible] uore suspecto, nautæ solent circum [illegible] flectere, diuq; ante solis occasum uela [illegible] mittere. Sic in uita portum petere [illegible] florenti ætate atq; animo ualenti, & ua'enti- bus membris, mori prius, quàm eò p [illegible] um sit. Quò saltem uita longior perducit, ad ul- [illegible] mas scilicet angustias senectutis, inter quas a [illegible] quidam, & uixisse dolet, & m [illegible] [illegible] ous exoptatum tempus accusant [illegible] quid uelint, & quid nolint, ne [illegible] [illegible] cordia. Hæc & his similia, cogita [illegible] itinere decet, nec decretu [illegible] este [illegible] [illegible] tiam accusemus, alioquin pro nobisipsis tantummodò, conquer [illegible] uide [illegible] [illegible] enim non dubito, sacræ memoriæ fratrem tuum, nec plus [illegible] quàm [illegible] cesse [illegible] fuerit, nec minus & opportuno tempore reuocatum. Et si multis inter quos [illegible] misero, diu antequàm uellemus, aut suspicaremur, abscesserit. Piget opinari in te, ne dicam [illegible] illos mollissimos plebeiarum gentium affectus. Vt quid tàm longè positum [illegible] [illegible] ulit, quare patrio caruit sepulchro, cui uidere non contingit expirantem? Qualia apud Pociam etiam ille uir fortis, sed nimis semper pronus ad lachrymas uidetur lamentari.

—— te amice nequiui

Conspicere, & patria decedens ponere terra.

Vulgata non ingeram, nec quanta sit terræ totius exiguitas Geometricis demonstrationi- bus utar ostendere, quod undecunq; digressio, una est ad cœlum uia, quod non solum om- ne solum forti patria est, sed omne homini natale solum. Quis enim ista non nouit? Illud po- tius dicam, utrumq; consulto diuinam statuisse prouidentiam. Primùm scilicet, ut duabus longe licet imparibus urbibus, ab eo dum uixit singulariter exornatis, ambæ quidẽ defun- [illegible] utiliter partirentur. Et Roma sui ciuis perpetuam & immortalem famã, Lombar[illegible] ecclesia, ueneranda pontificis ossa seruaret, nullum, nisi illorum augurio, celebrio-em [illegible] [illegible] lum omnibus seculis [illegible] bitura: si tamẽ id illum proprium ac perpetuum p[illegible] feceris. A [illegible] enim te de transferendis Romam reliquijs cogitare, quod suadere, nec de [illegible] uadere [illegible] est, ne illum aut Vrbi, in qua triuis, aut Ecclesiæ in qua canonicus sum, inuide [illegible] [illegible] cundum, ut uno ex nobis [illegible] antè, qui abeuntis amplexus, supremaq; uerba percip [illegible] terorum luminibus parceretur, quoniam sicut experimento deprehensum est, mi [illegible] aurium, quàm oculorum uulnera. Longior sum in hoc sermone, quàm oportet [illegible] [illegible] insulsus, armis longe ualidioribus instructũ, nihil in eo, quòd laudes, præter [illegible] [illegible] pero. Sit uerbo iam finis, conquiescant gemitus, arescant lachrymæ, sileant lamen [illegible] fratrem tuum mortuum existimare, uiuit enim. At nos [illegible] tidie morimur, nec [illegible] [illegible] mortem, O cæcitas, ueræ uitæ principium form [illegible] amus. [illegible] itaq; no [illegible] [illegible] onibus tuis, & colloquijs int [illegible] la tua, illud pu [illegible] minime [illegible] quod plenẽ in luctuosis domibus obser [illegible] nomen, ceu triste al-

quid abhorrentes, imò uero nunc resonet glori[illegible] d nome[illegible] rum, apud te a[illegible] es a[illegible] præ[illegible] ertim, q[illegible] a inui[illegible] lam, quæ [illegible] sequ[illegible] me[illegible] ltos, quos do[illegible] ac[illegible] fecerat c[illegible] m[illegible] biles bu[illegible] lee[illegible], quid de [illegible] c f[illegible] s & [illegible] a fe[illegible] præclari[illegible] t [illegible] a. E[illegible] uid superlatiuo [illegible] s, mo[illegible] ꝙ præclar[illegible] e etiam [illegible] a[illegible] s, [illegible] n mi[illegible] sed in P[illegible] s meis [illegible] puen[illegible] t [illegible] atꝙ [illegible] ti o p[illegible] cul[illegible] e [illegible] um [illegible] n[illegible] um [illegible] æ. [illegible] e infœlix, [illegible] s L[illegible] bdunt tandem, i[illegible] m[illegible] s syllabis int[illegible] eio [illegible] m[illegible] nus tuus fœl[illegible] cit[illegible] hinc ab[illegible]. Nunc [illegible] uiuit fœli[illegible] eo pieno ore proferen[illegible] c[illegible] nicatis P[illegible] uerbum [illegible]:

Non sit morte miser

Eleganter. Alioquin omnes qui nati sunt miseri, quiꝗ omnib[illegible] po[illegible] unum hoc iterum, & iterum admoneo, quosdam uiros egreg[illegible] canda non credidi, nulla re amplius laudat[illegible] quod suo[illegible] runt. Quod tibi eo studiosius aduertendu[illegible] iam si circunspici[illegible] is a[illegible] in exemplum trahi, te in eminenti specula [illegible] m, atꝙ in te omnium oculos e[illegible] defixos. Hoc tibi laboriosum decus, & ampl[illegible] imi generis maiestas, & retroactæ uitæ m[illegible] tio pepererе. Vale.

FRAN. PETRA[illegible] A LAELIO SVO, S. Epist. VII.

[illegible] deplorat.

NImia uiximus Læli[illegible] char[illegible] endum fuerat, antequàm præriperet [illegible] Deus benignissimum do[illegible] genusaimum patrem nostrum, u[illegible] mundo, nobis necessarium, [illegible] m, longæui patris baculum. Solamen sororum, fratrum lætitiam, amicoru[illegible], hostiumꝗ terrorem, morum specimen, uirtutum templum, honestatis imaginem, literarum hospitem, studiorum [illegible] ingeniorum præconem, ac extimatorem [illegible] imum meritorum. Nulli inuid[illegible] claris uiris omnibus, pium, mitem, modes[illegible], sobrium, affabilem, cōstantem, f[illegible] largum, munificum, magnanimum, circunspectum. Heu mihi, laudans deficio, ne[illegible] quid tantis uirtutibus dignum loquar, aut amore decipior, aut ætate hac præradiantem, cōspicuam clari lucem, festinaræ nubes mortis obduxit: cuius nuncio accepto, quanta me miserum circumfuderit eclypsis, sensit cor meum, testes sunt oculi mei. Verum post parentis, & fratrū lachrymas, nullas uberiores arbitror esse quàm tuas: hoc mihi, & animi tui mansuetudo suggerit, & uetusta deuotio, in qua hæreditario iure succedens, & paternis finibus non contentus, longè, lateꝙ processeras. Heu quotiens, quantaꝗ dulcedine cogitabā diem illum, quem proximū opinabar, quo scilicet mitissimus eius literis obsecutus, & ab Apennino ia[illegible] Pyreneum transgressus, exoptatissimo eius conspectui improuisus assisterem, eiꝗ & Romanam laudeam, quam uertici meo (licet indignus) imprimo, quæꝗ iam ante uel audito [illegible] lo, qua[illegible] tæ sibi iucunditatis è longinquo materiam præmisisset, elegantissimum munus & ingenij sui carmen indicat. Insuper & noua Africę meæ fundamenta, duo parua quidem, sed deuota munuscula uenerabundus offerem, præuertit omnipotens desiderium meū, nec dignus fui, tàm lætum, & tàm fœlicem diem cernere. Quid uerò nunc consilij capiam? Quid de meipso statuam? Quid agam? Sæpè mecum hæc cum lachrymis loquor. Quo ire paras infœlix? [illegible] quem petebas abijt, quē sequeris? Aulam'ne fratris flebilē, & tanto splendore uidu[illegible] bustum ubi sepultæ sunt spes tuæ? Vtrobiꝙ [illegible] tiæ. Parum'ne tibi [illegible] s attol[illegible] calus, nisi gemitibus tuis obuiam pergas? Et uel hinc te mœrentem a[illegible] m[illegible] us immisceas, uel illinc superbi, Pontificis barbaricas deosculeris manus. Sic tum do[illegible] u literis, & affectui meo uela feceris, & consilij uagum firmaueris. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SENVTIO FLORENTINO, S. Epist. VIII.

Famulorum uitia describit.

TRia mihi seruorum paria, siue, ut modestiùs loquar, humilium amicorum, siue uerius, familiarium hostium domi sunt. Primum quidem sic affectum, ut alter[illegible] n[illegible] ia simplicitas, alterius sit periculosa calliditas, secundum sic, ut hunc [illegible] pu[illegible] h[illegible] redd[illegible] t [illegible] utilem tertium uerò [illegible] e ut huius furor, illius torpor, o[illegible] [illegible] ixta [illegible] ud S[illegible] rat[illegible] um à Cicerone relatum in epistolis. Alter frenis alter cal[illegible] at. Ego aūt has inter contrarietates, caligatorolim, nunc spectator sedeo,

nec

[illegible] mutari satis possim, qui seruorũ turbas, ceu gloriosum aliquid aspi[illegible] er, ab his quos pascunt, hoc est, à domesticis suffossoribus delectant. [illegible] m innotuisse sufficit, puto non expectas, ut deprecer, sicubi forsan hu[illegible], se ostendere [illegible] animus, ætas, mores, ab extremis æquo spatio distantes. Sci[illegible] dicam excellenter, sed tollerabiliter ista contigerint, non mihi seruũ e[illegible] sed amicum, sed dominum. Vereor tamen, ne Phœnicis [illegible] ione[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ar, quam non nisi quingentesimo a[illegible] renasci solitã, ac toto orbe [illegible] is in occidente positis incognitam [illegible] Vale.

[illegible] PETRARCHA THOMÆ MESSAN[illegible], S. Epist. IX.

De ueterum scriptis quid sentiendum.

D[illegible] quantum aures meas uulgari fessas strepitu, epi[illegible] a, bis, terq; relecta [illegible] t, quæ quanq; tibi uerbosa uideretur, ut ex fine co[illegible] oui, ego ta[illegible] præter breuiloquium accusaui. itaq; cõminationem illam ultimã, [illegible] ompendiosior sis futurus, inuitus aspexi, mallem prolixior es[illegible] [illegible] n te mihi, [illegible] morem gerere dignum est. Sed ita ne totum [illegible] m erit, an ignoras, [illegible] e consilio dissimilis est euentus. Audies for[illegible] uel [illegible] etiam auidum loqui coga[illegible] quod minitari uideor, iam nũc rebus impleã. [illegible] inprimis eandem me de te opinionem gerere, quã de Aristotele Macrobius, seu illã [illegible] u ueritas genuerit, uix te aliquid ignorare posse arbitror. Si quid autem uero aduer[illegible] sum tibi accidit, aut minus præuidisse, aut, q̃ de eodẽ sit idem, lusisse te suspicor. Nempè q̃d Hieronymo scribis, te illum sacrorũ doctorũ ex numero prætulisse, haud nouum est mihi, [illegible] s est iam, & latè cognitũ hoc iuditiũ tuum [illegible] dẽ frustrà de cõparatiuis litiges, ubi ad [illegible] latiuã peruentũ est, falli nõ potes. Optim[illegible], ac maximũ erit, quicquid elegeris, licet de hac te inter amicũ tuum claræ memoriæ Lomberiensem Episcopũ Iacobũ, & me crebro disceptatũ esse meminerim, illo per uestigia tua semper uno ore Hieronymũ, me uerò Augu[illegible] inter scriptores Catholicos præferente. Et sanè si neq; ueritatẽ, neq; te uercar offen[illegible] Pater quod sentio. Cum multa uaria & luminosa sint sydera, ut sit hic Iuppiter, [illegible] tus, hic lucifer, sol Ecclesiæ Augustinus est, sed hæc, ut dixi, haud magni momenti [illegible] niã & electio tura est, libera debẽt esse iuditia. At quod sequitur te inter mortal[illegible] [illegible] præferre, quis nõ stupeat, si tamen serio, perseueranterq; dictũ est, & nõ iocandi, tentandiq; animo, sic enim Valerius primus est. Quotus quæso Plato est? Quotus Aristoteles? Quotus Cicero? Quotus Anneus Seneca, quem in hac re magni quidẽ extimatores, omnibus prætulerunt, nisi illud fortè Platonẽ ac Tulliũ excludit, quod in epistolæ tuæ parte perlectũ noui, mihi stuporis causa fuit, ubi nescio, quid cogitãs illos, poëtas esse, & poëtarũ choris annumerari. Oportêre dixisti, quod si loquẽdo cõsequi potes, plus egeris fortasse, q̃ putas, secundo Apolline, & plaudentibus Musis, magnos duos incolas, umbrosis Parnassi collibus addideris. At quid, oro, te mouit, ut id opinareris, aut diceres, cum Tullius in prioribus libris summus Orator, in ultimis Philosophus illustris appareat? Sicut aũt ubiq; Virgilius Poëta, sic Tullius nusq̃ã, quoniã ut in declamationibus legimus, Virgiliũ illa fœlicitas ingenij oratione solùta reliquit, Ciceronem eloquentia sua in carminibus destituit. De Platone quid dicã, qui maximorũ hominũ consensu philosophiæ meruit principatũ? Cum Cicero & Augustinus, & alij qui plures, in omni sermone, ubi Aristotelem cæteris Philosophis præferũt, Platonẽ semper excipiãt, nõ intelligo quid Platonẽ faciat poëta, nisi unũ forte Panetij uerbũ à Tullio relatũ, qui Homerũ philosophorũ illũ uocat, quod nihil est aliud, q̃ philosophorum principem, ac talem inter eos, qualis inter poëtas est Homerus. Alio[illegible] quid ipsi Tullio dicemus, qui in epistolis ad Atticũ quodã loco, Platonẽ suum D[illegible] u[illegible] omnibus quidẽ modis id agunt, ut Platoni diuinitatẽ ingenij attribuãt, hinc & H[illegible] quod est expressius Dei nomẽ. Proinde sumpta hinc occasione, mira dulcedine [illegible] de rebus incognitis, in tractatũ poëtarũ tuius immergeris, quis qua ætate sit genitu[illegible] quisq; styli modũ, q̃ poëtandi genus, quem famæ gradũ teneat, longũ est singula pe[illegible] tàm multa nunq̃ alijs audita, nos oẽs discendi auidos facundis tuis literis docuisti. Q[illegible] fateri fari aliquid, nõ mihi, sed professioni meæ permittitur. Miror quid ita tibi Næu[illegible] P[illegible] [illegible] omẽ [illegible] gnotum est, ut quasi barbaricũ nescio quid locutũ [illegible] tes, q̃ eos literis ad [illegible] meis ins[illegible] & ausum (ut ait Flaccus) personã formare nouam, tacita licèt a[illegible] ne ca[illegible] ges. Ad[illegible] rupulosè enĩ in hac inquisitione uersaris, ut nihil restet, [illegible] emeritatẽ me[illegible] dem[illegible] nare, in scænã noua, & peregrina nomina producentẽ. Fremasti tamẽ impetũ, & tandẽ igno-

[illegible] tiam tuam culpare maluisti, urbanè quidem ac modestè, cæterùm [illegible] Aliud clamat, nisi fallor, intentio, prorsus mirabile, cū iam familiarē ha[illegible] ille enim iam statim à principio in ipsius Andriæ procemio & Næ[illegible] nio, eodē meminit uersiculo. In Eunucho & Næuij it[illegible] aut[illegible] Adelph[illegible] en lon[illegible] ecit, eorundē quoq; simul meminit Cicero in senectute, & Aul. Gel[illegible] s, ubi amborū epigrammata descr[illegible] sermone [illegible] etustissim[illegible] q[illegible] nquā Poëtriæ [illegible] e, absq; ill[illegible] ū nomini[illegible] & cum bona uenia pater o[illegible] o, ne in manus alienas [illegible] perue[illegible] est fama tua, eò sibi studiosius [illegible] lendū est. Mecum quidem [illegible] nia loqui potes, & quod secum d[illegible] acisti, mutare ac retractare [illegible] in uulgus dicta peruenerint, ea demum facultas eripitur & m[illegible] Ego epistolā tuam, ad te sub fida custodia remitto. & b[illegible] us exempla apud me manebit, nō ob aliā causam, nisi ut si quid adhuc res[illegible] xer[illegible] dum uerba uerbis cōfero, memoriā nō fatigem, unum præterea [illegible] ui, & [illegible] cis u[illegible] enim plena libertate, quando semel non cepisti [illegible] um: asser[illegible] & Statiu[illegible] Papinium coëtaneos fuisse. Quis te, oro, Pater in [illegible] chronographiam impulit? Quis te nunc ista poscebat? Atqui exactiùs hoc inquirer[illegible] enies Ennium sub Africano maiore, Statium aliquot seculis interiectis, sub Domitian[illegible] principe floruisse. Habes quibus [illegible] fallor, & respondere uelis, & tàm breuiter, ut putabas non possis, unum adderem, si bona [illegible] de ueniam dares, quod olim dum in Vasconiæ partibus adolescens agerem, uerecundè quidē, ut illam ætatem decuit, tibi scripsisse rec[illegible] um uulgaribus scriptis tuis offendere, quæ [illegible] d eum, cuius suprà memini, Iacobum de [illegible], interdum ea tempestate mittebas, c[illegible] me amor, sicut in eas terras traxerat, sic in A[illegible] piam traxisse. Sed tunc penè puerulu[illegible] qu[illegible] uxdum ferulæ manum subduxerā, tempus est, ut iam uirilis oratio mea sit. Ita tamen [illegible] dixi, si tu ueniam dederis, quid ais? Rides puto, benè habet, ueniam tribuisti. Audi er[illegible] Pater & uide, & inclina aurem tuam, ne qua externa auris intercueniat. Tibi enim loquor [illegible] te rerum tuarū iudicem statuo, quæ accusare uideor, alijs accusantibus defensurus, ne[illegible] ignarus nimis, acrimoniosam, & insolentem [illegible] ad Patrem Epistol[illegible] m, repreben[illegible] deri sed amor audaciam excuset, ita enim mihi clarū nomen, non populiaris auræ f[illegible] sed uirtute contingat. Vt ab ineunte ætate singularis quædā mihi tui nominis c[illegible] ra [illegible] me loqui cogit, ne si ego tacuerim idem ab alijs audias. Vel, quod metuendum magis est, ta[illegible] cito iudicio lacereris, & quidam iniqui rerum arbitri, amplissimum ingenium tuum, e[illegible] quibus ludens te includis, peregrinæ facultatis angustijs metiantur. Animaduerti en[illegible] in scriptis tuis, omni studio ut appareas niti. Hinc ille discursus, per ignota uolumina, si[illegible] guli[illegible] aliq[illegible] id decerpens rebus tuis interseras. Plaudunt tibi discipuli, & omniscium [illegible] cant innumerabilium auctorum nominibus attoniti, quasi omnium, quorum titulos tenes, & notitiam [illegible] is ad[illegible]: docti autem facilè discernūt, quid cuiusq; proprium, quid alienum sit: & rursus quid m[illegible] uum, quid precarium, quid furtiuum, quid è medio haustum, quid à pr[illegible] ereunte delibatum. Memoriam ostentare puerilis est, gloria uiro, ut ait Seneca, captare flo[illegible] culos [illegible] urpe est, quippe quem fructu deceat gaudere, non floribus. Tu uerò in hac ætatis parte, uenerabilis, & in tua professione clarissimus, imò, ut nō semper pungam, sed interdum ungam, solus sine exemplo nostri temporis, earum quibus es deditus literarum princeps. Nescio quo iuuenili animo, dimissis finibus tuis, in alienis pratis ociosus, & uagās inclinata iam die, inter legendis flosculis tempus teris. Placet ignota tentare, ubi sæpe uiam nō inueniens, aut uageris, aut corruas. Placet illorum sequi, uestigia qui scientiam quasi merci[illegible] monium aliq[illegible] od ante fores explicant, cùm interim uacua domus sit. Certe tutum est, ad id [illegible] ti[illegible] niti, ut sis aliquid plusquàm uideris, operosa semper & periculosa iactantia est, adde [illegible] cum magnus uideri uoles, innumerabilia incident, quæ te non modò ueram ad men[illegible] edigent, sed infrà etiam contrahent. Vni ingenio satis est, unius studij gloriam mere[illegible] [illegible] itarū titulis artiū superbiunt, aut diuini homines sunt, aut impudentes, aut insani[illegible] [illegible] iam aut Græcorum, aut nostrorū, id præsumpsisse memoratur? Nouus mos, noua [illegible] s, glori osas inscriptiones præ se ferunt, propter quas (ut ait Plinius) uadimonium [illegible] po[illegible] at[illegible] um intrauens, dij, deæq;, & nihil in medio inueniens. Tu igitur (si quid mihi [illegible] e[illegible] fl[illegible] us[illegible] te[illegible] tus, noli illos imitari, qui omnia pollicentur, nihil præstāt. Fa[illegible] rectando [illegible] tacq; (ut ait Comicus) intelligendo, nihil intelligāt. Græcū ue[illegible] rouerbium est. Quam quisq; nouit artem, in hac se exerceat. Vale.

FRAN.

[illegible] RARCHA THOMÆ MESSANENSI, S. Epist. X.

De an[illegible] authorum scriptis.

S[illegible] libertas [illegible] peper[illegible], ueritas odium, admonitio fastidium, sed quid [illegible] non rede[illegible], blandior fuissem, si te blandit[illegible]s delectari crederem, [illegible] uel seuerit[illegible], & hu[illegible] m affectum, in uiro forti fœmineum, libe[illegible] nu[illegible] niā ut [illegible] deo [illegible] amic[illegible] inimica libertas est, [illegible] ce[illegible] d[illegible] perme[illegible] ubi si[illegible] m bilem mouet, loquar ergo, ne [illegible] se[illegible] t coactum [illegible] oueris. Primum ego [illegible] em feci, omnium [illegible] [illegible] euem fers, errasse me in qu[illegible] in multis, in om[illegible] e[illegible] quàm te, eo quod appar[illegible] omnis in luce deformitas, & er[illegible] [illegible] men e[illegible] aliquid, quod amplius requiram, ades ergo, ad tribu[illegible] m[illegible] o[illegible] s opus est, solus, sed tu Hieronymum pr[illegible] fers Au[illegible]stin[illegible] [illegible] ffers iudicij ratione, profiteor me non intelligere. Quid enim q[illegible], nō te illum [illegible] opterea prætulisse, quia sit maior. Sed qu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] uodam [illegible] probasse te dicis disputatione longissi[illegible], quàm [illegible] isses. Sed profe[illegible] io pepercisti, uel epistolæ. Quòd tamen ad rei probationem præcipu[illegible], hoc scilicet Augustini [illegible] us auctoritate [illegible] Sed an ignoras, quòd in gene[illegible] rmone, persona loquētis excipitur. Quid uerò [illegible] Augustini aperta cōfessio est, sibi Hieronymū præferentis? Quis nō uidet, quid [illegible] debeat? hoc in quā, [illegible] est in quo [illegible] us sacratissimæ animæ testimonio nō sta[illegible], cui insitum scio, ut de alijs gloriosè, de se [illegible] liter & loquatur, & sentiat. Ego quid[illegible] [illegible] tui uoli laboris palmā, in Ecclesia A[illegible] dabam, haud pertinaciter tamen, uelut [illegible] nec opinioni, nec sectæ, nec homini[illegible] sum addictus, ut abire nō possim ueri[illegible] comperta, hoc apud M. Tullium, hoc a[illegible] um patrem Augustinū didici, quod ipse apud eundem Tullium se didicisse non negat. Nam apud Horatium Flaccum:

Nullius iurare in uerba magistri,

[illegible] idē didiceram. Quanti aūt ista sint, ipse non dissimulas, qui hac defensionis parte de[illegible] [illegible] x ad aliam euadis, dicens omnibus [illegible] is, omninò nihil est. Quod te in hanc op[illegible] traxerit, nisi indignā quandā & singul[illegible] em erga Hieronymū ingratitu[illegible] inē Italorū, [illegible] lud unicū patrocinīū causæ tuæ? Hoc est, inquam, illud mihi nulla ex parte intelligi[illegible] um intelligibile argumentū. Quæ'nam enim hæc ingratitudo est? sumus, fateor, non erga [illegible] os tantum, sed erga sanctorū dominum ingrati, quæ'nam Hieronymo singularior, quā [illegible] ijs quærimoniæ causa est? aut quæ'nam potiùs Italorū culpa, quàm hominū: cum nec [illegible] Italus origine, & sæpiùs in oriēte uersatus sit. Versa te pater hâc illa, ratio, ut arbitror, nō [illegible] sufficiens, probare quòd intendis, nisi forte qui rationis uice fungitur, instinctus animi tacitus, & pia magis, quàm ex amussim trucidata deuotio. Verum ista præteruehor, tam sacra enim nomina disputatiunculis peccatoris obsolefieri, ac quodammodo prophanari, sacrilegio simillimū reor: itaque iam tacere de his cōsultius fuerit. Nam pre[illegible] rerum cōtricatio atque collisio, periculosa est. Ad Platonem ac Ciceronem transeo, quos tu ob duas fabulas, morum doctrina, & (ut de altera Macrobius testatur) tripartitæ philosophiæ integritate perfectas, ac procul ab omni metrorū lege, in medijs politicæ, ac rerum publicarū libris insertas, poëtas facere niteris. Frustrà Macrobius idem ambos excusat, aduersùs insultant[illegible] non debere fabulam à philosopho confingi. Ego quidē gratulor, & hos Aristotelem, & Se[illegible]necam, & Varronem (si fieri posśit) in agmine poëtarū cernere, quod forte non ineptius, de horum quolibet, quàm de Platone & Tullio dici posset. Nam & Aristoteles poe[illegible] de poëtis, & Varro Satyrarum libros edidit, Seneca autem Tragœdias, quæ apud [illegible] profectò, uel primùm, uel primo proximum locum tenent. Sed cur, quæso, non & h[illegible]nes fecisti, quoniam aliquid forsan in uita ludicrum dixerunt, aut fecerunt? Præser[illegible] lius, cuius tàm multa quæ risum moueant, scripta sunt, in Saturnalibus, cum Tyro [illegible] eius, de patroni iocis librum scripserit. Cur non piscatores aut remiges, aut [illegible] quia forsan, aut hami iactu, aut remi tractu, in solitudine positi, animum relaxaru[illegible] [illegible] ru mihi castrensem morem, scholis inferre, ut sicut unum duellum, Torquatos at[illegible] nos fecit, sic una oratio poëtam faciat, perseuerantia requiritur. Vnus actus habi[illegible] non inducit. Hæc hactenus. Nam de Ennio ac Statio, in ultima epistola nulla mentio erat, credo [illegible] numerum in digitos reduxisti, postremò ad illum longum atque cont[illegible]nuum [illegible] tu[illegible] textum, ubi omnibus modis efficere studes, ut iniuste m[illegible] uidear,

quod ingenio tuo nihil imperuium sit, nihil aliud dixerim, nisi quo[illegible] hanc de rebus opinionem habes. O te tuo qualicunque iudicio f[illegible]licem. O [illegible] & docere possis, & doceas, qua talia ipse mihi de me no[illegible] conflare [illegible] an melius sit interdũ, de errore gaudere, quàm semper de ueritate do[illegible]e. A[illegible] me uelut [illegible]ratæ militiæ desertorem arguis, quoniam cùm maximè florere inciperem [illegible] [illegible] Bononiamque dimiserim, expedita responsio est, qu[illegible]bi, & ci[illegible]tem ill[illegible] & [illegible]um singulariter illustranti, minimè ut arbitror placitura. Quoniam it[illegible]tis e[illegible] [illegible] totum silebo, quo factum meum tueri soleo. Fuit enim hæc mihi [illegible]o sæpe c[illegible]m [illegible] præcipuè cum Oldrado [illegible]densi iurisconsulto, nostra ætate clari[illegible]n est, [illegible]od salua concordia dici po[illegible] Nihil enim contra naturam [illegible] a[illegible]torem illa me genuit, nõ fori. Denique sic habeto, me aut nihil [illegible] q[illegible] magis puto, aut si quicquam hoc in primis, non audeo dicere sapi[illegible]citer fact[illegible] est, & quod Bononiam uidi, & quod non inhæsi. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ ME[illegible]SANENSI, S. [illegible] XI.

De sumptuum temperan[illegible] frugalitate.

Electari te lautitijs non miror, paucor[illegible]c domorum pestis olim hospita, omnium iugis incola est, nisi quarum [illegible]tas limen obstruit. Qua in re, no[illegible] rura paucis longè iucundius uictura, q[illegible] nimijs, sed consuetudo multum, m[illegible] toque magis peccat imitatio. Quis enim tam frenare modestiæ est, cuius non [illegible] oculos auertat, uicini sumptus nitor ac gloria, sed utile consilium est Plautini senis [illegible] laria pro re nitorem, & gloriam pro copia, cuius si meminissẽt homines, & profusis sumptibus, & iniquis lucris clauderetur uia, & m[illegible]tò tranquillius uiuerentur. Nunc cæcitate[illegible] cupiditas inuexit, & frenum rationis fregit [illegible]etus uoluntatis. Tu autem, oro quantum [illegible]tes [illegible]rere, ut rationis propriè sectator, po[illegible] quàm alienæ libidinis æmulator, appareas, [illegible]ge exempla pestifera, nimis malorum dociles animos habemus. Magister unus uoluptatis, magno in populo satis est, citò luxuriæ dat terga frugalitas, nisi cogitationũ nostrarũ aciem, ratio inuicta firmauerit, docens sequi uera bona, fucata contemnere, quid nunc uicinitu[illegible] purpureum latus, atque intermicantes crebra iaspide digitulos miraris? Phalerata [illegible] est, exue, hominem infœlicissimum non negabis. Latet sub auro calamitas: & quod ex[illegible]mum mali genus arbitror, inuidiosus simul & miser est. Concludam aliter, quàm c[illegible] Plautus Epidicum suum:

Hic (inquit) is est homo, qui libertatem malitia inuenit sua,

Imò uerò hic, malitia opes, potentiam & regum amicitias inuenit, se suamque libertatem perdidit. Habeat sibi sine inuidia multa illa, & uulgi iudicio permagna, tu tuis bonis, eoque præcipuè, quod ille perdidit fœlix ac contentus uiuito. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ MESSANENSI, S. Epist. XII.

Obscœnum amorem improbat.

Tibi quidem amicus, nõ moribus tuis sum, quid aũt de te, mihi deque tota tua re familiari uideatur, quũ rogas, uerissimè atque breuissimè, pro me Plautus absoluet, nõ nisi singulis uerbis ad singula. Primũ nõ mihi placet amor tuus, aĩæ põdus infaustum, obscœno igne perureris. Quæro aũt ex te, ut Plautinus seruus in Asinaria:

Num fumus est hæc mulier, quàm amplexare?

Si cur quæsierim interroges, quia oculi tui semper lachrymantes sunt, hęc tibi. Mulierculis [illegible]is, hoc unum quod in ea Comœdia cui Curgulio nomen est legisse potes:

Mulieres duas peiores esse quàm unam.

Seruo autem ill[illegible]d eiusdem Poëtæ in Epidico:

Nimis doctus ille ad malefaciendum.

Hoc ex me addito. Nimis tu facilis ad credendum, nimis pronus ad obsequendum. Hæc a[illegible] [illegible] falsa sunt, dictum meum argue, sin uera, mores tuos corrige. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ MESSANENSI, S. Epist. XIII.

Confeßionem erroris emendationis spem habere.

Quod obiectum ab amico crimen non negas, facis ingenuè, magnam emendationis uitæ spem pręfert erroris proprij uerecunda confessio, quod autem de seruo tuo taces, cautè quidem, quippè quem accusare non potes, at quòd mulierculas t[illegible] excusas, u[illegible]banitatis ineptè uel cæci iudicij dixerim, tu uideris, quid de il[illegible]is [illegible]end[illegible] putes, quarũ alterã optimã, alterã tolerabilẽ dicis. Ego illud Plauti in Aulularia uero ppinquius reor. Optimã fœminã nullã esse. Alia licet, alia peior sit, Vale.

FRAN.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS FAMILIARIBVS,

LIBER V

[illegible] PETRARCHA BARBATO S[illegible]NSI, S. Epist. I.

De obitu Regis d[illegible]

V[illegible] uerebar accidit, quod timebam patior, in do[illegible]rem metus, uo[illegible]ge[illegible]tum abiere, non multo antequam præagir[illegible], deseruit nos inclytus ille Rex noster, cuius & si matura ætas esset, tamen peracerba mo[illegible] est, & heu, me miserum, Barbate optime, quam uereor, ne [illegible] præsagia confirmet euentus, quæ mih[illegible] sugge rit, anxius, [illegible] suorum semper nimis cer[illegible]tes animus meus, ita me [illegible] iunioris, nouiq; regis adolesc[illegible]tia, ita me Reginæ alterius ætas ac p[illegible]situm, ita me tandem teruitant aulicorum ingenia, & mores, [illegible]ax hic utinam sim propheta, sed agnos duos, multorum custo[illegible] luporum creditos uideo, regnumq; si ne [illegible]ge. Nam quid ego, eum qui ab alio t[illegible]gem dicam, mul[illegible]orumq; sæuitiæ exposi[illegible]taq; si quo die Plato rebus humanis e[illegible]ol cœlo cecidisse uisus est, quid illo mo[illegible] uideatur, & qui Plato alter ingenio f[illegible]eguin nulli aut sapientia secund[illegible]s, aut [illegible]ia, cuius præterea mors, tàm multis hinc inde periculis uiam fecit? Secundet hæc omnipotens Deus, & sollicitudinem meam, piam magis quàm necessariam rebus probet. At ut [illegible]s cuncta supra spem eueniant, & metus iste superuacuus fuerit. Mihi tamen amice, quis [illegible], aut quis medebitur dolori meo? cui de cætero uigilabo, cui quantulumcunq; hoc [illegible]t studium consecrabo. Quis spes collapsas eriget? Quis torpe[illegible]m animum [illegible] Duos ingenij duces habui, utrumq; mihi annus hic abstulit, & de altero quidem [illegible]m adhuc esset in Italia, utrobiq; consortem fletus idoneum quærens, nostro cum [illegible]o questus sum, de hoc, hodie tecum queror. queraroq; dum uixero, & qui solari alios in[illegible]um soleo, nunc qua me ipsum ratione uel oratione cōsolet, nō inuenio. Hinc ergo con[illegible]ndi desperatio, hinc flendi pudor, hinc ad utrumlibet styli diffidentia, sed super omn[illegible] il[illegible] te uidendi spes, silentium iubet, parebo, tecum propediem fleturus ex co[illegible]do. Hæc [illegible] ubi flens ad fontem Sorgiæ dictabam, notum procellarū animi mei po[illegible] heu ad uesperā solus fugi, cū mane Rhodani ad ripā, rumor mœstissimus me inu[illegible]. Vale.

FRAN. [illegible]ETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNÆ, S. Epist. II.

Gratiarum actio pro beneficijs acceptis.

GRatias ago, cùm pro alijs multis, tùm pro eo, quòd quotiens Romam peto, totiēs uberrimo tuarum literarum fauore præuenior. Agnosco insidias amoris tui, neq; enim ut homo, sed ut angelus excipior: nihil impigrius est amāre, nunquam tā[illegible] iugi Aquilone sum uectus, ut imparatum aliquid offenderim. Mirarer magis [illegible] tuis de me iudicijs assueuissem, cōsuetudo enim longior, & rerum mira[illegible] extenuat, [illegible]lores lenit, & minuit uoluptates. Quis autem enumerare sufficiat, qu[illegible] me per[illegible] uitā honorificentissimis decretis honestaueris? Quæ'nam illa ex æqu[illegible]pe, cum sis [illegible]s, conuersationis comitas? Quæ'nam libertas hominis, Sub maioris arbitrio d[illegible] Quæ'nam secretorum participatio? Quæ'nam prærogatiua? Quis honor? Qua[illegible]tio? Recordari dulce est, enarrare longissimū. Vnum ex mille referā, quid imo rad[illegible]ctori, & medullis inhæsisse miraberis. Meministi dum graui olim, inter quosdā ru[illegible]to od[illegible]o, ad arma peruentū esset, & tu iusta indignatione flāmatus, ut pro trib[illegible]nali [illegible] mil[illegible]e euocasses, ac dicendæ ueritatis iusiurandū omnib. detulisses, iurasset[illegible] ē A[illegible] Lunensis episcopus germanus tuus, atq; ego iam dexterā porrigerem, tu in medio fra[illegible] [illegible]icem Euangeliū retraxisti, teq; cunctis audientib[illegible] ue[illegible] me[illegible] [illegible] C[illegible]s me, [illegible]t pœnitu sse te, a[illegible] præm[illegible] [illegible]s[illegible] a[illegible]ciderint, uiātibus [illegible]nctis nunq; me iura[illegible] Q[illegible] [illegible] patris[illegible]s? Quanti uolūt aurū & gemas extimēt auari, hoc extimare n[illegible] poterim

Renouasti

Renouasti in me Pater omnium optime, Xenocratis Philosophi a[illegible] in epistola ad Atticum mentionem facit Cicero. [illegible] testimoni[illegible]are[illegible] cun[illegible]um leges teneretur, ea [illegible] ab Athenienfibus [illegible] ne e[illegible] tas fui[illegible] Ho[illegible] inquã) in me reno[illegible]i, [illegible] quod illi maturo æui, [illegible] me[illegible] semel a[illegible]t, tu mihi perpetuum fec[illegible]i. Et puta me po[illegible]tum ob[illegible] Inge[illegible] erit [illegible] a complect[illegible] elim, nec tempus pa[illegible]tur, nec lo[illegible] magnan[illegible] atris tui [illegible] [illegible] urbis me l[illegible] p[illegible] ecuturus a[illegible] e[illegible]. h[illegible] o die [illegible]d [illegible]e [illegible] ho[illegible] tabor, ibi me [illegible] e[illegible] fidelio fu[illegible]s, ex fratte [illegible] os, expe[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible].

FRAN. PETRA[illegible] IANN[illegible] COLVMN[illegible] III.

Scribit de sua Romam, Neapolimq; [illegible]

V[illegible]llem frangerem, & tibi utile, & mihi p[illegible] ec[illegible]s me maritimo itinere profecturum, non aliam ob causam, [illegible] m persuasum est, expeditiùs ac citiùs iri pelago, quàm terris. Naui[illegible] am apud Niceam Vari, quæ prima Italicarũ u[illegible] b[illegible] ccasu est, [illegible] ci portum [illegible] lo iam stellante perueneram, irasci [illegible]citus cœpi. [illegible] illic die postero, inuitus mansi[illegible] ne q[illegible] cquam recreato abitu, postridie ancipit[illegible] te funem soluimus, & die [illegible] ctatu fluctibus, ad Mauriti portum, uix [illegible] pesta nocte peruenimus. Itaq; eâstrum [illegible] di non fuit, littoreum hospitium, nauti[illegible] bile sortitus, cœnam ut fames cõdiret, [illegible] ut l[illegible] itudi[illegible] d[illegible]berẽ, ibi indignari alti[illegible] dos maris agnoscere. Quid multa? Variisq; per noctem cõ[illegible] agitatis, ad auroram statui præferre terre[illegible] tem duriciem, æquoreæ seruitu[illegible] Itaq; familia & impedimentis omnibus in n[illegible] im reimpositis, ipse uno solo comitatus, [illegible] to[illegible] substiti, & fauit fortuna consilio, inter [illegible] sticos scopulos, casu nescio quo, Theu[illegible] [illegible] enales aderant impigri, atq; præualid[illegible], [illegible]ibus ego raptim cõparatis, propositum iter egi. Neq; tñ prorsus nauigationis fastidio immunis. Erit inter Pisanos ad præsens, & Mediolani dominum bellum ingens, magis (ut uides) de animorũ fastibus, q̃ de terrarũ finibus se prebente materia, latè enim cõfinia discreuerat Apenninus, ut cõterminatur antiquus Padi limes, sed [illegible] bia frenum nescit, & nullis terminis est cõtenta cupiditas. Dum recto [illegible] te proficis[illegible] haud procùl Lauentia, exercitus ambo consederant, Tyranno gra[illegible] urgente cõtr[illegible] Pisanis Mutronem suũ summa ui tuentibus, coactus sum apud Ericen [illegible] iterum me credere, & Coruum scopulum ingentem, a colore nominatum, ac rupem ca[illegible]di dam, & Macræ ostium, ac Lunam olim famosam, potentemq;, nunc nudum, & inane nomẽ, præteruectus, nocte concubia apud ipsum Mutronem, in Pisanorum castris expositus, per terram absq; insigni impedimento, reliquum uiæ feci. Non prosequor ubi cœnauerim a[illegible] cubuerim [illegible]od qualibet in parte uiderim, audier[illegible]ue, ad extrema festino. Per Pisas relicta ad l[illegible] Florentia, Senas, atq; inde Perusium ueni, inde Tudertum ubi à Claraualle[illegible]sibus tu[illegible]gno cum gaudio exceptus, per Narniam ipsis ducibus Romam ingredior [illegible]II. Non. Octobr. Et iam bona pars noctis erat, ita me hoc tempore nocturnũ uiatorum festinatio præceps fecit, uisum est tamen, magnanimum Patrem tuum, prius quàm me quieti traderẽ, inuisere. Deus bone, quæ maiestas hominis, quæ uox, quæ frons, quæ facies, quis hab[illegible]us, quæ in illa ætate uis animi, quod corporis robur: Iul. Cæsarem, aut Africanum spectare mihi uisus sum, nisi quia utroq; multũ iste longæuior, & tñ idem prorsus aspectu, qui ante septenniũ erat, dum eum Romæ iterũ dimisi, idemq; qui ante annos duodecim, dum eum apud Auinionem Rhodani primum uidi: mirum & penè incredibile, uir unus Roma sene[illegible] [illegible]e nõ sen[illegible]uca ibi, nam semiuudũ, & iam in cubiculo eũtem illum repereram, de te, [illegible]uisq; rebus [illegible] patrio percõtatus est, cætera in diem posterũ reiecimus. Illum diem, [illegible]ane ad uesp[illegible] secum egi, cuius ne una quidem hora in silentio acta est. Sed de reliquis [illegible] Mirum in modum exhilaratus est aduentu meo, sperans (ut aiebat) amicos uestros, [illegible] ustriã meam, finem carceris, ac miseriæ reperturos, quã senis spem, falsam esse doleo. [illegible] te longiùs traham, Roma digressus, Neapolim ueni, Reginas adij, & reginatũ con[illegible] fui. Proh pudor, quale mõstrum. Auferat ab Italico cœlo Deus genus hoc pestis. [illegible] CHRISTVM apud Memphim & Babylonem, Mechamq; cõtemni, compatior tibi [illegible]ea nobilis Parthenope, uerè tu harum qualibet facta es. Nulla pietas, nulla ueritas, nulla fides, [illegible] es animal, nudis pedibus aperto capite, pauperta[illegible]te superbum, m[illegible] [illegible] munculu[illegible] uu[illegible] ac rubicundum, obesis clunibus, inopi uix [illegible]a [illegible] coce[illegible] is partem [illegible] retegentẽ, atq; in hoc habitu non solum tu[illegible] sed

sed Romani quoq; pontificis afflatus, uelut ex alta sanctitatis suæ specula, insolentissime cõtemnentem, nec mentitus sum, radicatam in auro superbiã secum fert. Multum enim, ut omnium fama est, arca eius, & toga dissentiunt, ac ne sacrum nomẽ ignores, Robertus dicitur, in illius Roberti Serenissimi nuper regis locum, quod unum decus ætatis nostræ fuerat, æternum dedecus Robertus iste surrexit. Iam minus incredibile putabo è sepultu hominis medulla nasci posse serpentem, quoniam à sepulchro regio aspis hæc surda prosiluit. O superum pudor, quis'nam solium tuum inuasit regum optime? Sed hæc fortunæ fides est, humanas res [illegible] pariter, & euertit. Non fuit satis mundo solem abstulisse, nisi atras insuper tenebras attu[illegible]et, & erepto rege unico, non alter qual[illegible]bet uirtute inferior succederet, sed hæc atrox, & immitis belua. Sicci'ne nos aspicis astrorũ rector. Hic tanto regi successor idoneus? Hic post Di[illegible], Agathoclemq;, & Phalaridem, cunctis obscœnior, & clam licet immanior, fato de[illegible]. Restabat aulæ Ficulæ (ut Macrobij uerbo utar) inclementissimus incubator, qui mir[illegible]cere tyrannidis, nõ diadema, nõ purpurã, nõ arma, sed squalidum palliastrum induit, e[illegible]rus ut dixi, sed dimidius, obuolutus, nec tàm senio curuus, q̃ hypocri[illegible], nec tàm elo[illegible] fretus, q̃ silentio, & graui supercilio, per reginarũ aulas discurrit, & h[illegible]llo innixus humiliores proterit, iu[illegible]itiã calcat, quicquid diuini; aut humani iuris est, pollu[illegible], qui quasi nouus Tiphys, alterq; [illegible]alinurus, fluitantis cymbæ clauum regit, citò (si quid mihi credis) ingenti naufragio perituræ. M[illegible]ti enim sunt tales, & ferè omnes, præter unum Cauallicẽsis ecclesiæ præsulem Philipp[illegible] qui solus pro deserta iustitia partes facit. Sed quid faciat agnus unicus, in tanto luporũ agmine? Quid faciat nisi q̃ primum fugiat, si possit, & ouile suũ reperat, quod ipsum meditari arbitror. Sed miseratione regni labentis, & ultimæ obsecrationis regiæ memoria, ceu geminis cõpedibus detinetur. Interim quantũ in malesuada aulicorũ acie, sanè uox unius audiri potest, Dei & hominũ imploràs fidem, obstrepit iniquissimis cõsilijs, & auctoritate sua retundit multorũ impudentiã, prudẽs sapientia, fortunã & humeros proprios submittens, publicę ruinæ, quã differre poterit, mutare nõ poterit, atq; utinã nõ & eum pariter inuoluta (adeò enim inclinata res est) ut iam de humanis auxilijs nihil sperem, præsertim Roberto superstite, qui tum perfidię principatu, tum nouitate habitus, primum inter monstra curiæ promeruit & nomen, & locum. Tu uerò reprehensione nõ carebis, nisi de singulis quæ alijs secretiorib. ad te literis, latiùs scri[illegible], Romanũ pontificem certiorem feceris, unum illi meis uerbis in fine dicito. Siquidem reuerentius ut opinor accepisset exhortationes Apostolicę sedis, Sarracena Susis, aut Damascus, quã Christiana Neapolis. Quod nisi sanctitatis ueneratio prohiberet, adderem Ciceronia[illegible]ũ illud, iure quidem plectimur, nisi enim multorũ impunita scelera tulissemus, nunq̃ ad unum tantã licentiam peruenisset. Verum ego d[illegible]um uerborum spumis indignantem stomachum releuare studeo, uereor ne tibi quoq; bilem moueri, quæ si nulli rei profutura est, & præter indignari nil reliquum nobis: hinc illorum temeritas, hinc patientia uestra fecit. Quid iuuat indignitatem rerum æquare uelle sermonibus, quod nec Cicero ipse possit, nec Demosthenes? Etsi fortè successerit auctori suo tantum, damnosum sit ingenium, quo scribenti potius animi tranquillitas, quàm scelerum impunitas sontibus auferatur. Itaq; finem uerbis imponere consilium est. Ter nisi fallor, aut quater ipsum carceris limen ingressus. Capuanæ castrum dicitur, amicos tuos uidi, nil nisi de te sperantes, quoniam iustitiam sibi suam, in qua summum præsidium esse debuerat, damnosam hactenus experti sunt, & profectò periculosissimum est, sub iniusto iudice, iustam causam fouere. Accedit, quod nullus misero capitalior hostis est, quàm qui fortunæ, siue spolijs superbus incedit: siquidem de medio tolli cupit, cui quandoq; repetendæ rationis esse possit occasio. Ita semper auaritiæ uicina crudelitas, obseruatumq; est, unde insignis patrimonij iactura prouenerit, inde quoq; uitæ periculum prouenire. Dura sors hominis, cui nec tutò pauperem esse, nec diuitem denique fieri licet. Id si ulli unquam, amicis modò tuis accidit (de captiuorum enim præda nemo non partem rapuit) quando autem alienæ libertati, aut saluti fauebunt rapacissimi prædones, quæ cum propria paupertate coniuncta esse uideatur. Itaq; nihil habuisse securius, sed ita se res habet, damnis grauibus acres inimicitias quæsiêre. Vidi eos in compedibus, ô rem indi[illegible], ô instabilem, ac præcipitem fortunæ rotam, cæterùm ut nihil illa captiuitate deformius, captiuorum animis nihil excelsius, saluo te, spem optimam rerum suarum habent. Ego quod sperem nihil habeo, nisi aliqua uis maior interuenerit, si enim consi[illegible] clementiam expectant, actum est, squalore carceris consumentur. Regina [illegible]ior coniunx olim regis, nunc miserrima uiduarum, miseretur, ut dicit, nihil amplius se posse conf[illegible]. Cleopatra

cum

cum Ptolemæo suo misereri possent, si Pbotinus, Achillesq; permitterent, ego hæc uideo, quo animo, ne dici quidem opus est. Sed quid agam patiendū est, & quamuis responsi certus, responsum tamen etiam nunc iussus expecto. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNÆ, S. Epist. IIII.

Quæ admiratione digna Baijs, & Puteolis uiderit.

MOs mihi tuus olim notus, nil ignorare potes æquo animo, ita generosum spiritū inexplebilis noscendi cupiditas exagitat. Gessi uoluntati tuæ morem, quotiens Arcton, aut Occasum circumire fortuna me uoluit mea, nunc mihi diu et sum iter peragenti mens eadem est, idem parendi propositum, atq; aduentus quidē mei summam, uiarumq; casus, & quæ deinceps in captiuorum tuorum negocijs, apud Neapolim gesta sunt, quæ'ue in reliquum spes superfit audisti, audi nunc reliqua, quibus irasū nihil, sic delectationis plusculum inerit. Siquidem expectationis in illis, ac diuturnæ tædio affectus, Garganū montem, Brundusijq; portum, atq; illum omnem superi maris tractū lustrare decreueram, non magis illa uidendi, quam iste linquendi desiderio, quod tamen Regina seniore dissuadente cōpescui, & longioris peregrinationis impetū, ad proximiora certè, & mirabiliora cōuerti. Qui si fortè hinc digressō, & illa inuisere, anni tempus nō negaueiit, laborē ipse meū solabor, quod quamuis eorū, pro quibus uenerā nihil fecerim, multa tamen, quæ nō putabā uiderim, sed de illius ingenti ferè totius Italiæ ambitu, ad te rediens, uita non deferente, coràm loquar. Visa hactenus, quoniā hac citiùs uia in notitiā tuam uentura sunt, scriptis præsētēda cōmisi. Baias ego, clarissimis uiris Ioanne Barijli, & Barbato meo comitantibus uidi, nulla mihi lætior dies, & amicorū comitatu, & uarietate rerum illustriū, & uicina multorū tristium dierū, uidimus illū hybernis mensibus peramœnū sinum, quem sol æstiuus (nisi fallor) infestat. Nihil enim præter opinionē habeo, nunq; me hic æstas repe rit, tertius annus est, ex quo hûc primū sæuiente Aquilone, hyeme media delatus sum, præsertim tempore, iter æquoreū seruitus magna est. Itaq; de multis, quę optabā nihili cominus spectare licuit. Cæterùm breuissimo rerū gustu, tunc incensum animū, & iam aurea ab adolescentia calentem, hodie demum uoti cōpotem feci. Vidi loca à Vergilio, & (quod maximè mireris) ab Homero multū ante descripta. Vir Graius antiquissimus, atq; doctissimus, & nulli secundus ingenio, insignem, & qualem res exigebat locum, nusquam inueniens, ab Italia mutuatus est. Vidi Auerni, & Lucrini lacus, Acheronis quoq; stagnantes aquas, piscinam infœlicis nati sæuitiā Augustæ, Caij Caligulæ superbū olim, nunc obrutū undis iter, & Iulij Cæsaris iniectum pelago frenum. Vidi Sibyllæ patriam ac domum, & horrificum illud specus, stultis irremeabile, doctioribus inaccessum. Vidi Phalemum montem, famoso palmite cōspicuum, & hic aridam tellurem, morbis salutare, fumum perpetuo exhalantem, illic cinerum globos, & feruentes scatebras, ahenei instar undantis, confuso murmure ecucantem. Vidi rupes undiq; liquorem saluberrimū stillantes, & cunctis olim morborum generibus, omniparentis naturæ munera adhibita, post Medicorum inuidia, ut memorant, cōfusa balnea, ad quæ tamen, nunc etiam è finitimis urbibus, ingens omnis sexus, ætatisq; concursus est. Vidi non Cryptam modo, quæ Neapolitana dicitur, cuius ad Lucilium scribens meminit Anneus Seneca, sed passim perforatos montes, atq; suspensos, testudinibus marmoreis eximio candore fulgentibus, & insculptas imagines, quis latex, cui corporis parti sa ueat, manu appofita, designantes. In stuporem me nō magis facies locorum, quàm labor artificum coēgit. Iam minus miror Romana mœnia, Romanas arces, Romana palatia, quàdo tàm procul à patria (quamuis excellentibus uiris ubiq; sit patria) Romanorum ducum simul cura protenditur, quibus ultra centesimum lapidem esse, quasi suburbanæ fuerant hybernæ delitię. Aestiuis enim Tybur præstabat, & Succinus, & frondentes Apennini ualles, & Cymini cum monte Lacus, ut ait Maro, & aprici Vmbriæ recessus, & umbrosi colles Tusculi, & ex re dictum Algidum, & uiui fontes, & lucida flumina hybernas Antium, Anxuri, Phormiæ, Caieta, Neapolis. Nulla tamen amœnior, nulla frequētior, quàm Baiarum statio. quod & scriptorum illius æui fides, & ingentes murorum reliquiæ testātur. Et si nō sim nescius fuisse magis hoc humanæ uoluptati, q̃ Romanæ seueritati dignū domiciliū, ideoq; & Marius natura uir asperior, & Pompeius, & Cæsar, & humanis moribus altiores, in montibus ædificasse laudantur. Vnde q̃d decuit, nō immersi, sed subducti effœminantib. animos munditijs, nauticum strepitum, & Baianas ex alto despicerent uoluptates. Scipio autem Africanus, uir incomparabilis, & cui in uirtute omnia, nullum cum uoluptate cōmercium,

consilio reliquæ uitæ ... millimo, non tàm ex alto despicere, quàm prorsus nō aspicere decreuit, hunc locum suis artibus aduersum, extra prospectum igitur secessit, & Linterni, quàm Baijs habitare maluit, quam uillulam ... nc nō abesse scio nilq; auidius spectassem, si quo duce, in loca ta... o habitatore nobilia penetrare potuissem. Cum multa sanè mirabilia Deus ille fecerit, qui facit mirabilia magna solus, nihil tamē homine mirabilius in terris fecit. Super omnia ergo, quæ uel ille dies mihi ostendit, uel tibi hæc ostendet epistola, Puteolanæ mulieris animi ac corp... is insigne robur fuerit Mariam uocant, singulare illi seruatæ uirginitatis decus, iugis ... ter uiros, eosq; sæpius armatos conuersati ... o. Nulli unquam tamē (ut constantissima omnium opinio est) uel ioco, uel serio rigidæ mulieris attentata uirginitas, metu magis, ut memorant, quam reuerentia prohibente. Corpus illi militare magis quàm uirgineū, uires corporeæ, probatis militi... us optandæ, rara & insueta dexteritas, uirens ætas, habitus ac studium uiri fort... ... on telas illa, sed tela, non acus & specula, sed arcus & spicula meditatur: non illā oscula, & ... ... terui dentis lasciua uestigia, sed uulnera, cicatricesq; nobilitant, præcipua armorum cu... a e... nimus ferri, mortisq; contemptor. Bellum cum finitimis hæreditarium gerit, quo mu... iam ultrò, citroq; periere, interdum sola, sæpe paucis comitata, manum cum hoste conseruit, ubiq; ad hunc diem, uictis princeps in præliū ruere, lenta discedere, animose hostem aggredi, cautè insidias texere, famem, sitim, frigus, æstum, somnū, lassitudinem, incredibili patientia perferre. Sub diuo pernox, & sub armis agere, humi requiescere, herbosum cespitem, uel substratum clypeum in delitijs habere, inter tàm cōtinuos labores, multum breui tempore mutata est. Quant... est enim, quod me Romam ac Neapolim adregem Siculum, iuuenilis studium gloriæ attraxit, profectò quàm tunc inermem uideram, hodie armata, & armatis septa, cum ad me salutandum accessisset, miratus sum, & uelut ignoto uiro salutem reddidi, donec risu eiu... & comitū monitu presius intuitus, uix tandem sub casside toruam, & incultam uirginem recognoui. Multa de illa fabulis similia narrantur, ego quod uidi referam. Conuenerant è te diuersis mundi partibus uiri fortes, & armorū exercitio durati, quos aliò tendentes, illic fortuna deposuerat, auditaq; mulieris fama, experiendi uires cupiditas incesserat. Itaq; magno consensu omnium in arcem Puteolana... ascendimus, sola erat, & ante templi fores nescio, quid cogitās obambul... ... aduentu nostro nih... ... ota est. Instamus oraret, ut uirium suarum aliquod nobis ex... ... ... m præberet. Illa di... excusata brachij ualetudine, tandem graue saxum, ac ferream tra... ... iussit afferri, quam cum in mediū protecisset, attollerent atq; experirentur hortata est. Quid multa? Longa ibi (ut inter pares contentio) & magna res acta certamine, spectatrice quidem illa, & singulorum uires in silentio extimante. Postremò facili iactu, adeò se superiorem approbauit, ut reliquos stupor ingens, me etiā pudor inuaderet. Deniq; ita inde discessum est, ut uix oculis fidem dantes, subesse aliquid præstigij putaremus. Fama est Robertum summum illum, & uirum, & Regem, his quondam littoribus magna classe prænauigātem, permotum talis fœminæ miraculo, uidendi gratia substitisse Puteolis, quod ideò apud me ueri faciem non habet, quia in tanta uicinitate terrarū euocaturus illam fuisse uideatur. Sed fortassis aliā ob causam, cùm illuc applicuisset rem nouam spectare uoluit, ardens & noscendi cupidū illum ingeniū, uerum huiusce rei fides, ut cæterarum quas audiuus credimus, penes narratores maneat. Mihi quidē fœminæ huius aspectus credibiliora efficit, quæcunq; non modò de Amazonibus, & famoso illo quodā regno fœmineo. Sed etiā quæ debellatricibus Italis uirginibus traduntur, duce Camilla, cuius inter cum cunctas celebre nomē est. Quid enim in multis opinari prohibet, qd in unā nisi uidissem, essem forsan ad credendū segnior? Et illa quidē uetus nō procul hinc Priuerni, scilicet tēpore Iliacæ ruinæ, hæc recentior Camilla Puteolis nostris temporib. orta est, quā tibi interim literulis meis testatā esse uolui. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, S. Epist. V

Tempestatem, quam apud Neapolim ingentißimam uiderat, describit.

INsignem tempestatem describens Satyricus, ut multa paucis clauderet, poëticam tempestatem surrexisse ait. Quid enim breuius. Quid expressius? Nihil iratum cœlum, aut pelagus potest, quod non æquet uerbis ac superet poëtarum stylus. Et ne manifesta in re superuacuis utar, Homericam tempestatē, nosti, & allisum scopulo ducem. Atq; omnem Caphareï montis insulium, quem imitati nostri Poetę. Aquarum montes, ad sydera sustulerunt. Nihil sanè uel pingi eloquio, uel animo fingi potest, quod non externa dies impleuerit, imò procul excesserit, singulare quodda... & omnibus sæculis inau... itum malum.

Itaq;

Itaq; Homerus Graiam, Aeoliam Maro, Lucanus Epirensem, alij alias tempestates canant: mihi si unquam uacuum tempus erit Neapolitana tempestas, carminis materiam abundè tribuet, quanquam non Neapolitana tantùm, sed totius superi atq; inferi maris, & uniuersalis quodammodo tempestas (ut opinantur) fuerit, mihi Neapolitana est. Quia me Neapoli graues moras agentem, reperit. Sanè quanta inter præsentis temporis angustias, & festinationem nuncij loqui datum, hoc tibi persuade, nihil unquam horribilius, nihil concitatius uisum esse. Præuenerat quidem mirum dictù, instantis mali famem, religioso quodam Episcopo astrorumq; curioso, uicina quadam insula, aliquot ante diebus periculum nunciante, sed ut ferè nunquã coniecturis ad uerum penetrant, non maritimum, sed terrestrem motum prædixerat, ruinamq; Neapoli ad VII. Cal. Decembris, M. CCC. XLIII. usq; adeò miris cuncta terroribus impleuerat, ut magna pars populi peccatorum pœnitentiæ, & sub mortem mutando uitæ statui intenta, omne aliud negotij genus abijceret. Multis cõtra uanos metus irridentibus, eoq; magis, quod per eos dies, non paruis quibusdam tempestatib. in die erratum, & tota uaticinij fides absumpta uidebatur, ego nec spei plenus, nec timoris, ut ad neutrum prolapsus, sic ad utrumliber pronus eram, sed pronior ad timorem. Nam & ferè hoc in rebus est, ut segnius sperata, quàm formidata proueniat, & multas eo tẽpore cœli minas audieram, ac uiderã, quem gelidis in regionibus habitare solitò, monstri instar, hyemali frigore, in metum ac penè in religionem uerteram. Quid plura? Nox aderat, quàm lux suspecta sequebat̃, trepidula fœminarum turba periculi potiûs, quàm pudoris memor, per uicos, plateasq; discurrere, atq; ad uerba, pressis infantibus, supplex & lachrymosa, templorum liminibus obuersari: trepidatione igitur publica permotus, prima uespera domum redij. Solito quidem tranquillius cœlum erat, quæ fiducia, qui mecum sunt maturiùs in cubiculum concesserant, mihi expectare uisum est, contemplaturo qua luna fronte occumberet, erat autem (nisi fallor) septima. Institi igitur ad occasum spectantibus fenestris, donec eam obuolutam nymphis, & mœsta facie ante medium noctis, proximus mons abscondit. Tum demum & ego lectulum meum, dilatum soporem excepturus ingredior. Vix dum totus obdormieram, cum repentè horribili fragore, non tantum fenestræ, sed murus ipse, saxea testudine solidus, ab imis fundamentis impulsus tremit, & nocturnum lumen, sopito mihi uigilare solitum extinguitur, excutimur stratis, & in locum somni, uicinæ metus mortis ingreditur. Ecce autem dum inter tenebras alter alterum quærit, & beneficio diræ lucis, offensos trepidis inuicem nos uocibus cohortamur, religiosi uiri, quorum ædibus habitamus, & sanctissimus eorum prior, quem honoris causa nomino, Dauid, qui ex more ad nocturnas CHRISTI laudes surgebant, repentino malo territi, crucibusq;, ac sanctorum reliquijs armati, & alta uoce Dei misericordiam implorantes, thalamum ubi ego eram, prælatis facibus irrumpũt. Reuixi tantisper, omnes inde ad Ecclesiam pergimus, ibiq; effusi multis cum gentibus, pernoctamus, cum iamiam affuturum finem, & ruitura circum omnia crederemus. Longiùs eam, si omnem illius infernæ noctis horrorem uerbis amplecti uelim, & quãuis longè cætera uerum sistat, uiri tamen fidem transcendet oratio, quis imber, qui uenti, quæ fulmina, quis cœli fragor, quis terrarum tremor, quis mugitus pelagi, quis hominũ ululatus, cum in hoc statu, quasi magicis carminibus, geminato noctis spatio, ad aurora uix tandem uenissemus, & diei uicinitas, magis coniectura animi, quàm lucis indicio appareret, amicti sacerdotes sacra, altaribus instaurant, & nos cœlum nudum intueri ausi, in uda, & nuda circum tellure prosternimur. Cæterùm, cùm haud iam dubia licet nocte simillima dies, & omnis repentè clamor hominum superiore urbis parte siluisset, sed de littorea regione, magis magisq; crebresceret, neq; perconctando, quid rei esset appareret, desperatione (ut fit) in audaciam uersa, equos ascendimus, & ad portum uisuri, morituriq; descendimus. Dij boni, quando unquam tale aliquid auditum est? Decrepiti nautæ, rem sine exemplo asserunt, in ipso portus medio, fœdum ac triste naufragium, sparsos æquore miseros, & uicinam terram manibus prændere molientes, unda saxi impegerat, & ceu totidem tenera oua deiecerat, totum elisis, & adhuc palpirantibus refertum cadaueribus littus erat. Huic cerebrum, illi præcordia fluebant, hæc inter tantus uirorum strepitus, tantaq; mulierum eiulatio, ut maris, cœliq; fragorem uincerent, accedebat ædium ruina, quarum multa funditùs, uiolentior fluctus euertit, cui nullus die illo limes, nulla uel humanæ manus reuerentia, uel naturæ statutos fines, & littora consueta transcenderat. Et tam moles illa ingens, studio hominum aggesta, quæ obiectu laterum (ut ait Maro) portum efficit, quàm omnis uicina maris regio undis obruta, & ubi planum pedestribus interfuerat, periculosa nauigatio facta erat.

erat. Mille [illegible] uel co[illegible]mplius N[illegible]ani equites. Vel[illegible] ad exequias patriæ conuenerant, & ego turbæ immi[illegible]us, iam parti[illegible] mere cœperam, [illegible] a cum acie periturus, dum [illegible] repentè clamor to[illegible]tur. Locus ipse in quo stabamus, [illegible] ter penetrante dom[illegible] e[illegible]ba[illegible] puimus n[illegible] in editiorem locum, non erat oculos in [illegible] m mittere, itatam [illegible] s ac Ne[illegible] uni faciem [illegible]ortalis acies non ferebat. Mille [illegible] Capreas atq; N[illegible]ap[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] um mon[illegible] non ceruleum. Aut (quod in m[illegible] tempestatibu[illegible]) n[illegible] ed c[illegible] [illegible] horrifi[illegible] m[illegible] candore fr[illegible] m ce[illegible] R[illegible] a int[illegible], nu[illegible]a pe[illegible] [illegible] ca fœmineum ingen[illegible] [illegible]lis, uerec[illegible]indi [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] Reginæ uirginis templa [illegible], [illegible] m rebus extremi[illegible]. [illegible] tar[illegible] p[illegible] auidè, nisi fallor, expectas. Aeg[illegible] eno [illegible] c[illegible] s e[illegible] tasim[illegible]s, in alto na[illegible]uis nulla par fl[illegible] [illegible]tienta, ne in portu quidem res Massilienstum longas naues (quas Galeas uocant, [illegible] o redu[illegible] & tot mari[illegible] emensæ mane nauigatur[illegible] anchoris sta[illegible]b[illegible] illacrymar[illegible] [illegible] uersis, nemine autem ferre auxilium ualẽte fluctibus mergi, n[illegible] t[illegible]u[illegible] q; uectorum, [illegible] e uno quidem saluo uidimus. Aliæ quoq; maiores, & omni[illegible] [illegible] tis [illegible] s, quæ in port[illegible] m uelut in arcem [illegible]tissimam confugerant, pari fine consumptæ [illegible] V[illegible] multis sola superfuit, onerata [illegible]onibus, quibus iustum supplicium remissum erat, ut in [illegible]itionem Siculam mitterent [illegible] huic gladio erepti, in illos inciderent. Horum ing[illegible]s quædam & fortissima, & taurinis corijs armata nauis, cũ usq; sub occasum solis uim pel[illegible] pertulisset, tandẽ & ipsa uinci cœperat. Il[illegible] ò undiq; fatiscenti carinæ, supremis in[illegible]gentibus periculis occurrunt. Erant enim (ut ai[illegible] quadringenti numero, turba classi, nẽdum nauigio sufficiens, & erãt uiribus pollentes, & qui à morte liberati, nil iam grauiùs formidarent, eoq; pertinaciùs, atq; animosiùs obsisterent. Itaq; dũ differunt, sensimq; merguntur, usq; ad proximæ noctis partem naufragium traxêre, tũ uicti, desertis armis, in superiora nauis eruperant. Dum ecce præter spem, & cœli uultus serenari, & fessi maris ira lentescere cœp[illegible] [illegible] cunctis pereuntibus, pessimi omnium euasêre. Siue,

Quis seruat multos fortuna nocentes,

(ut Lucanus) siue quia dijs aliter uisum est, ut Virgilius ait, siue ut intelligi d[illegible], illos inter morti[illegible] pericula tutiores, quibus uilior uita est. Hęc hesternę historię summa [illegible] ne frustra digito[illegible]s, aures q; tuas detinuerit, quamuis humanorũ discriminum [illegible]m præferat mater[illegible]. De quibus multa quidem sæpê, sed pro rei qualitate pauca, semper à sapientibus dici solent, hoc [illegible] mihi cert[illegible]æstiterit, ut te obsecrem, ne me unquam amplius uitam uentis ac fluctibus credere iubeas. Hoc enim est, in quo neq; tibi, neq; Romano Pontifici, neq; patri meo, ad lucem redeat parere uelim. Aërem uolucribus, mare piscibus relinquo, terrenum animal terrestre, iter agam, dum pes meus terram calcet, nec pharetratũ Sarmata, nec ludentem in hospitibus Maurũ adire renuo, mitte me quo uis, ne Indos quidem excipio. Alioquin parce confesso, non Decembribus tantùm Saturnalibus, sed toto anno libertate utar. Quid enim, oro, mihi amplius suadeas, aut quib. unquã me uerbis aggrediaris, ut nauigem? Firmã puppim, doctos nautas elige, at his utrisq; contingerat, cum sole portum pete, nocte anchorã demitte, hostis occursum caue, lege litoris orã: at si diurnis hons in portu anchora arenis tenacibus affixa, & pene littus ipsum remigio tangentes, inter tot millia miserantium amicorum periere. Hæc ego non legi, non audiui, sed oculis meis uidi. Itaq; desine iam tãdem, & in hoc saltem pauori meo, pudor tuus ignoscat. Scio quid aduersus hoc à doctoribus disputetur, ubiq; par periculum, & si in mari clarius appareat. Sit ita, ut tamen ingenuè feceris, si in terris ortum, in terris mori permiseris, uix ullũ inter nos mare est, cuius non sæpè naufragus fuerim, cum tamen inter laudatas Publij sententi[illegible]

Improbè Neptunum accusat, qui iterum naufragium facit. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, S. Epi[illegible]

Gladiatorios ludos detestatur.

Absolui grauibus occupationum laqueis, spetabam, & successisset (ut arbi[illegible] constrictos pietate animos, serpens ille tabificus resoluisset, non ote Psyllus p[illegible] priùs, quàm ego aure uirus cognoui. Institi occurrere, sed iam uereor, ne lætale malum sit, retemptabo tamen, donec ille spei reliquiæ supererunt. Et forsan heri ad ue[illegible]speram, uel repulsæ gratiam meruissem, nisi consilium diremisset festinata nox, & domum maturius coegisset immedicabilis ægritudo, huius uerbis, quæ multis in[illegible] præclari[illegible] [illegible]m ho[illegible] scurum habet, & obscœnum, [illegible] tatum malum. [illegible] um iter [illegible] a[illegible] inter densissimas syluas, anc[illegible] plenum est, [illegible]entibus uias [illegible]bus adolescentulis armatis, quorum l[illegible] unquam, u[illegible] disciplina.

uel magistratuum auctoritas, uel regum maiestas, at [illegible] tim frenare queuit. Quid autẽ mirũ est, si quid per umbram noctis, nullo teste petula[illegible] audeant, cum luce media, inspectantibus regibus, ac populo, infamis ille gladiator[illegible] ludus in urbe Itala, celebretur, plusquàm barbarica sentate? Vbi more pecudum sanguis humanus funditur, & sæpè plaudentibus insanorum cuneis, sub oculis miserorum parentum, infœlices filij iugulantur, iuguloq; gladium cunctantiùs excepisse infamia summa est, quasi pro Rep. aut pro æternæ uitæ præmijs certetur? Huc ego pridem ignarus [illegible] omnium, ductus sum ad locum Vrbi contiguũ, quem Carbonariam uoc[illegible] o u[illegible] bulo, ubi scilicet ad mortis incudem, cruentos fabros denigrat [illegible] a. Aderat Regina, & Andreas regulus, puer alti animi, si unquam dilat[illegible] adema susceperit, aderat omnis Neapolitana militia, qua nulla compertior, nulla decentior, uulgus certatim omne confluxerat. Ego itaque tanto concursu, tantaq; clarorum hominum intentione suspensus, ur gra[illegible] id uisurus oculos intenderam, dum repentè quasi lætum quiddam accidisset, plausus [illegible] inenarrabilis ad cœlum tollitur. Circunspicio, & ecce formosissimus adolescens, rigido mucrone transfossus, ante pedes meos corruit. Obstupui, & toto corpore cohorrescens, equo calcaribus adacto, terrũ atq; tartareum spectaculum effugi, comitum fraudem, spectatorum sæuitiam, [illegible] rum infamiam idendem accusans. Hæc gemina pestis, Pater Optime, quasi per manus [illegible] dita, à maioribus ad posteros, semper crescendo peruenit, eoq; progressa est, ut iam dignitatis, ac libertatis nomen habeat, licentia delinquendi. Sed de his hactenus. Nam & tragicum opus est, & multa super his, inter obstinatos ciues iam perdidi, minimè uerò mirabere amicos tuos, tanto auaritiæ præmio proposito, in ea urbe uinctos esse, in qua hominem innoxium occidere, ludus est, quam licet, unam ex omnibus Virgilius dulcẽ uocat, non iniquè tamen, ut nunc ex Bistonia notasset infamia.

Heu fuge crudeles terras, fuge littus auarum.

Ego quidem & de hac patria dictum illud accipiam, & nisi aliud audieris, ante tridium uel infectis rebus effugisse me credito, in Cisalpinam primùm Galliam, inde in Transalpinam, & ad te, qui omne tempus, omne mihi præter æquoreum delectabile iter facis. Vale.

FR[illegible] PETRARCHA IOANNI ANDREAE BONONIENSI, S. Ep[illegible] VII.

Somnijs quanta adhibenda sit fides.

NOcturno te somnio permotum scribis, [illegible] adeò, ut nil, quia quod somniasti, ex illorum genere est, quæ amplius quam semel fieri nequeunt, & uigilantem te uidisse crediturus fueris, quod dormiens uideras, & secundo cernere, quod uigilans uidisti. Itaq; confestim subsequiens euentus (ut memoras) minimè iterabilis rei, docuit somnium fuisse, quod prius uideras, & an aliquid mihi tale contigerit in uita, quidue de tota hac re sentiam, quid docti homines censeant quæris? Magnus sermonum campus, magna disputandi materia est, præsertim quia quæstio hæc, non intra literatos tantùm (ut pleræq;) sed in uulgus excutitur, & cuiq; per se grabatuli sui argumenta suppeditant, ut in tanto disceptantium strepitu, uerum inuenire difficile sit. Neq; enim uulgus modò, sed docti quoq; dissentiunt, quorum omnium sententias nosti. Nisi quia de industria me ad scribendum elicis. Habes Macrobij commentum in Reip. librum sextum, ubi de somnijs clara, & breui distinctione disserit. Habes de his, & horum adiacentijs Aristotelicum uolumen. Habes demum Ciceronianæ diuinationis libros, ibi quid alijs, quid sibi uideatur inuenies. Quid me iubes replicare notissima? Sanè post ueterum auctoritatem, opinionem meam audire uelle curiosum est, quippè curiosa est omnis amicitia. Siquid uerò momenti [illegible] apud te, in iuditio meo est, & quid mihi etiam placeat, ad rem pertinere arbitra[illegible] ultis, tum in hoc Ciceroni meo assentior, minimè quidem pertinaciter, sed paratu[illegible] m eodem mutare sententiam. Si quid certius affulserit affirmandi fu[illegible] am, temeritatemq; declinans. Id ipse mihi de Academiæ suæ fontibus consilium præ[illegible] e summa est. Siquid de hac re uerbosius agentem audire uolueris, est in manibus li[illegible] Memorandarum rerum, qui si unquam in publicum exierit, prima operis pars, de his la[illegible] ecum aget. Alienis autèm exemplis, quæ ibi multa collegi, duo hic mihi ipsi (quoniam id postulas) per quietem uisa subijciam, alterum læti, alterum mœsti, sed utrunq; certissimi euentus, utrius[illegible] testes uiuunt, qui ex me hæc inter somnum, & somnij exitum audiere. Sic enim & tibi [illegible] & dulce mihi fiet amborum recordari. Amicus mihi primus sub annis fuerat, quo [illegible] us ætas illa, uel à fortuna, uel à natura datum habuit, hic repentè graui pestus ægri[illegible] ec Me[illegible] meę uitę spem reliquerat, quod [illegible] um supererat, genus [illegible] ebam, & per [illegible] lugenti semper mihi supererant lachrymę.

Nocte quadam usque sub auroram peruigil, somnum tristem fatigatis tandem oculis excepi. Imago mox illius affuit, cuius ad conspectum horrendos edens gemitus, socios exciuit, qui (sicut post ex eis didici) ut dormientem me uiderunt, & si graui aliquo somnio implicitū cognouerent, longas tamen uigilias miserati, turbidam me, quam nullam quietem suscipere maluerunt. Aeger autem amicus ad me accedere, lachrymasque meas leuiter abstergere uidebatur, & orare, ut dolori quē ex falsa causa suscepissem, finē facerē, cumque ego dictum refellere, & multa aduersus fortunam meā dicere pararem interrumpentem querelas meas, audire illum uidebar, & dicentem. Tace quicquid dicturus es scio. Sed en adest, qui colloquium hoc nostrum dimittat, illi, oro, te salutis meæ spem restitue, & sic habeto, me nequaquam ex hoc morbo periturum esse, nisi deseror hæc, inter impulsum cubiculi hostium strepuit, quo sonitu, & imago pariter, & somnus euanuit. Respicio, & iam albescente aurora, unus ex Medicis amicior ambobus, qui de illo desperans omne studium ad me solandum, sanandumque conuerterat, ante lectulum meum stabat, aggredior charissimum, & indulgentissimum mihi uirum, multis obsecrationibus ut ad amicum meum pergeret, neue aliquid desperaret in homine, præsertim tàm iuuene, dum ullæ spiritus reliquiæ superessent. Ille autem subtristis, inanem & importunam sollicitudinem admirari, curandi non suscitandi scientiam se professum dicere, hoc est, Medicum esse non Deum. Ego cōtra nocturnis adhuc lachrymis madens, quid corpore sobrio, licet curis ebrius, uidissem exposui, affusus opem rebus afflictis peti. Quid multa? Luctātē impuli, iuit, & mox reuersus, nescio quid spei melioris attulit, inde certatim, qui deseruerant omnes rediere, sic amicus meus ex ipsa mihi morte restituitur, & quanquam dulcedine captus, in rebus proprijs sim longior, tamen quod sequitur non silebo. Iacobus de Columna, hic Iunior, non nostra tantùm ætate uir clarissimus, sed ingenio præditus fuit, facile quibusuis sæculis in altū euasurus. Huic ego, dū uixit satis familiariter charus fui (uerum hanc unam asperioris fortunæ leuitatem experior, perrarò supremis me dol[illegible] meis interesse sustinuit, de longinquo nocuit, & uulnerasse aures cōtenta pepercit oculis) multa de illo uiro dici possent, quæ prætereo, quoniam & à proposito longè sunt, & de moribus quidem eius. Nil tu nouum audire potes, qui è cunctis episcopis, hunc unū tibi colendum, uenerandumque delegeras florenti ætate generosissimi adolescentis eximiā indolem, ingeniorum solertissimus agricola, de flore fructum cogitans fouisti, uirtutē mox uirilis animi, optimè cognitam amasti, tandem debitos honores, dignitati ac sacerdotio detulisti. Postremò de procursu tantarum rerum, & è medijs uitæ laboribus, quamuis ad meliora translatum, tamen humanitatis affectu pijs lachrymis prosecutus es dignitate patrem, ætate filium, familiaritate germanum. Sed ad rem redeo. Perosus ille igitur uitæ mortalis strepitum, uerendum genitorem, fratres ac patriam fugerat, seque præsul egregius, sedem suā repetens, in Vasconiæ recessibus abdiderat, illic cum reliquas, ubique magnificè, tum partē uitæ extremam, ueluti instantis præsagus termini, prorsus episcopaliter, ac deuotissimè transegit. Ego autem nō paruo terrarum spatio distractus, in Cisalpina Gallia, & hoc ipso in hortulo, unde tibi hæc scribo, dulci tunc ocio fruebar, pertulerat ad me fama quosdam ægritudinis suæ rumusculos, sed ita ut inter spem, & metum fluctuans, certiores assiduè nuncios expectarem. Horresco nunc etiā memorans, locus ipse sub oculis est enim, ubi eum nocte, per quietem uidi, incomitatus erat, & hunc ipsum horti riuulū transibat, obuiā ferebar admirās, & de multis interrogās. Vnde? Quo pergeret? Quid tàm propere? Quid tàm solus incederet? Ille nihil ad reliqua, sed ut erat in sermone iucundissimus subridens: Meministi, aiebat, olim dū trans Garumnā mecū degeres, ut molestæ tibi Pyreneæ tempestates erant, illis ego nūc fatigatus, & irrediturus abiens Romam peto. Hæc dicens, iam loci extremum festinabundus attigerat, contra ego ut ducerer instabam. Ille me semel & iterum manu opposita suauiter repulit, tandem alio, & oris habitu, & uocis sono. Desine, ait, nolo te nunc comitem. Figo oculos, atque exangui pallore mortuum agnosco, & metu, mœstitiaque tactus, exclamo. Ita ut eo ipso momento temporis experrectus, accentus ultimi mei clamoris audierim. Diem signo, rem omnem, & præsentibus amicis narro, & absentibus scribo, post uicesim[illegible]tum diem, nuncius ad me mortis allatus est, collatis temporibus eo ipse die, quo ui[illegible]ferat, se mihi illum aperuisse comperio. Reliquiæ eius (quod nec sciebam, nec suspicabar quidem) Romam anno demum tertio reportatæ sunt. Spiritus enim, ut spero & cupio, cœlo redditus triumphat. Sed iam satis somniatum est. Expergiscamur hoc addito, neque quia mihi anxio, uel dominū, uel amicum somnus obtulit, neque quia hic obijt, ille reuixit. Cæterùm in utroque, uel quòd optabam, uel quòd horrebam cernere uisus sum, & cum [illegible] meis fortuna coincidit. Idcirco somnijs fidem habeo, non magis quam Cicero ipse, propter unius sui somnij fortuitam ueritatem, multorum ambagibus implicatur. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI ANDREAE BONONIENSI, S. Epist. VIII.

Quid de adolescente amore noxio capto, sentiat.

DE adolescẽte tuo, quid mihi uideatur, & quid sperem? Amore noxio, & (quod peius est) turpi atq; omninò malis retibus captus est, subirasci interdum potest, uno uerò sæpe cogitur. Hæc natura amoris, hæc amantium uita est, irascuntur, & litigant, & frequens bellum, crebra pace concludunt, & uix momento temporis, unus propositi tenor manet. Nulla quidem ex omnibus uitæ difficultatibus inconstantia, & fluctuatione uehementior est. Itaq; rarissimè lætos, sæpe mœstos, semper uarios, uniformes nunquam uideas, illum tum modo delitijs acriter infensum scribis, credo, quin aliter esse nõ posse certè scio. Quis enim tam obstinatè miser est, ut non interdum oculos aperiat, miseriasq; suas dum uidet, oderit. Sed tecum in eo quod sequitur non sentio. Tu enim spem optimam hinc elicis, posse eum à uinculis resilire, ego ut est ætas hominis atq; animus, nisi præsentissimo Dei auxilio, intricatum iri magis, magisq; illum reor. Illaqueatæ uolucris mos est, ut exagitando sese arctius implicet, meliùs sperarem, si non odio amorem, ac litigio, sed obliuione, ac silentio finiret. illud sanę mentis, hoc ipsi amoris indicium est. Timeo illud Terentij in Andria:

Amantium iræ, amoris integratio est.

Timeo illud Senecæ ad Lucilium: Nihil faciliùs crudescit, quàm amor. Timeo Vergilianum illud:

Improbe amor quid non mortalia pectora cogis.

Timeo quicquid quarto die Cicero, de hac re in Tusculano suo disputat. Ad postremum timeo cunctorum hac in parte concordiam Philosophorum, Poëtarumq; sententias. Verum super omnia lenonum, ac meretricum nefarias artes, & inenodabiles laqueos pauesco. Horreo Sirenum blanditias, & uiscum tenacissimæ uoluntatis, importuosam hanc ipsam horreo, quàm is nunc nauigat Charybdim, multorum naufragijs infamem. Denique nihil est, quod rebus sic euntibus non timeam. Nam quod ille, nunc uel atrociter minatur, uel iratus secum cogitat:

Ego' ne illam, quæ illum, quæ me, quæ non?

Et quæ sequntur in hanc sententiam similia. Hæc omnia, una me hercle falsa lachrymula, ut Terentius idem ait, quàm oculos terendo miseræ uix ui expresserit, restinguet, & se ultrò accusabit, & dabit ei ultrò supplicium, magno licet clamore desæuiat, seq; tumultuosè in libertatem asserat. Ego si iudex sim, secundum murmur aniculæ in seruitutem asserentis, uindicias dabo. Cur quæso? Quia noui quã sit illud murmur, hoc clamore potentius, quantumue artes artibus antecellant, nulla rerum paritas, nulla proportio est: inde ferrũ, hinc lutum, inde ignis, hinc stipula: inde fingendi celeritas, hinc facilitas credendi: inde unci innumerabiles, hinc totidem ansæ sunt. Nosti omnia, & quanquam ab his te curis ætas abstraxerit, nil tibi tamẽ ignotum loquor. Parum'ne his fidere Plautina tibi uidetur anus in Asinaria? quæ tumidum, & minacem adolescentem sic alloquitur:

Fixus est hic apud nos animus tuus clauo Cupidinis
Remigio, ueloq; quantum poteris festina, & fuge,
Quàm magis te in altum capessis, tùm æstus te in portum referet.

Secura erat ualdè mulier uenefica, quæ talibus adolescentium successibus, plenam uitam expendendo didicerat. Ad hæc ego tibi, nunc nihil adiecerim, nisi hoc unũ ut cogites, lapsu temporis ruere quidem urbes, regna transferri, uariari habitus, innouari leges: quæ uerò naturaliter sunt, non mutari. Et animos hominum, & animorũ morbos prope omnes eosdem esse, qui fuerunt cum Plautus ista fingebat. Quod ab hoc sanè crebro iactari solitum ais, arsisse se quidem, sed amplius non ardere, si id passim prædicat, signum in hoc morbo mortiferum est. Scitus est Nasonis uersiculus:

Qui nimium multis, non amo dicit, amat.

Non uerbis, sed operibus, credo, hisq; non statim sed si pertinaciter institerit contraria uita, maculas uitæ superioris eluere. Vetustam ægritudinem repens medicina nõ adiuuat, quod longo usu didicimus, lõga desuetudine dediscendum est. Habes de adolescente tuo præsagium meum quod utinam falsum fuisse res doceat, & certè potens est excelsi dextra, mutatione illa Dauidica: dicto citiùs ab uno miseriarum fundo misericorditer attollere, sed id rarissimum & paucissimorum hominum scio esse. Vale.

FRAN.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI ANDREAE BONONIENSI, S. Epist. IX.

Quid de libidinoso sene sentiat.

Dissimilem primæ, sed iustiorem Satyræ materiam afferes, luxuriosum ac lasciuum senem. ut enim declamator ille ait adolescens luxuriosus peccat, senex luxuriosus insanit. Ac profecto sic est, ut ait Plautus, deliramus interdum senes, imò uerò nō interdum, sed sæpissimè, hoc illa iam tunc ætate cœptū erat, nunc autem peccamus infantes, ludimus pueri, adolescentes insanimus, conflictamur uiri, deliramus senes. Ita nullam uitæ partem perdimus, sed omne æuum, uarijs quidem erroribus gradibus, imò stultitiæ tenore traducimus. Nescio quid dicam, nisi tantis in tenebris, aliquid æthereæ lucis affulserit, parum absum, ab antiquorum sententia, ut non nasci optimum fuerit, proximum quàm primum mori: omnium tamen huiuscemodi senum, excusatio una est. Imbecillitas ætatis, solatio egentis, & iam usu publico permissa licentia. Sic in Asinaria petulantissimum senem suum, idem Plautus excusat his uerbis:

Hic senex, si quid clàm uxore suo animo fecit uolup'
neq; nouum, neq; mirum fecit, nec secus, quàm alij solent:
Nec quisquã sit tàm ingenio duro, nec tàm firmo pectore,
quin ubi quicquam occasionis sit, sibi faciat bene.

Hæc ille dixit. Hæc omnes dicimus, siue adolescentes, quibus luxuriari gloria est, siue uiri, quibus consuetudo est, siue senes, quibus iam uenale peccatum est. Quem tu inuenies senem, qui si qua facultas affuerit, teste submoto, non statim oblitus uinum, iuuenili iter ruat in Venerem? Ipse sibi blandiens, quasi quicquid delectat, aut mulcet, & prosit, & deceat, & quasi senectutis unicum solamen sit luxuria, quæ potiùs senectutis opprobriū ac ruina est. Tu uerò senem nostrum ora, ut inducat in animum attendere, quid agat, quo progrediatur, quanq; aduerso tempore, quàm indecora, quanq; ambigua, & intempestiua Venus sua sit. Pudor forsan ac metus efficient, quod ratio iam pridem ac satietas debuissent. Sin pergit, unum hoc illi meis uerbis dicito, breui uel inuitus desinet. Siquidem iuuenilis luxuria, senectuti proxima, senilis autem sepulchro contigua est. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA BARBATO SVLMONENSI, S. Epist. X.

Quod in hostium insidias deuenerit.

Vt more nostro, fortunas, laboresq; meos tecum partiar est animus. Ad Parmam bellum constitit, ut nosti, circunsedimur, & magnis non Liguriæ tantùm, sed propè totius Italiæ motibus, intra unius urbis ambitum, coarctamur, non quod animus nostris, ad pugnam desit, (quòd sæpius animosa eruptione testati sunt) sed ea hostis astutia est, ut nec pacis, nec prælij uiam pandat, durando uincere, & debilitare animos, lentæ obsidionis tædio confidit. Itaque iam sæpè uariante fortuna, idem ipse qui obsidebat obsessus est, nec dum certus est exitus. Cæterùm summis utrinq; uiribus res agitur, & (nisi fallor augurio) summus fatorum dies accelerat. Nutat animus, ac neutram in partem totus inclinat, ex quo declinare studens, & inanem spem, & superuacuum pauorem. In hoc statu non iam paucorum nos dierum, sed multorum mensium premit obsidio, inter calamitates bellicas haud ultima, his ita se habentibus subijt, nuper desiderium libertatis, quam omnibus uotis exposcere, omni studio amplecti: postremum quam terra, mariq; fugientem sequi soleo. Subierat iam ante cupiditas transalpini Heliconis, quoniam Italus Helicon bellis ardebat, ita ergo hinc odio, hinc desiderio agebar, sed quo irem? Quæ ea ducit ad occasum uia, prorsus inaccessibilis facta erat. Vertor ad Orientem, & si enim omnia hostium plena essent, tutior tamen breuis transitus, quam ille ingens per Hetruriam circuitus uisus est. Quid multa? Inter hostium stationes, cum paucis egressus VII. Cal. Martias abeunte sole, carpo iter, cum propè Rhegium inimicam urbem, sub nocte media [illegible] nissem, repente latronum manus ex insidijs erumpit, magno mortem clamore denuncians; non erat consilij facultas, tẽpus, locus & circumfusus hostis suspectissima omnia faciebat; pauci inermes, improuidi, quid aduersus plures armatos, ad scelus instructos facerent? Vna in fuga atq; in tenebris spes erat.

Diffugiunt comites, & nocte teguntur opaca.

[illegible] am fateor, meipsum morti, & circunsonantibus telis eripui, dum [illegible] am omne discrimen [illegible] sic crederem, quid oro te, usquam tutum homini est? Seu [illegible], seu trunci forte, [illegible] obice, nihil enim prorsus cernere sinebat, illius nubilosæ, cæcæq; noctis obscuritas,

equus ipse fidissimus uector meus cernuus ad terrā ruit, tanto impetu, ut confractus, ac pene exanimatus sim: colligo tamen in extremis animum, & assurgo, quicq; multis iam diebus interiectis, ad os manum referre nondum ualeo, tunc subleuante metu in equum resilui. Ii sociis pars domum rediit, pars uago errore circumacta, inceptum nō deseruit, duo uiarum duces, cœli ac terrarum inditiis amicis, fessi ac trepidi inter auia subsistere coegerunt. Vnde ne quid terri[illegible] cum deesset, inimicorum uigilum uoces, uicinis nescio quibus, ex mœnibus audiebantur. Ad hæc & sæua grandine mixtus imber accesserat, & inter erebra tonitrua, famosioris assiduus timor mortis. Longa erit historia, si eam per singula. Illic ergo uerè tartaream noctem sub diuo atq; humi iacentes egimus, cùm interea magisq; læsi brachii tumor ac dolor ingrauesceret. Non herbosus cespes ad somnum, non frondosæ ramus arboris, aut cauæ rupis fornix, sed nuda tellus, aer turbidus, & iratus Iupiter, hominum simul, ac ferarum metus, atq; inter tot aspera corpus inualidum, unum quod miraberis forsan, & misereberis solatii genus, in tantis difficultatibus fuit, equis medio calle transuersis, pro tentorio usi fumus, & illorum terga procellis obiecimus, qui paulò antè frementes, ac rapidi mox taciti, & immobiles, non sine quodam quasi miseriæ suæ sensu, geminum nocte illa nobis obsequium præbuerunt. Sic ad auroram laborando, ac trepidando peruenimus. Vbi primùm semitam inter uepres uicinæ lucis, dubius fulgor ostendit, præproperè suspecta loca reliquimus, & amici oppidi, Scandianum uocant, mœnibus excepti, didicimus nocte tota, magnam equitum, ac peditum cateruam, circa muros, ut nos exciperent in insidiis latuisse, pauloq; ante nostrum aduentum pulsam tempestatibus abiisse. I nunc & negare aude, magnum aliquid esse fortunam, quæ & consilia in pernitiem, & errores in salutem uertere potens est. Ludo tecum Barbate charissime, de fortuna enim iuditium meum tenes, formidabile nomen est. Vtcunq; se res habeat, profuit error uiæ, profuit procella, peiora malis euasimus. Illic ergo, cùm iam illuxisset cælatum casum meum, non sine multis comitum lachrymis aperio, & quoniam, ne ibi quidem tuta uidebatur mora, alligatus ꝓtempore montano calle, Mutinam inde. Luce proxima Bononiam ueni, hinc tibi præter solitum, alienis digitis ista præscribo, ne aut meo, aut rerum statui fides desit. Circa curam corporis fit, quantum humano ingenio fieri potest, spes est potius certa, quàm uelox, æstatis opem medici, ego Dei omnipotentis auxilium expecto, interim torpens mihi dextra non obsequitur, animus fit promptior in aduersis. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA ANDREAS MANTVANO, S. Epist. XI.

Obtrectatorum uerba contemnenda esse.

VIx unquam aliter iustior mihi querelarum causa, uix uberior defensionis materia, oblata est, in triuiis laceror, quid agam, auctor tangit iniuriæ. Fama mea ab infamibus carpitur contemnendus obtrectator. Cæterùm eò molestior, quò uilior, dissimulare difficilè, sed decorum silentium, iustæ quærimoniæ præferendum, linguas acuat uerba, non metuo, si scripto egerint, sentient, & me calamum habere. Viuus ego uiuorum subruam calumnias: at liquid fortè post bustum minitantur. Audio enim eos assiduè parturire, nescio quidem, an ridiculum murem, an elephantem Indicum parituros, quod ipsum si consulto inquam, in id tempus trahunt, quo amplius hic non ero, timidè agunt, minimeq; insidias astruunt. Quorum consiliis, quid aliud dicam, nisi Planci illud, in Asinium Pollionem, cuius in principio naturalis historiæ Plinius secundus meminit. Cùm mortuis laruas solere luctari. Proinde si quid habent, proferant in medium, dum adest qui respondeat. Videbis conuitiis attritum nomen splendescere, clariorem facit Aeschines Demosthenem, Cat[illegible]em Galba, Salustius Cicerone, Aemilianus Apuleium, alioquin ingl[illegible]rium belli genus e[illegible]gunt in absentem loqui, & mutis decertare cineribus, quamuis (ut est ætas) impudentes idipsum sperent. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA ANDREAS MANTVANO, S. Epist. XII.

De eadem materia, de qua in superiori epistola.

THeon ille, siue mauis Bion, iurgium quærit, agnosco sibilum, aspis in proximo est, indigner an mirer, si mihi non parcat, qui nec ipse pepercerit Homero? puto extimet, ut quæ sibi eadem mihi uoluptas sit, lōgè uerò fallitur, nihil mihi gratius silentio, pòst illud nil colloquio dulcius amici. Sin pergit effugiam, sine id dabitur, quid sim acturus interrogas? Silebo. Si ne id quidem, loquar. Quantum sanè, nihil breuius. Et quid dicam? Comminabor in primis id conuitii genus, quod nunquam audierit

turbabitur,

mirabitur, congelascet, & forsan (ut fit) multa sibi conscius tacebit, atque hic iurgio finis erit. Siquidem nil magis maledici linguam frenat, quàm mordacioris alterius linguæ metus. Sic ne hic tamen desinet. Culicem hunc quibus armis excutiam? Vlciscar aniliter, & quod anus anui dixisse traditur dicam sibi. O uir maxime, omniumque modestissime, ô decus ac spes patriæ. Certè nunquã tale aliquid audiuisti. Quid nunc ais? An nõ satis promissum impleuisse uisus ero, aut ego fallor, aut & si callosas conuitijs aures habet, hoc unum hactenus non audiuit: non ex ore amantis, non arrisoris, non derisoris, non adulatoris, quantumlibet impudentis, sic ut reor insuetum stylum, ille mirabitur, tu ridebis, ego interim euasero. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SOCRATI SVO, S. Epist. XIII.

Moram semper aliquid periculi habere.

Obsecro, obtestorque te, meque ipsum simul obsecro, si quis apud utrumque nostrum precibus meis est locus, ut si tu nondum pectoris tui curas composuisti, ego enim inquietudinis meæ mihi sum conscius. Propellantis iam tandem cuncta, quibus angimur, & ad huc fluctuante animorum nostrorum statu, aliquando compescamus, nec nos pigeat, quod multum distulimus, uel serò aggredi. Neque enim uiatori, quanquam uel somno grauis, uel uino ebriius, uel tædio fatigatus, tarde surrexerit suadebis, ut uiso sole in cubiculum reuertatur, somnum tractaturus ad uesperam. Multo satius esse monstrabis, accelerare gressum, ingeminare, & in id niti, ut quod sopor eripuit reddat industria. Et nos (si recolis uiatores) sumus, & immensum nobis superest iter, & hora iam tarda est, nostrum enim mane dormiuimus, quo uigilantius exurgendum est. Ne cunctantes fortè nos opprimat, plura res exigit, tempus autem pauciora, & certè intelligenti, uolentique satis est dictum. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SOCRATI SVO, S. Epist. XIIII.

Seruorum malignitatem detestatur.

NVper dum fugiendi fastidij, & relaxandi animi gratia, lepidissimas fabellas, apud Plautũ legere, curisque mordacib. tantillũ tẽporis uetustissimi uatis auxilio corfurarer, mirũ dictũ quot ibi eleganres nugas inuenerim, quas seniles fallacias, quas aniles ineptias, quas meretriciũ blanditias, quã lenonis auaritiã, parasiti uoraginẽ, quam senum sollicitudinem, quos adolescentium mores: iam minus Terentium nostrum miror, qui ad illam elegantiam tali usus est duce. Sed de cæteris suo tempore, nam & copiosa, & ocio affluentibus, si unquam id nobis fortè contigerit, peramœna rei est. Nunc unum quod hodierno die, tempestiuè admodum se obtulit interseram. Est illius Comœdia, cui nomen est Casina: ibi uir & uxor, de nuptijs ancillulæ discordant, bellum domesticum, plusquàm ciuile dixeris, ita intra continentissimos, disiuncta sunt omnia, prorsus nihil conuenit paterfamilias proprijs, mater filij, studet amonbus, serui duo competitores, pertinacissimi, certatim ad puellæ connubium aspirant: hic à patre subornatus, hic à matre. Herilis ergo concupiscentiæ minister, ut incœpto absisteret, precanti dominæ inexorabilem se præbens, à domino qui fortè suprema uerba contentionis acceperat, interrogatur.

Quod cum litigas Olympio
Cum eadem qua tu semper. S. cam uxore' ne, hem mea?

Respondet senex, quasi circumlocutione rem intelligens. Enimuerò ad hæc seruus, neque seruiliter, neque illepidè respondet, quod dum hodie legerem, mihi quodammodo dictum credidi.

Quam tu mihi uxorem? quasi uenator tu quidem es,
Dies atque noctes cum cane ætatem exigis.

Hæc ille seruus. Mihi ucrò quid conueniencius dici potest? Vxorem nempè uita nostra non recipit, multis licet obiecta tempestatibus, sed ab hac Charybdi libera & immunis. Verum aliud molestiæ genus est, cui & illius serui uerba conueniunt. Et rem quidem olim expectiebar, uerba non aderant, sciebam me cum canibus uiuere, uenatorem esse, nisi admonitus nesciebam. Seruos uocant, canes sunt mordaces, gulosi, latratores, cuncta præter ultimum ... possum, latratus enim tranquillitati, quam quærimus, nimis aduersus est, sed ex omni ... ege, duo mihi prorsus importabiles sunt, cæteros adhuc ferre propositum est. ... est, quem ad te multis cum literis amicorum hodie mittebam, unde hanc tibi ... peraddere m epistolam, Plautus obtulit. Hunc tu ergo, uel tibi habeto, si uenator fieri cu-

uel in nemus, uel in macellum mitto, modò ne unquam ad me redeat. Altera est rabidus senex ille, quem nosti optime, illum depellere pudor prohibet, neq; tam eius, quam ætatis suæ ac longæuæ familiaritatis intuitus. Itaq; quando me mihi uenatorē Plautinus seruus ostendit, faciam quod ingenui uenatores solent, domi inueteratum canem, quamuis senio, & scabie inutilem, latratuq; molestissimum non expellam. Cæterùm quem fugare non licet, fugiem, dimissaq; sibi domo uacua, in alias oras ibo: de quo, quia nondum fixa mihi sententia est, secretiore epistola propositum meū leges, summa est, ad fontem Sorgię, ut nunc est animus, piscator esse potero, certè uenator amplius non ero, neq; cum his saltem canibus ætatem agam. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SOCRATI SVO, S. Epist. XV.

Beatam uitam inquirendam esse.

IN campum Martium, omnes qui nascimur uocati sumus, quidam tamen non nisi ad strepitum, numerumq; complendum, quidam uerò, ut honores, & laborū præmia percipiant, quorum ex agmine ut simus, optandum, enitendumq; nobis est. De euentu uiderit ille, cuius in manu nos, & nostra consistimus. Velle quidem nostri erit arbitrij, itaquè firmate propositum, & candidatos adesse, conueniet, ac supremi imperatoris, amicorum eius implorare suffragia. Non enim de consulatu aut Prætura, sed (ut Plautinus adolescens ait) de capite nostro sunt comitia. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVIDONI SANVENSI, S. Epist. XVI.

Quod tardiusculè ad eum scripserit, se excusat.

EPistolam sub tuo nomine descriptam perdidi, hoc mihi, & nunciō longior expectatio, & sociorum præceps fauor attulit, qui dum assiduo nouarum rerum desiderio, & (ut Solini uerbo utar) impatiētiùs potiùs, quàm studiosius per Bibliothecā meam more solito uagantes, in illam incidissent, legerunt & tulerunt, ignorante me uerùm (ut asserunt) ne sicut amicis indignantibus, & incuriositatem meam damnātibus, mihi plerunq; contigerat, illius etiam peteret exemplum. Ego re cognita, ut mihi redderetur instabam, illi autem festinabant. Quid te moror? Verum est quod ait quidam:

Malè cuncta ministrat impetus:

Dum enim omnes habere cupiunt, nullus habuit: dumq; omnium consensu, uni scribenda traditur, ille eam omnium cum dolore, uel amisit, uel amisisse simulauit, qualiter nescio, nisi quod ad oculos meos ultrà non rediit. Vnum fatebor, nec erubescam testimonium tuum, nunquam credidissem, quod res ulla tàm parua tàm magnæ mihi foret perturbationis causa, rarò unquam alias fragilitatem meam, sic euidenter agnoui. Torquebar enim, & per multos dies, noctesq; perditam quærebam: simul & querebar, & nunc temerariam sociorum fiduciam, nunc leuitatem meam increpabam. Illis exprobrans, quod plus æquo stylum hūc, mirantes, importunè agerent, mihi quod immaturam gloriam, è primitijs studiorum quærens, amicis fierem fortassis asperior. Quantalibet sanè plaga, animi tempore mitigatur. Iam dolere desij, doloremq; pudor expulit: pudet tàm grauiter doluisse. Nunc quoniam illius nullæ mihi reliquiæ supersunt, præter amantem memoriam (ut ait Augustinus) periérit quidem illa, sed calamo superstite, interim ergo, dum reuertor ad solitum scribendi morem, intermissionis causam tibi esse uolui, ne insueto silentio mouereris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVIDONI SANVENSI, S. Epist. XVII.

Dolet de amissa Epistola.

NOn sum nescius mirari te, quid ita debiliter fortunā unius epistolę ferre uisus sim, neq; enim magnæ indolis argumentum est, ex literis gloriam sperare, ex factis, non ex dictis oriri ueram gloriam, ueræ Philosophiæ non dubitant spectatores. Illam (inquam) gloriam, non quàm prædicat uulgus, à quo laudari magnis animis penè fastidiosum est, sed quæ ex sobria, ac iucunda recordatione bonorum operum, in pectore uirorum excellentium uiget, atq; aliter, cuius sine theatrico strepitu, sine fauore, uulgari fides, & conscientia testes sunt. Hæc est equidem illa uerax gloria, quæ in solo stabili, actis altè radicibus, casum nescit. Illa uerò in hominum fundata semiūculis. Primùm diuturna non est, & perfacilè proteritur, & quibus attollitur flatibus, eisdem semper agitatur ut corruat. Deinde si esse posset æterna, uulgaribus tamen, ac minimè generosis artibus quæsita,

sita, nunquam ingenuos animos delectaret. Seruilis operæ uiles merces, idque ego mecum cogitans, fateor, & mirabar, & mihi non mediocriter indignabar. Ex diuerso autem, dum reminiscebar, quo mihi dulcis epistolæ illius lectio fuerat flectebar, ut omni culpa desiderium eius absoluerem. Nec satis scio, uerόne, an fallo, sed persuadebam mihi, multis rationibus, nullius me uentosæ laudis ambitu perditam deflere, sed quod eam mihi utilem senseram, tantamque fiduciam dabat, non ars, non ingenium, sed uetus ille magister artis, ingeniique largitor, ut auderem sperare, literas illas, tanti peccatoris digito contextas, legentibus nedum placituras, in quo nudum nomen uertitur, sed fortè etiam profuturas. Multa ibi contra hominum, & præsertim meijplius molliciem, inuectus fueram, multisque ad uirtutem exhortationibus, nec paucis indignationibus, in sæculum nostrum, & uitia, toto nunc orbe regnantia, uelut alternis stimulis, utrunque illi latus armaueram. Adeò ut ad eam rediens, uix ingenij mei opus crederem, & plus ei, quàm scriptis meis soleo, uenerationis impenderem. De Phydia & Apelle nusquam lectum est, fuisse formosos, operum tamen illustrium alterius reliquiæ stant, alterius ad nos fama peruenit. Itaque tot interlabentibus sæculis, utriusque artificis præclarissimum uiuit ingenium, uariè licet pro uarietate materiæ. Viuacior enim sculptoris, quàm pictoris est opera. Hinc est, ut in libris Apellem, Phydiam in marmore uideamus. Idem de Parrhasio, & Polycleto, & de Zeuxi, & Praxitele cēsuerim, cæterisque, quorum corporeæ formæ, nulla mentio est, operum decor eximius, & fama percelebris. Atque, ut à ueteribus, ad noua, ab externis ad nostra transgrediar: duos ego noui pictores egregios, nec formosos, Iottum Florentinum ciuem, cuius inter modernos fama ingens est, & Simonem Senensem, noui sculptores aliquot, sed minoris famę, eo enim in genere, impar prorsus est nostra ætas. Cæterùm & hoc uidi, & de quibus fortassè, alius plura dicendi locus dabit, opera singulorum, ab auctoribus suis multum differentia, longæque distātiæ, si quis ab eis causam quæreret: responderent puto, non ut olim Mallius pictor, qui ab amicis interrogatus super cœnam: Cur tàm deformes filios genuisset, cum tàm pulchras figuras pingeret. Quia in luce (inquit) pingo, in tenebris fingo. Faceta responsio illius, horum uerior, si dicerent, & formam corporis, & ingenium quæ forma est animæ, unde opera hæc, quæ laudamus ac miramur, uelut unà è fonte procedunt, munera Dei omnipotentis esse, non hominum, & sumenda esse, nō tantum æquo, sed & grato animo, seu largiùs prouenerint, seu partiùs, cum gratuita sint, & humanum meritum semper excedant. Nec ab homine quęri rationem oportere, cur plus, minus'ue aliquid ab illo fiat, cuius uoluntas ipsa est ratio, summa & inaccessibilis, & ad quam, frustrà per seipsum nititur humanus labor, quia quantò accedet homo ad cor altum, tantò exaltabitur Deus, & mortales intuitus, consilij sui profunditate frustrabitur. In hanc ego narrationem, cùm præterire possem, spontè incidi, quæ eò spectat, ne mireris, si mihi quoque contigerat, ut pulchram scriberem epistolam. Turpis ego, & si in ea (ut Gregorij uerbo utar) pulchrū depinxi hominem, pictor fœdus. Proinde species ea, [illegible] sorores suas illa uincebat, & sibi pereundi, & mihi dolendi fuit occasio, ut intelligerem, non solum in corporibus, sed etiam in scripturis excellentem formam, interdum nocere, & mediocritatem in rebus omnibus expetendam. Sic epistolæ meæ, quam ipse mihi non adoptaueram, sed genueram, pereunt, & tunc exequiarum, quasi quoddam genus lamenta persolui, & tūc memorans, anniuersarium diem ago, dolens de medio tàm citò subtractam. Et, ut dixerim, in ipsis cunabulis extinctam, eoque minus huius rei cōsolabilior est querela, quo minor est spes, de illius ossibus, quasi de Phœnicis cineribus alteram suscitandi. Nullæ eius apud me reliquiæ remanserunt, præter morem enim meum, totam chartæ crediderам, memoriæ nihil. Idcircò nec eam in memoria requirens inuenio, nec ullum uestigium abeuntis agnosco. Tantum illud teneo, dulcem mihi fuisse dum scriberem, dulciorem dum legerem, amarissimam dum recordor, nec aliter euenisse, quàm si cui sapori eri fauus mellis, labijs admotus, repentè subtraheretur, amotaque dulcedine, sola quidem amara dulcedinis recordatio superesset. His ego perculsus diù à scribendo cessaui, oderam enim uigilias meas, & unius euētu cæteras metiebar. Tandem per memetipsum admonitus, esse stolidum consilium, ut unius naufragij metu, nauigatio relinquatur, aut unius anni memor, aratrum damnet agricola, ad calamum redij. Sed quid iterum faciam? Epistola tua etiam mihi perijt, & comitem secuta est, quantum suppetit memoria, duplex inde mihi gaudium fuit. Gaudeo equidem ut mos est hominum, tecum solito benignius agere fortunam, quamuis nō ignorem [illegible] uolam esse lætitiam, quæ de fortunæ facilitate cōcipitur, quæ nunquam amicior fuit, [illegible] familiarius falleret. Neminem euexit nisi ut altior casus esset. Verum hic unus ex hu[illegible]ertonb. est, qui sunt innumerabiles, quosque ut Ciceroniano uerbo utar, cum nutricis

lacte fixisse uidemur, & quos utinam uel in senio deponamus. Certius gaudium ex epistolæ tuæ fine percipio, ubi & fortunam nosse, & ad omnes casus paratum, mihi uideris animum habere: hoc est quod optaui: hoc est quod speraui: hoc est, quod Deum rogaui, & ut mihi, & amicis fortem animum contemptorem rerum mutabilium præstaret. Nequid enim in uita sentiamus, aduersi ne quicquam poscitur. Vt quicquid euenerit feramus patienter, dignissimæ preces sunt. Equidem (nisi fallor) in uerbis tuis animum tuum uidi, & dixi mecum. Iam uir est, humo erigitur, cœlum spectat. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVIDONI IANVENSI, S. Epist. XVIII.

De conditione sui status certiorem reddit amicum.

DE statu meo, quem nosse desideras, breuiter sic habe. Et si inter benè philosophantes, unum sit hominis bonum, & non tria, id scilicet, quod in animo est, benè cœlitus instituto, & possessione generosi habitus insignito, quoniam corporis, ac fortunæ non bona, sed commoda quædam, ac leuia adminicula dici debent: quia tamen credo uelle te, de omnibus audire, geram morem uolũtati tuæ, qualis sit animus meus, nec plenè scio, nec asserere meum est. Sunt enim (ut ait Augustinus) & istæ plangendæ tenebræ, in quibus me latet facultas mea, quæ in me est, ut animus meus de uiribus suis, ipse se interrogans, non facilè sibi credendum existimet. Quatenus autem effari possum? Vndique me habent angustiæ, in luto carnis, & in uinculis mortalitatis meæ, adhuc aut sedentem, aut iacentem. Videor tamen, nisi forsan hoc ipsum uideri, idem ego mihi mendaciter fingo, libentissimè surrecturus. Sed ponderibus meis premor, & inualuit in me durum inueteratæ consuetudinis iugum, à cuius seruitute, quis liberabit me miserum, nisi Dominus ille, qui fouet compeditos, & illuminat cæcos? Fortuna contra me hactenus perpetuum bellum gerit, ego autem sciens, quod communio discordias parit, ut in pace uiuam, nequid commune secum habeam laboro. Imperia, regna, diuitias, honores, cæteraque eiusmodi sua sunt, & sibi habeat. Nihil est horum quod me moueat. Mihi linquat, si qua sunt animi mei bona, hæc sui muneris non fuerunt, & ne sui iuris sint flagito. Quid sæuit? Quid minatur? nimis diù debitor suus sum, calculum ponamus, auferat quæ sua sunt: nimis diù depositum eius seruo, quid cogitat? Nulla mora est, nullum luctamen, tollat quicquid id est, & nunquam reuersura discedat, & certè iam partem non exiguam tulit, & id quãtulumcunque quod restat, odiosum onus est humeris, ad altiora nitentibus, quòd ad corpus attinet. Non sum quem reliquisti, hospes corporis mei, secum malè concordans, implacabilem litem agit. Hæc iugis sollicitudo, faciem meam mutauit, ante annos, ita ut iam uix primo me cognoscas occursu. Huius tamen rei, me cura non tangit, adhuc enim integer Domitiano principi crediderim. Nihil gratius decore, nihil breuius. Ad maiora uerò genitus sum, quàm ut sim mancipium corporis mei. Seneca, inquis, hoc dixit. Quis negat. Et ego dico, & multi dicent post me, & ante eum multi fortè dixerunt, & quisquis id dixerit, modò ne mentiatur, egregium, magnificumque uerbum dixerit. Ego & illud dixi, & quòd sequitur dictam, & in utroque scio, quòd non mentior, utinam nec fallar. Absit à me ut amore corporis, aut huius lucis desiderio, diem mortis horrescam, quoniam & hoc ab alio uerissimè dictum, in usus meos uerti, quod hæc nostra quæ dicitur uita, mors est. Vale.

FRANCI-

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARUM DE REBUS FAMILIARIBUS,

LIBER VI.

FRAN. PETRARCHA HANNIBALI TUSCULANENSI, S. Epist. I.

De inuidia, Auaritia, cæterisq; ecclesiæ procerum uitijs.

IN PUBLICEM inuidiam dixit Maro, nec immeritò. Quid enim infœlicius, quam suis malis, alienisq; simul bonis affligi, non ineleganter quidem, in Mutium nescio quem apprime inuidum, atq; maliuolũ lusisse legitur Publius quidam: cùm enim tristiorem solito uidisset. Aut Mutio (inquit) nescio quid incõmodi accessit, aut nescio cui aliquid boni. Prorsus ita est, [illegible]dus alterius bonum, suis asscribit incommodis, & ut ait Flaccus:

Inuidus alterius rebus marcescit opimis.

Magna miseria, non aliter saturitate alterius, quàm fame propria torqueri, atq; alio pinguescente, nõ secus, ac se esuriente marcescere. Sed aut temerè diffinierim, an non inuidia tantum, sed uitijs omnibus infœlicior auaritia sit. Inuidia enim mœsta est sæpè, sed ociosa est, auaritia tristis, & occupata superbia dum se aliquid magnum putat, falsa licet opinione delectatur auaritia semper se famelicam, & egenam sentit, nec fallitur. Verissimum enim est Poëticum illud:

Semper auarus eget.

Nam si auarus est, cupit, quòd ipsum uitij nomẽ indicat. Sanè quòd ait Seneca: Non qui parum habet, sed qui plus cupit, pauper est. Et hoc inde concluditur, quòd non paucitas rerũ inopẽ facit, cum paucis natura contenta sit, cui qui ritè satisfecerit diues est, & nihil ei deest, sed cupiditas expleta, quæ indicat sibi tantũ deesse, quantũ cupit: cupit aũt omnia, & optando superuacua fecit necessaria. Ita egestatem minimam, cuiq; perfacilè succurri poterat, [illegible]remediabilem atq; immensam fecit. Rursus enim & illud est uerum, quòd Philosophis pl[illegible]cet, auaro tam quòd habet deesse, quã quòd non habet. Nisi quòd mihi quidẽ magis u[illegible]tur, auaro deesse quòd habet, quam quòd non habet. Ex illo enim nil præter sollicitudi[illegible] perpetuam, & ueros metus, ex hoc nonnunquam breue falsum gaudium capit, dum si[illegible]ndet, & optatum bonum, spe fallente præoccupat. Ita nunquam satiatur, fera quada[illegible] aiunt) & inhumana dulcedine; auaritia uerò nunquam. Nam & successibus inardescit, [illegible] Satyricum illud uerum est:

Crescit amor nummi, quantum ipsa pecunia crescit.

Geminus hunc optat, qui non habet, cuius rei causam [illegible]nam, (nam plures excogitari queũt) in epistola quadam ponit Anneus Seneca. Neminem (inquit) pecunia diuitem facit, imò contrà, nulli non maiorem sui cupidinẽ incussit. Et sequitur: Quæris, quæ sit rei huius causa? [illegible] incipit habere posse, qui plus habet. Venio ad reliquas pestes, & eius quidem, quam acidiam nostri uocant, eadem ratio est, quæ inuidiæ fuit. Gula autem ac libido, sæpè suis fruuntur delitijs, quibus exultant, & gaudio fugitiua percipiunt, auaritia n[illegible]a re fruitur, nisi curis auarissimis, dum enim quærendis inhiat, & illa non habet, & quæsita [illegible]on uidet, nisi ad supplicium hinc trepida, inde sollicita. Quæ cùm ita sint, iure auaritia sororum omnium pestilentissima dici potest, quam radicem malorum omnium uocat Apostolus. Nec sum nescius, te mirari quid hodie tecum, hac (ut aiunt) importuna Philosophia, præter solitum uti uelim. Ego autem non te magis, quàm mortales ferè omnes, & præcipuè tuum genus alloquor, inter quos maxima, & solium [illegible]uisse, & uexillum fixisse, uictrix mihi uidetur, & imperiosa cupiditas. Quod eò indign[illegible]ius miror, quò minor uobis cupidinum causa est. Cur enim hos auri cumulo aceruatis? Legitima quidem uobis negata posteritas, uos parcus, & [illegible] cultus decet, reliqua pauperum CHRISTI sunt, quos fraudare, prædariq; non [illegible] omnino illorum spectante desuper, & minitante uindictam, & nesci[illegible]is cui uestrũ cri[illegible] [illegible]e sit futurum, quòd uobis interim laboriosum, pestiferumq;, & funestum est. Multi sæp[illegible] filios excusant, & uitio animi, uelũ pietatis obtẽditur (sic leæna, sic tygris fit enixa ferocior,

ferocior, & animalia mansueta, nouæ prolis amor exasperat) uo[illegible] excusatio nulla, uel tamen [illegible] nullum est, ante tot[illegible]s orbis oculos, [illegible]udi estis, digitoq; mon[illegible]ra[illegible]i, populorum omnium cum exprobratione mordaci. Ecce uirtutis (inquiũt) præcones, [illegible] cum de uita [illegible]na, deq; animi libertate mul[illegible]a magnificè loquantur, sine causa tamen, [illegible] tempo[illegible]libus addicti & auaritiæ serui [illegible]. Re enim uera, & [illegible]t de [illegible]mnibus dicat: non ne de uobis tan[illegible] sen[illegible]c uidetur Dauid, ubi ait: Vniuersa uanitas omnis homo uiuens, uerũtamen in imagine pertransit homo, sed & frustrà conturbatur. Et ut rabiem Pontificalis auaritiæ, tot post sæculis futuram notaret expresśius: Thesaurizat (in[illegible]) & ignorat cui congregabit ea. Hæc utiq; uobis ante alios altari Pontifices dicta sunt, pa[illegible]tes quidem thesaurizãtes filijs, & legimus, & uidemus, quamuis sæpè fortuna paternis uotis obstante, quòd alijs partum erat, ad alios deuoluatur, parentum tamen intentio nota est. Vestra intentio quæ nam quæso? Quid agitis, cui thesaurizatis, nisi diabolo, & angelis eius, qui sollicitè uos obseruant, numerant dies, & hæreditatem uestram auidiśsimè præstolantur, gratiśsima trophæa uestris inscripta nominibus, in limine tartari, de manibus spoliatorum pauperum erecturi? Sed admirans percon[illegible]abere, cur hodie potius ista, quàm alias, an uel hactenus, uos non auaros, uel auaritiam uitium non fuisse, uel te, nunc primum oculos aperuisse crediderim, qui prius ista non uideris? Respondebo admirationi tuæ. Et sciebam uos auaros, & auaritiam uitium esse. Nemo usquam est qui nesciat, & in utrunq; non nunc primùm oculos aperio, sed cum fortè nudiustertius uenissem ad te, altaria tua, imò uerò altaria Domini uirtutum, argento atq; auro, & gemmis onusta conspexi, atq; insanis fulgoribus perculsus obstupui, & dixi mecum. Ecce noua auaritiæ arma, nouum pereundi genus. Auaritia nobis nostra non sufficit, nisi auarum quoq; CHRISTVM facimus, & diuos, ipsumq; uocamus in partem, prædamq; Iouem (ut Virgilius ait) Vos quidẽ diuitias malè partas, mitificasse uideamini, si prædæ, rapinarumq; uestrarum pauperem CHRISTVM cogitis esse participem, & auro obsidetis inuitum. Non hic placandi numinis modus. An non legistis apud Senecam, deos tunc propitios fuisse, cum fictiles fuerunt? Atqui deos nunquã propitios fuisse, nec esse potuisse certum est, quomodo enim propitius alijs esse potest, qui miserrimus est sibi? Placet igitur non hæc Senecæ sententia, sed uerba, quæ fœliciori materia licet inserere. Profectò CHRISTVS semper propitius humano generi, sed tunc præsentior fuit, cum fictilis fuit. Hunc aureus atq; gemmatus irascitur, & preces nostras iustiśsima indignatione non audit, non aurũ odit ille, sed cupidos, quibus optandi, quærendiq; nullus est finis. Primi hominum, quòd erat apertè profitebantur, quærebant diuitias, ut abundarent, uos quæritis, ut ornetis CHRISTVM pium opus, si spolijs ille miserorum, & non potius uirtutibus, ac deuotione fideliũ, [illegible]let ornari, & si non fictioni iuncta cupiditas, odiosior Deo esset. Animaduerti olim tale [illegible]uid in principibus, dominisq; terrarum, qui omni studio libros quærunt, petunt, rapiũt, [illegible]cantur, non literarum amore, quas ignorant, sed auaritia inducti, nec animi, sed thalami quærentes ornatum. Nec scientiam, sed nomen, neq; librorum sententias, sed pretia cogitantes, uerum his colorata excusatio, licet falsa non deerit, dicent enim, sobolem se ac posteros cogitare, & uerbo quidem nondum natis, aut quòd uitæ genus eligant prorsus incertis, ueræ autem auaritiæ propriæ atque ignorantiæ bibliotheca congeritur, uobis congerendarum opum, quis est color? Respondebitis, Vt CHRISTI templa farciatis auro, sed quid Persio dicitis, exclamanti?

O curuæ in terris animæ & cœlestium inanes,
Quid iuuat hoc templis uestros immittere mores?

Néue hoc alijs dictum crederetis, audite, ut statim uestro nomine uos appellat:

Dicite Pontifices in sancto quid facit aurum?

Respondete Pon[illegible]ces, uobis enim loquitur. Respondete tot senes, uni iuueni, tot Theologi, uni Poëtæ, tot Christiani, uni pagano. Quid dicitis? In sancto quid facit aurũ? Si respondere negligitis Poëtæ, an non saltem respondebitis Prophetæ: Qui non aurũ, sed alia quædam à uobis ornamenta templorum exigit? Apud Malachiam legitis: Filius honorat patrem, & seruus Dominum suũ timebit. Si ergo pater ego sum, ubi est honor meus? Et si Dominus ego sum, ubi est timor meus? Dicit Dominus exercituum. Et ut noscatis quia uobis dicit. Sequitur: Ad uos ô sacerdotes, qui despicitis nomen meum, nisi fortè quisquã est [illegible] putat ulla unquã ætate, dignius hoc quæsitum, quàm nunc quæritur. Video quidem [illegible]xi, uulgus auaritia ardere, & fateor, nihil excusat. Nulla est enim excusatio peccati, [illegible]rum caritas, [illegible]lexq; necesś[illegible]t[illegible]s, & uulgaris ignorantia crimen leuant. Vos uer[illegible] [illegible]es, dic[illegible] [illegible]id sibi u[illegible]lt hæc [illegible]bies habendi, inter diuitia[illegible]àm certas? In tan[illegible] [illegible]iuinarum, hum[illegible]arumq; notitia, in uita solitaria & cælibe, & de crastino cogitare [illegible]bis

bita, illud mihi fortè uotissimum ingeretis. Aurum habet Ecclesia. Benè si habet, pessimè si habeat. Placent pollutae diuitiae uirorum, uiri diuitiarum penitus non placent, qui cùm somnum suum dormierint, in manibus suis nihil inuenient. Verior igitur illa responsio, quam pro sancta rem propriè Persius ipse subiecit. Cùm enim secundo quaesisset: In sancto quid facit aurum? uulit:

Nempè hoc, quod Veneri donatae à uirgine pupae.

Facessat oro, iam tandem aurum templis inutile, & in alia templa Dei, hoc est, in usus hominum egentium conferatur. Sit CHRISTI charitas, quae seculi pompa est. Nec semper sub obtentu, deuotionis idololatriae seruiatur. Nescuis quòd auaritia est idolorū seruitus. Nulla cui indolis gens abundat, nulli conuenientius dicitur. Cauete à simulachris. Credite mihi Pontifices, aurum potuit CHRISTVS habere, sed noluit, diues esse potuit, dum inter homines agebat, paupertatem maluit. Corynthijs uasis uti potuit, fictilibus usus est. Nolite Pontifices excusationes friuolas aucupari, aut sub CHRISTI nomine pabulum auaritiae, & uestris alimenta furoribus aggregare. CHRISTVS uestro auro non eget, nec uestris superstitionibus delectatur, puri ac nudi cordis est, appetens piorum actuum, honestarum cogitationum, & humilium uoluntatum. Quis inter haec auro locus? Nolite miseri curare, quàm superbè sacrificetis, quàm ornatè, quàm splendidè, sed quàm piè, quàm humiliter, quàm caste, quàm sobriè. Sacrificate quod diruptis uinculis liberatori suo Rex propheta sacrificat hostiam scilicet laudis. Sacrificate sacrificium iustitiae, & sperate non in auro, sed in Domino. Audite Psalmistam surdi, diebus ac noctibus clamantem: sacrificium Deo spiritus contribulatus. Quid hic opus est auro? Spiritu opus est, eoq; non nisi contribulato, opus est corde, sed contrito: & humiliato, hoc est, sacrificium Deo gratum, atque homini sine terrarum effossione parabile, submisso, & immaculato opus est animo. Contrà nec terso, nec tudi, auro opus est. Nescio quid amplius dicam, & uereor uerba iactare, sed si post Prophetam ipsum quoq; Persium, Poëtam audire non piget. Videte, quid ibidem paganus homo, Pontificibus suis dicat:

Quin damus id superis, de magna quid dare lance,
Non posit magni Messalae lippa propago.

Et ne dubium foret, quid est, hoc superis offerendum, quod genere atq; opibus superbi, caeci diuitum filij non possunt, subsecutus expressit:

Compositum ius, fasq; animi, sanctosq; recessus,
Mentis, & incoctum generoso pectus honesto.

Praeclarum uerbum, dignumq; de CHRISTO dictum esset. Tu Vale: & quàm fidel... conuiuijs aurem praebe.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, S. Epist. II.

Veritas, non sectae sequenda.

DEambulamus Romae soli, meum quidem obambulandi Peripateticū morem nosti. Placet naturae, moribusq; meis aptissimus est, ex opinionib. quaedam placent, aliae autem minimè, non etenim sectas amo, sed uerum. Itaq; nunc Peripateticus, nunc Stoicus sum, interdum Academicus, saepè autem nihil horū, quotiens quicquam occurrit, apud eos, quòd uerae ac beatificae fidei aduersum, suspectumue sit; ita enim Philosophorum sectas amare, & approbare permittimur, si à ueritate non abhorrent: si nos à nostro principali proposito non auertunt. Quòd ubi fortè tentauerit, seu ille sit Plato, seu Aristoteles, seu Varro, seu Cicero, libera contumacia contemnantur omnes, atq; calcentur. Nulla disputationum argutia, nulla uerborum lenitas, nulla nominum nos tangat auctoritas. Homines fuerunt, quantum humana inquisitione fieri potuit, & notitia rerum docti, & eloquio clari, & naturali ingenio foelices, sed supremi & ineffabilis obiectū priuatione miserabiles. Et ut, qui uiribus suis fiderent, ueramq; lucem nō requirerent, caecorū in morē saepè lapsi, saepè ad lapidem offendētes. Itaq; sic illorū miremur ingenia, ut ingenij ueneremur auctorē: sic illorū cōpatiamur errōribus, ut nostrae gratulemur, & cognoscamus nos gratuitò, sine ullis meritis honoratos, praelatosq; maioribus, ab illo, qui arcanum suum, quod sapientibus abscondit, paruulis reuelare dignatus est. Deniq; sic philosophemur, ut (quòd philosophiae nomen importat) sapientiam amemus. Vera quidem Dei sapientia CHRISTVS ... ut uerè philosophemur, ille in primis amandus nobis, atq; colendus est. Sic simus omnia, ut ante omnia Christiani simus. Sic philosophica, sic poëtica, sic historias legamus, ut semper ad aurem cordis Euangelium CHRISTI sonet, quo uno satis docti, ac foelices, sine

sine quo quanto plura didicerimus, tanto indoctiores, atq; miseriores futuri sumus, ad quòd uelut ad summam ueri arcem referenda sunt omnia, cui tanquam uni literarum uerarum immobili fundamento, tuto superædificat humanus labor, & cui doctrinæ alias, non ad[illegible] studiosè cumulantes, minimè reprehendendi erimus. Et si enim ad summam re[illegible] modicum, forsan ad oblectamentum, certè animi, & cultiorem uitæ modum plurimum adiecisse u[illegible]bimur. Hæc incidenter, quantum locus iste capere uisus est, dixerim, procedo. Vagabamur pariter in illa urbe, tàm magna, quæ cum propter spacium uacua uideatur, populum habet immensum. Hæc in urbe tantùm, sed circa urbem uagabamur, aderatq; per singulos passus, quòd linguam, atq; animum excitaret. Hîc Euandri regia, hîc Carmentis ædes, hîc Caci spelunca, hîc Lupa nutrix, & Ruminalis ficus, ueriori cognomine Romularis, hîc Remi transitus, hîc ludi Circenses, hîc Sabinarum raptus, hîc Capreæ palus, & Romulus euanescens, hîc Numæ cum Aegeria colloquium, hîc Tergeminorum acies, hîc fulmine ictus uictor hostium, artifexq; militiæ Tullus Hostilius, hîc Rex architector; Ancus Martius, hîc discretor ordinum Priscus Tarquinius habitauit, hîc Seruio caput arsit, hîc carpento insidens atrox Tullia transiuit, & scelere suo uicum fecit infamem. Hæc autem Sacra uia est, hæc sunt Exquiliæ, hîc Viminalis, hîc Quirinalis collis, hîc Cœlius, hîc Martius campus, & Superbi manibus decussa papauera, hîc miserabilis Lucretia ferro incumbens, & in mortem fugiens adulter, & læsæ pudicitiæ uindex Brutus, hîc minax Porsenna, & Hetruscus exercitus, & infestus erranti dextræ Mutius, & Tyranni filius, cum libertate cõcurrens, & hostem urbe depulsum, ad inferos sequẽs Consul, & fractus à tergo uiri fortis pons Sublicius, & Horatius natans, & Tyberis reuehens Clœliam, hic erat Publicolæ, ne quicquam suspecta domus, hic Quintus arabat, dum fieri meruit, de aratore Dictator, hinc abductus Serranus ad Consulatum uenit, hoc est, Ianiculum. Hic Auentinus ille sacer mons, in quo ter irata patribus plebs secessit, hîc libidinosum tribunal Appij fuit, & ferro patris iniuriæ subducta Virginia, & decemuiri luxuriæ dignus finis. Hinc Coriolanus armis fortè uicturus, suorum pietate uictus abscessit, hoc saxum defendit Manlius, hîc excîdit, hîc Camillus inhiantes auro Gallos, subito repulit interuentu, & desperantes ciues, amissam patriam ferro docuit recuperare non auro, hîc descendit Curtius armatus, hîc inuentum sub terra caput hominis, & immotus terminus, præsagium summo, & stabili imperio fuêre, hîc fallax uirgo armis obruta, & suis circumuenta fallacijs. Hæc Tarpeia arx, & Romani populi census toto orbe collectus, hîc anser argenteus, hîc custos armorum Ianus, hoc Statoris, hoc Feretrij Iouis templum, hæc fuerat cella Iouis, hæc domus omnium triumphorum: hûc compulsus est Perses, hînc repulsus est Hannibal, hinc impulsus est Iugurtha (ut quidam opinantur) alij uerò in carcere illum necant, hîc triumphauit Cæsar, hîc perijt. Hoc Augustus in templo reges affusos, & tributarium orbem uidit, hic Pompeij arcus, hæc porticus, hoc Marij cym[illegible]um fuit, hæc Traiani columna, ubi ille unus omnium imperatorum (ut ait Eusebius) intra urbem est sepultus, hic eiusdem pons, qui sancti Petri nomẽ inuenit, & Hadriani moles, cui ipse quoque subiectus est, quod sancti Angeli castrum uocant, hoc est saxum miræ magnitudinis, æneisq; leonibus innixum, diuis imperatoribus sacrum, cuius in uertice, Iul. Cæsaris ossa quiescere fama est. Hæc Telluris ædes, hæc Fortunæ domus, hoc templum Pacis, aduentu uerè pacifici regis euersum. Hoc opus Agrippæ, quod falsorum deorum matri, ueri Dei mater eripuit. Hic uinctus Petrus Nonis Augusti, hinc riuus olei fluxit in Tyberim. Hic (ut fama est) monstrante Sibylla, senex Augustus CHRISTVM uidit infantem. Hæc Neronis insolentia, & in ædificijs feruens luxus, hæc Augusta domus uia Flaminea, ubi sepulchrum ipsius domini quidam tradunt, hæc Antonini columna, hoc eiusdem proximum Appiæ palatium, hoc Seueri Afri Septizonium, quam tu sedem Solis uocas, sed meum nomen, in historijs scriptum lego. Hoc Praxitelis, Phydiæq; extans in lapide, tot iam sæculis, de ingenio, & arte dictamen. Hic CHRISTVS profugo uicario fuit obuius, hic Petrus in crucem actus, hic truncatus est Paulus, hic assatus Laurentius, hic sepultus uenienti Stephano locum fecit, hic spreuit seruens oleum Ioannes, hic Agnes post obitum uiuens, suos flere prohibuit. Hic Syluester latuit, hic lepram deposuit Constantinus, hic gloriosam Calixtus exercuit libitinam. Sed quo pergo? Possum'ne tibi in hac parua papyro Romam designare? Profectò si possim, non oportet. Nosti omnia, non quia Romanus ciuis, sed quia talium in primis rerum curiosissimus, ab adolescentia fuisti. Qui enim hodie magis ignari rerum Romanarum sunt, quam Romani ciues? Inuitus dico, nusquam minus Roma cognoscitur, quā Romæ, qua in re nõ ignorantiā solam fleo, quanquā quid ignorātia peius est, sed uirtutū fugā, exiliūq; multarū. Quis enim dubitare potest, quin illicò surrectura sit, si cœperit se Roma cognoscere? Sed hęc alterius temporis est q̃rela. Solebamus ergo post fatigationẽ,

[illegible] Thermas [illegible] mus [illegible] negô [illegible] qua semel [illegible] satis est [illegible] euntibus [illegible] erat. Quid ergo [illegible] quis [illegible] mu[illegible] nouistu, i[illegible] ego [illegible] anti[illegible] Roma[illegible] statu Roma[illegible] ex[illegible] usq; ad hanc ætatem [illegible] us quoq; [illegible] [illegible] coacta cognomen [illegible] rebus, & de [illegible] quodam, dum in eam m[illegible] flagi[illegible] unde [illegible] liberales, & unde mœc[illegible] habuere, quod [illegible]. Feci quod iubebas, haud dure [illegible] hora [illegible] & uacuus [illegible] tuum cu[illegible] tabatur, ut sermone longiusculo [illegible] admo[illegible] erat. Testatus sum tamen me [illegible] nouum, nil [illegible] mo uerò [illegible] ia enim undecunq; dicimus nostra sunt, [illegible] stul[illegible] no[illegible] ut quod illo die dixi repet[illegible] liter[illegible] mendè. Multa, fateor, dixi, quæ si nô mu[illegible] cupiam, nô possum. Redde mihi illû locû, illud ociû, illâ diem, illâ attenta[illegible] meum uenam, poter[illegible] nquam p[illegible]. Sed mutata sunt o[illegible], locus ab[illegible] um per[illegible] facie tua [illegible] literas aspicio. Ingenio meo relictaiû à tergo [illegible] t, qui adhuc in auribus meis tonat, quamuis ob hoc ipsum in primis, inde [illegible] respondere. Parebo tamen ut potero, possem te ad antiquos, & [illegible] quibus, quod posses acciperes, sed ne ita me liberê, prouidisti, dum [illegible] is, quicquid id est, quod, ut ais, tibi omnia ex ore meo cûm gra[illegible] sonent. Gratiam habeo, siue ita se res habet, siue ita ut accendas animum di[illegible] e[illegible] quod tunc dixi, uerbis fortè alijs, sed eadê profectò sententia. Verum quid [illegible] Nam & non parua res est, & epistola hæc abundè creuit, & nondum cœpimus, & [illegible] extremum est. Vis parumper digitis meis, atq; oculis tuis parcam? Differamus, quæ re[illegible] proximû diem, & laborem, & epistolam partiamur, nec eadem papyro res di[illegible]uersissimas inuoluamus. Sed quid rursum cogito? Quid? uê polliceor tibi diem proximû, e[illegible] pistolamq; alte[illegible]? Nec diei unius opus est, nec epistolare negotiû, librû exigit, quê nô prius aggrediar, si tamen curis maioribus non retrahor, atq; disturbor, quâ in solitudinem meâ me fortuna re[illegible]exerit. Ibi enim, non alibi meus sum, ibi meus est calamus, qui nûc passim reb[illegible] lat & [illegible]it imperiû, molestissimis occupationib. meis fretus. Ita ille, qui ex ocio meo [illegible] [illegible] habet, ex negotio sibi ocium quærit, & quasi impius seruus, ac contumax do[illegible] [illegible] in requiem suam trahit. Vbi uerò primum fines meos attigero, suum iugum sub[illegible] cogam, & de eo, quod quæris, seorsum singulari libro, quid aliorum scriptis, quid meis con[illegible]fectum [illegible] scribam. Sanè ut familiares epistolas, ludens, & in ipso maximè uiarum [illegible] scursu, tumultuq; rerum scribere soleo, sic ad scribendum libros, solitaria quiete, dulciq; o[illegible] [illegible] magno, nec interrupto silentio opus est. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLV[illegible], S. Epist. III.

Humanam calamitatem, nullam beatæ uitæ obesse posse.

VNa mihi tecum lis est, cùm cæterarum rerum omnium sit tan[illegible]a concordia, nimis es quærulus, nimis indulges tibi, sortem propriam deflere, miserari res tuas, excusare teipsum, accusare fortunam. Denique nimis molliter human[illegible] toleras, cum sis homo. Mouit mihi fateor lachrymas, epistolæ tuæ principium, quid enim occ[illegible] [illegible] affectus meos, & ubi constantiâ tuâm requiro, illic propriam dissimulare m[illegible] [illegible] lætum esse iubeo, mœstum me fuisse non inficior. Sed est, quod mihi [illegible] [illegible]tores lachrymę sunt in alienis calamitatibus quàm in nostris, quanquam [illegible] co[illegible] nobis communia, ut nil propriè alienû dici possit ab altero, quòd alteriu[illegible] no[illegible] [illegible] non modo in tanta amicitia, sed ne in communi etiam societate hominum di[illegible] [illegible] us ait: Vbi uiro bono, nullum alienum malum, & humano generi pietat[illegible] ad[illegible] [illegible] à natura lachrymas docet. Quòd tanto antè Comicus dixerat: Homo sum, [illegible] al[illegible]num puto. E[illegible]muer[illegible] uerum e[illegible] non negem tamen haud du[illegible] [illegible] de[illegible]lto, gradus sunt, quibus [illegible]ima, ut [illegible], huma[illegible] [illegible] redi[illegible] angu[illegible] [illegible] Sed quod [illegible] occul[illegible] [illegible] Vt lachr[illegible] sic ipsum mihi finis mouit, adue[illegible]

la sunt

[illegible] N[illegible] [illegible] hæ[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] quid [illegible] quos uel[illegible] os in l[illegible] ad m[illegible] annum p[illegible] co[illegible] tamen [illegible] non negant [illegible] inquam o[illegible] de quorum [illegible] solet e[illegible] contentio, quæ pr[illegible] is nostri pro[illegible] positi non est, d[illegible] mira, s[illegible] sensibus nostris a[illegible] modatior est ætas. Senuit [illegible] b. De quorum primo scri[illegible] t autem Abraham senex [illegible] mortuus est [illegible] ute bona, prouectæque æta[illegible] ad[illegible] autem Isaac [illegible] auerunt oculi eius, & uider[illegible] tusque ætate mortu[illegible] a[illegible] positus populo senex, & [illegible] se[illegible] tute, & clarè uidere no[illegible] ectut[illegible] sed oc[illegible] que caliginem ad defectũ. M[illegible] quo cum ce[illegible] uigin[illegible] ũ, & m[illegible] refertur ita legi[illegible] nec dentes [illegible] ideò [illegible] Cuius succes[illegible] q[illegible] reg[illegible] it, en[illegible] re non potu[illegible] minum dice[illegible] s es. [illegible] congregato po[illegible] dixit ad [illegible] go senui, & p[illegible] oris [illegible] cu[illegible] Deus paruit, qu[illegible] audita [illegible] lunæ præc[illegible] ut staren[illegible] um fugacissimæ diem uitæ c[illegible] ere potuit, ne pro[illegible] eraret, aut o[illegible] se[illegible] Quid D[illegible] N[illegible] ne & ipse senuerat, hab[illegible] atque ætati[illegible] p[illegible] fi[illegible] t. I[illegible] uius & inter homines, & erga D[illegible] at [illegible] ectu[illegible] ut ac[illegible] ubantis puellæ patrocinio, ut [illegible] fu[illegible] & [illegible] addidit: Et enim senui habes cu[illegible] s, at n[illegible] etuam iuu[illegible] ntutem. Omne quòd est ortum, n[illegible] au[illegible] t, mox maturius occasurum. In secularibus [illegible] m[illegible] ue[illegible] s, & si quid tibi tale reprehende[illegible] s, i[illegible] m [illegible] Quippè suprà N[illegible] um Assyri[illegible] de excel[illegible] rerum g[illegible] O[illegible] Nam a[illegible]

[illegible] operis [illegible]
[illegible] erit [illegible] no [illegible] orientis [illegible]
[illegible] at A[illegible] at [illegible]
[illegible] nobilis [illegible] eodem ipsa nata [illegible]
[illegible] exercitio literarum C[illegible] A[illegible]
[illegible] ate terribi em [illegible] cur [illegible]
[illegible] ngioris a[illegible]erunt, [illegible] sane [illegible]
[illegible] era memorant, uitæ [illegible] um [illegible], nec [illegible]
[illegible] d A[illegible]nij crudeli ac nephario imperio [illegible] tum est, [illegible]
[illegible] on [illegible] eruentum e[illegible] merabilis apud nos, Rom[illegible] reg[illegible]
[illegible] ne [illegible] lio, Catonis, Camilli, [illegible] Metelli ac V[illegible] erij [illegible]
[illegible] est ætas, centum anni Appij qui [illegible] filius cæci, de cu[illegible]
[illegible] oc[illegible] uniuersa Resp. con[illegible]um expectabant. Glori[illegible]
[illegible] Pompeius infœlicius, uerum non de fortuna, sed de ætate hic agitur. C[illegible] A[illegible]
[illegible] e omnium maximus ac potentissimus monarcha, post inceptum [illegible]
[illegible] & quod nemo negat, diutissimè, summaque cum pace gubernatum im[illegible]
[illegible] o[illegible] anorum lachrymas, interque castissimæ coniugis amplexu [illegible] se[illegible]
[illegible] at[illegible] anno, placida morte subtractus est. Eandem m[illegible]m tenuit A[illegible]
pe, [illegible] uitæ termino imitatus Augustum. Hieronymus uerò uiuacior fuit, O[illegible]
[illegible] uitæ an[illegible]m uenit, tertium & sexagesimū Bernardus impleuit [illegible] A[illegible]
[illegible] non ita compertum teneo. Omnes tamen procul dubio [illegible]
[illegible] u[illegible] tem fons uitæ est, ne hi parum [illegible] erēt, quo[illegible]m uita multu[illegible]
[illegible] esimum annum uenit A[illegible]us Pollio, Marcus Varro [illegible]
[illegible] s est spacium. Multa de sua senectute locut[illegible]
[illegible] s, ni si ferox di[illegible]pulus uet[illegible]et. Permitte mihi o[illegible]
[illegible] ater, permitte mihi, ut narrationem quæ ualde animum meum p[illegible]
[illegible] fauente & senectus adhuc unicum exemplum, humile quidem, ac [illegible]
[illegible] cui m[illegible] dulcis ac ueneranda recordatio est, tot gloriosorum [illegible]
[illegible] adijciam, nunquam id, si apud alium loqu[illegible] a[illegible]rus. [illegible]
[illegible] sanctissimus, & ingenio quantum sine cul[illegible] literarum [illegible]
[illegible] tei m non tantum de re familiari de negotio, de contra[illegible]m
[illegible] Rep. magistratus quod de A[illegible]o [illegible] traditu acce[illegible]m [illegible]
[illegible], & ad philosophiam [illegible] ec[illegible] ant [illegible] erati homines, præ[illegible]
[illegible] nesque in illius respo[illegible]s, & æquitatem [illegible] & a[illegible]umen inge[illegible]
[illegible] cias, h[illegible] ea [illegible] ate [illegible] conscc a[illegible]
[illegible] o[illegible] a [illegible] ad [illegible] le [illegible] co[illegible]
[illegible] ira[illegible] a[illegible] antes, [illegible] m
[illegible]

[illegible]

... modus, [illegible] s, aut [illegible] praesecuerit [illegible] net qu[illegible] apho praescri[illegible] carm[illegible] quoniam [illegible] fac[illegible] canos [illegible] & [illegible] audian[illegible] s attribuit. V[illegible] es fe[illegible] ue[illegible] t, uerũ alia qu[illegible] nectutis incommoda lam[illegible] unt quatuo[illegible] utio uirium, auocano[illegible] rat [illegible] s. N[illegible] quidem hoc loco in [illegible] rem [illegible] ex inte[illegible] atam retractare temeritas. [illegible] qui infer[illegible] uo lecto nihil erit quòd [illegible] ꝙ qu[illegible] planè grauissim[illegible] ꝙ empus [illegible] tinet, [illegible] qu[illegible] mo[illegible] tra quòd do[illegible] oris a[illegible] mutuitae termin[illegible] est [illegible] re[illegible] debilitas, [illegible] libet aetatis parte se offerat, [illegible] De [illegible] ertate quid dicam? Quin [illegible] pauperiores sunt, quò plu[illegible] [illegible] mam, atque omni stud[illegible] fug[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] m[illegible]er ar[illegible] r[illegible]tatem in [illegible]do pectoribus [illegible] nuditate [illegible] nece[illegible]tat[illegible] triumphant[illegible] [illegible]s n[illegible]rat te[illegible]. Aude [illegible]sum [illegible]us exe[illegible]pla inse [illegible]es, nolo [illegible] indel[illegible]te, a[illegible]res ad [illegible] a[illegible]dendum prop[illegible] [illegible]guinem, pro[illegible] [illegible]enda[illegible]q; animas, quàm a[illegible] diuitias [illegible]ere ma[illegible] [illegible]citur & tu hospes, [illegible]n habe[illegible] [illegible] dep[illegible]nere sar[illegible] ar[illegible]bus importu[illegible] [illegible] or a[illegible]to exp[illegible] [illegible]eris. A[illegible]am, [illegible]temnere [illegible]pes, & [illegible] q; dignum finge Deo. Quis enim d[illegible]pes, poten[illegible]amq; [illegible]on[illegible] [illegible] memineris ut [illegible] cæteros, CHRISTI [illegible] [illegible] humilem paupertatem, [illegible] [illegible]c co[illegible]tatio illa succreuerit, quantum [illegible] admiratu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]s ex[illegible]ptatæ, experitæq; [illegible] sec[illegible]er[illegible] Ce[illegible] Sa[illegible] apud [illegible]ens habetur, ut Lycurgus apud Lacedæmonios, [illegible] a[illegible] [illegible]heniens[illegible] [illegible]us [illegible]ud nostros, non diuitias, neq; paupertatem optat à Deo su[illegible]rbien[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible]mat[illegible]iam, quid erg[illegible] tanti uictu[illegible] meo tribue (inquit) [illegible]. Q[illegible] [illegible] Habentes uictum (inquit) & quibus tegamur, his [illegible]. At [illegible] diuitias optamus, sed in his ipsis nihil magis appetimus quam q[illegible]d [illegible]ocet, [illegible]e[illegible] excessum. Quid enim oro te, quid est in auaritia quòd delectat, nempe [illegible] q[illegible]ren[illegible]bor, quam seruand[illegible] pauor. Nil inquã aliud quàm [illegible]as, [illegible]s, [illegible]me[illegible]s & extremo[illegible] fures, ad extremum mures a[illegible]cas. [illegible]er [illegible]a, a[illegible] m[illegible]o, omnes curas, ipsumq; cor uiuentis in auro sepelit: cum [illegible] [illegible] V[illegible] [illegible]au[illegible]us tuus, ibi cor tuum. Verè ergo mise[illegible]a est,

[illegible] cus[illegible] sensus. sed hæc nobis accidunt nescientibus (ut ait Flaccus)

Q[illegible]d ualeat nummus, quem præbeat usum.

[illegible] [illegible]nestus diuitiarũ modus acce[illegible]erit, paupertas dura uidebi[illegible]r, sunt [illegible] illa [illegible] a[illegible] fo[illegible]tun[illegible], [illegible] duo diuitiarum gradus, à Seneca descripti, habere quod nece[illegible], [illegible]d sat est. Accedat & tertius, quòd abundè est, & quartus, accre[illegible]at q[illegible]d[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible]d pu[illegible]tor, [illegible]onec ad id anhelando, & æstuando peruenerim[illegible]s, q[illegible]d [illegible] [illegible] nocere [illegible]per[illegible], nisi caussas miseriarum, & laborum, & forsan fe[illegible]atæ [illegible] [illegible]uitiæ non erunt, sed quid rursus ago, qui tibi aduersus paupertat[illegible] arm[illegible] [illegible]nq; [illegible]e hac se non ta[illegible]tum dici, sed co[illegible]itari possunt, n[illegible]ta sunt tibi. Vn[illegible] [illegible] hæc quod tibi non subt[illegible]am. Equidem, ut euacuat o[illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ec[illegible]ssaria est paupertas. Tergiuer[illegible]ntur licet, ut audio q[illegible]de[illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]upertatem tamen uel expressè, uel [illegible]a[illegible]tè nouisti. Benè habet, tu [illegible] [illegible]. Iam quę a[illegible] arripuitq;, uonis o[illegible]tanda necessitas, quæ te c[illegible] [illegible] debeas, CHRISTI ser[illegible]s es, scis quid illi co[illegible]uc[illegible]eris, sile, patien[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]equis auribus audire. Perindè mihi paupert[illegible]tem de[illegible]es, quasi ne[illegible]as, [illegible] [illegible]ar[illegible]itam, nudum egressurum, & quasi n[illegible]n paupertatem CHR[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ofessu[illegible]. Crede mihi pater, p[illegible]u[illegible]ertas [illegible] mul[illegible]is utilis, ad sal[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] hi[illegible] [illegible]m impatien[illegible]a & lamen[illegible] exa[illegible]perant, [illegible] [illegible]e[illegible] aria, & salutaris est, ut sine illa neq; saluu[illegible] esse, neq; [illegible] [illegible] H[illegible] in præsens de honesta & sobria paupertate per[illegible]nxer[illegible]m. [illegible] & [illegible], q[illegible] turpis egesta[illegible], ap[illegible]d [illegible]ocram d[illegible]citur. Deo g[illegible]atias [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]dam, maioris eloquentiæ [illegible]s opus esset. Iam hinc ad [illegible] [illegible]st [illegible] quis eo[illegible]o bo[illegible]tentus [illegible] hanc epistolę part[illegible] [illegible] ocu[illegible] [illegible]t, omc[illegible] spi[illegible]m, aut pulueris [illegible] lenitiuum cu[illegible] [illegible]rare. V[illegible]o labori [illegible] parcere [illegible] [illegible]tens hoc spe[illegible] [illegible]neris remedia, M[illegible]dicorum eri[illegible] [illegible]ior[illegible] ag[illegible] [illegible] om[illegible] ni diuitis desperandum, [illegible] [illegible]pi spera[illegible] [illegible]æ pest[illegible] [illegible]ab[illegible]t. Si ho[illegible] [illegible] audire u[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]m dolor [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ere [illegible], exercit[illegible] lab[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

frugali-

fr[illegible]litatem uocant, quam definiunt uoluntariam paupertatem. [illegible] olim [illegible] dixi [illegible], quando non [illegible] d[illegible]e [illegible] quem quo [illegible] at [illegible]s [illegible] pede, e me [illegible] paupertas acce[illegible] ut ex qui[illegible] an[illegible] pe[illegible], ex [illegible]am her[illegible]is amari[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible]ima m[illegible], ita [illegible] n[illegible] ex tuis m[illegible] pessis c[illegible] e re[illegible]dia, & de [illegible] habe[illegible]. [illegible] mod[illegible] sermo est, auctoritatibus [illegible] exem[illegible]s [illegible] A[illegible]ius, hic integræ R[illegible] Legiones. Nulla enim gens i[illegible] genere hominum, Po[illegible]us, Anaxarchus, & quò u[illegible]s, eo n[illegible] p[illegible]m. Ser[illegible]us Afer, [illegible] domini à T[illegible] Liuio relatus, qui torme[illegible] lacerat[illegible] non ingemuit, sed [illegible]erantè læti[illegible]a dolores, speciem quoque præbuit ridentis. [illegible] lia fert id genus, [illegible] quibus non modò epistolam impleas, sed librum. Veruntamen, [illegible] post Ciceronem uerecundum, modestumque silentium uidetur. Et fe[illegible] sculanas disputationes liber, quem sæpe salubrem in meis [illegible] gnes uiros audiui de libri illius efficacia similia memorantes. [illegible] u[illegible]m, illum in manibus habeas, quotiens notis indicijs, aduentare [illegible] lorem. Quanquam est alia multo dulcior, multoque suauior, & d[illegible]o ac [illegible] dignior medicina, in omnibus laboribus ac doloribus nostris, quibus [illegible] mortalis, meminisse laborum ac dolorũ, quos nobis [illegible] R ST V [illegible], meminisse [illegible] [illegible]bus uulnera nostra sanara, nosque periculo sempiternæ mortis [illegible] clauorum ac lanceæ pretiosissimique sanguinis, quo lauacro sordibus ab[illegible]is recreati, [illegible] meater admoniti [illegible]mus, temporales alto animo calcare molestias, [illegible] æter[illegible] [illegible]ationis, & pœnarum immortalium supplicia formidare. Illud insuper meminisse profuerit, non modò CHRISTVM, cui propter Deitatem suam propter incomparabilem [illegible] inaccessibilemque potentiam omnia prona erant atque facilia, sed candidat[illegible] quoque [illegible] cant martyrum exercitum multosque ut nos sumus mortales homines, &, quod mir[illegible] noris est, non modò uiros fortes, sed sæpe etiam muliercidas ac puellas, diuino spiritu [illegible] tas illa pertulisse, in quorum comparationem quicquid pareris, quies atque solat[illegible] possi[illegible]. Tria hæc, tibi & in[illegible]mis professionis tuæ debito notissima, ideoque di[illegible] sto, ad secretiora festinans. Est remedij genus, quod tu fortè non cogitas, quod cu[illegible] g[illegible] mihi literas tuas subitò occurrisset, risum mouit, ut dixi, nolo autem indigneris me [illegible]od in meis sæpe soleo, in tuis malis etiam iocari, non in doloribus tantùm, sed in [illegible] litos, ui[illegible]os fortes, doctosque comperim[illegible]s, testes sunt Vespasianus princeps, [illegible] losophus. Patere me in pedum tuorum doloribus idem facere, quanquam non me[illegible]s, sed ueritate conditus iocus meus est. Quid enim putas? recense Pater ab adolescentia [illegible] tuos, & in an[illegible]um stare nesci[illegible], uidebis ut frenum equo indomito, sic tibi nece[illegible] podagram. [illegible]et necessaria fors[illegible]n, & mihi ut iam tandem stare loco discerem ac [illegible] bitate, tibi tamen proculdubi[illegible] ante omnes, quos ego nouerim, necessaria est. [illegible]es ex[illegible] stræ habitabilis zonæ terminos, tra[illegible]es Oceanum, adisses antipodas, nullum tibi [illegible] re[illegible]dionem, qua p[illegible]les in reli[illegible]is ratio fecisset. Quid multa? Non alij quàm p[illegible] x[illegible] q[illegible]is [illegible]bi frenum stringit, iubetque con[illegible]ere. Quid ais? pare[illegible]s, u[illegible] No[illegible] autem in[illegible]am arbitrari nihil cuiquam tempestiuius accidit, nihil unquam o[illegible] nius, [illegible]uitantem c[illegible]nam ma[illegible]ster puppis fune, uel anchoris regit, & tibi prope ter[illegible] pri[illegible]es [illegible] cuectu[illegible], an[illegible]ora iacta est. Perm[illegible] tibi [illegible], uagam ac [illegible] [illegible]em, [illegible] daturus ferias uidebaris, podag[illegible] [illegible]ene[illegible]o [illegible] [illegible]um [illegible]um cautus past[illegible] alligat u[illegible] d[illegible]cursu uetito [illegible]iescendi, [illegible] [illegible]itas A[illegible] tui pro[illegible]entiam. Non te in Perside, non in Arabia, uel Ae[illegible] [illegible], sed in p[illegible] iam integro me[illegible] [illegible] &, [illegible]ui, nunquam [illegible] [illegible] & a[illegible] s. Ad cumulum enim grat[illegible] cel[illegible] ac [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] ... Tit. III [illegible]

[illegible]

E [illegible] sed [illegible] ... Satyr [illegible] ... [illegible] non fecit [illegible]

[illegible] ... ur exc[illegible]is [illegible] ... co an[illegible] esse, quo sum e[illegible] ... um hominem. Iuuat enim [illegible], iuuat animum ex[illegible] ... an [illegible] quid, atque [illegible] ind[illegible] & [illegible] ... fit. Id [illegible] eter. expe[illegible] ... rem [illegible] ... cum his quibus [illegible] cupit, admoue[illegible]m. [illegible] ... lego gratiam habeo, si mihi [illegible] positis exemplis hanc expe[illegible] ... mihi gratiam hab[illegible]uros [illegible] me legent. Fallor fortan[illegible] ... non fallens. [illegible] rei caus[illegible]. Altera est [illegible] ... endum [illegible] cum ma[illegible] is ue[illegible] no [illegible] ... os [illegible] us in [illegible] sydere datum [illegible] rem [illegible] ... ctas exerceo, ut hos fu[illegible]. [illegible] enim h[illegible] ... illo[illegible], & c[illegible] a n[illegible] ... m[illegible] ... mortalis [illegible] us d[illegible]lectar[illegible]. Q[illegible] ... os uiuere, q[illegible] cum u[illegible] d[illegible]em obierunt. Hos in[illegible] ... antes, [illegible] os, [illegible], & [illegible] ... a, [illegible] & [illegible] a ca[illegible]a. V[illegible] ... os xte[illegible] r[illegible]cep[illegible]m. Habe ergo, q[illegible] ... qu[illegible] admirati[illegible], m[illegible] re[illegible] ... d'alis pro[illegible] ... C[illegible]os, [illegible] ... [illegible]

[illegible] & non co[illegible] [illegible]larum habitu, pari tamen a[illegible] uirtute, eademq; Reip pietate pr[illegible] N[illegible] r Themistocles fieret [illegible] ad [illegible] exem[illegible]is acce[illegible] s [illegible] t[illegible] p[illegible] mu[illegible] x[illegible], nunquam lu[illegible] [illegible] æ c[illegible] af. e[illegible] t, n si m[illegible] ar[illegible] Marium ab adolescentia d[illegible] t. [illegible] Alexandri profuit imago. in te[illegible] lis Gadibus conspecta, qua m[illegible] x[illegible] a[illegible] res agendi, non ex ir [illegible], [illegible] ait Tranquillus, ingemuit. Ptole[illegible] æ [illegible] st[illegible] m p[illegible] o b[illegible] a[illegible] m[illegible] a[illegible] imitandi studium a[illegible] re, q[illegible] o [illegible] Maximum [illegible] Q C[illegible] r. S[illegible] io- nem [illegible] e [illegible] olitos, Crispus refert, quan[illegible] magis ipsa u[illegible] us [illegible] clario dum pr[illegible] ponitur n[illegible]n marmore, sed exemplo? Corporũ nempè liniamenta [illegible] ur fortan expressius con- ti[illegible] c[illegible] r, rerum uerò gestarum, morumq; not[illegible] ia atq; ha[illegible] itu[illegible] a[illegible] rum ha[illegible] ie ple- ni[illegible]s atq; perfectius uerbis, quàm incudibus exprimuntur, nec [illegible] p[illegible] p[illegible] e mihi [illegible] de[illegible] di- cturus, statuas corporum imagines, exempla uirtutum. Quid de [illegible] n[illegible] loqua[illegible] imitatio unu[illegible] ne par f[illegible] derum linguæ Latinæ Ciceronem ac Virgili[illegible] m [illegible] t[illegible] e iam a[illegible] s Græci[illegible] in parte eloquentiæ ced[illegible] emu[illegible]. Dum hic H[illegible] neru[illegible], qui[illegible] ur[illegible] e De mo[illegible] a[illegible] er du[illegible]em suum attigit, alter à tergo liquit. [illegible] omni h[illegible] m[illegible] nere licet o[illegible] e[illegible]ere. [illegible] cm, sed in eo, quod in me reprehenditur arc[illegible] u[illegible], nolim h[illegible] d.e[illegible] u[illegible] d[illegible] f. V[illegible] um etiam nunc exemplum, tibi notissimum, quo nimis [illegible] rersere m[illegible] re [illegible] a [illegible] o. S[illegible] dem quem uitæ callem eripe[illegible] et, diutissime fluctuante Aug[illegible] sti[illegible] o & A[illegible] & Vi- cto[illegible] rhetoris ac martyris profuit exemplum: nec non & illorum [illegible]uorum, in rebus agen- tium [illegible] ud Treueros, repentina conuersio, quàm cum sibi Pontianus miles imperatorius enarrasset, [illegible] Augustini uerba tenes octauo, nisi memoria frustrat, confessionum libro po[illegible]. Exar[illegible] inqu[illegible]) an imitandum. Ad hoc enim, & ille narrauerat. Hæc er[illegible]o consilij mei ratio e[illegible], propter o[illegible] seruatores ac miratores meos, sæpius iteranda. Video enim quam mul- tis exempla contulerint, ad uirtutem, & quid in me agant sentio, & de alijs idem spe[illegible] sse fallor, res periculo abest, & quibus exempla non placent, non negant, neminem cogo, & si me rogas, à paucis legi malim. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA BARBATO SVLMONENSI, S. Epist. V.

Regis Roberti mortem deplorat.

HEu quàm uiolenti, quamq; ineuitabiles sunt fortunæ exitus uel præuisi, sæpè qui- dem, [illegible] nosti, Barbate amantissime, de fortuna, deq; alijs quibusdam loqui soleo, ut [illegible]gus, ne in sermone cõmuni singula[illegible]is appaream, si seorsum interroger, re- spo[illegible] rus fortasse longè aliter. Sed tran[illegible] eò ne sibi hæream, acturus aliud, de hac re superuacuis di[illegible] putatiunculis implicer, abstraharq;. Vt autem cœptum sequar, & fortuna omnipotens, & ineluctabile fatum, non cùm uulgo solùm, sed cum maximis atq; doctissi- mis [illegible]uibusdam uiris, & in primis cum Virgilio uideri posset, nisi & unus omnipotens, & fat[illegible] men in ore catholico suspectum foret: at quæcunq; uis illa sit, seu Dei iuditio, seu per- m[illegible], res hominum uersans haud dubiè magna uis, & prorsus ineluctabilis est & aduersus quam fr[illegible]strà imbecillitas nostri conatus a[illegible]ingitur. Nam in cursu facili, consilium huma- n[illegible] primit, mali moles, & mortale remedium discutit, inuicta necessitas. Id si unquam [illegible] nc maximè intellectum, conspectumq; clarissime est. Rogo quid noui, quid inopi- n[illegible] id[illegible]? Quis non ista præuiderat? & præuidisse, quid profuit? Tàm profundè enim totis [illegible] i præcordijs, se nequitiæ dirum uirus infuderat, ut iam nisi mortiferum esse non posset, [illegible] m audaci[illegible]e, tantumq; licentiæ reprobor um, tanta piorum desperatio, tantus mœror [illegible]rat, erant crebra undiq;, uelut in stantium procellarum signa, graues frontes, turbida [illegible] obduxerat, & turbida pectora pugnaces urgebant uenti, fulgurabant oculi arden- tes, [illegible]ant ora minacia, tonabantq;. Propè erat ut manus impiæ fulminarent, æquor aulicũ [illegible]mebat iamq; æstus horrisonus, & reciproci fluctus, & obscœnæ aues, & peregrina pr[illegible]a, ue[illegible]ris latè litoribus recursabant. Morte regis mutata regni facies, & cum unius u[illegible]a, omnium uig[illegible]r & consilium euanuisse uidebant. Spectabamus hæc omnes, fu- [illegible]se[illegible]s ac præsentibus angebamu[illegible] m[illegible]lis: loqui autem quis auderet, ubi uix libe- [illegible]tat[illegible] erant, & non tantum uo[illegible]bus, sed nutibus parata supp[illegible]a? Quamobrem tri- [illegible] omnes, in thalamis murmur ambiguum, mœsta præsagia, & impenden[illegible]um nun- [illegible] taci[illegible] a[illegible]res, metus ac dolor. Deniq; sic apertis oculis torpuerant animi, quasi [illegible] horrenda præst[illegible]gere. Nemo, ni fallor, unus hom[illegible]num me aper-

tius timuit, doluitq; libe... nem... fatunæ portenta & introspexit ... & ... macius, aut ligna percussit, aut calamo. Heu quanta, quamq; eu... dens prouerbiorum ... des? Mala uati ... cinetur(inquiunt) qui uates ueri... us fieri uult. E... iterum. Raro ulla calamitas sola uenit. Sic est, ... ab ... is audiuimus ... idemus. Magna semper ærumnar... acies, incom... de ... eriæ, ... mal... as ... cid... Te se nouerit ... in unam incidit. Quidem ... tanta malorum co... a mise... os mul... e necesse est, sic in tanto bonorum inopia fœlices paucos, & sanè miseros, miserorūq; gemitibus, atq; querelis referta sunt omnia. Contra autem quam iri mortalib... is rara fœlicitas, quis non uidet, cum & in hoc uitę ... amite, si acriter intueare fortunæq; phaleras diligenter excutias, nemo usquàm uerè fœlix, aut uotorum plenè compos occurrat, & apud scriptores rerum, uix comitem unum procul in ultimis Arcadum latebris, fœlix ille habitus Metellus inuenerit. Quibus ita se habentibus, quis miretur ut in hominum turbam coniecta spicula, sic in congeriem malorum missa uaticinia non ... rare? Vtq; ad ... illa, sic ad uerum ista pertingere. Meministi amice, ut olim pr... clen... urbis, uiuo ad... uc, mox extincto Rege, cui soli suum, hoc & proprium nomen fuit, ab... ns literis, nec multo post præsens iterum uiua uoce, non sine suspirijs quid sentirem, quidue in posterum præsagirem, quasi iam tunc uenturi certus explicui. Videbam enim, subtractum regni fastidiu fundamentum, erantq; sub oculis ... ruentis regiæ graues ... Ca... adolescentis innocui primum omnium hac ruina oppressum iri, fateor, ... onui debam, nescio quid obstabat, feralibus coniecturis id unum qu... in malis pessimum erat abscondens, quanquàm, ut meminisse uideor, iam inde, pr... is ad te ... ris agnum lupis obiectum, utinam non tam certo dixerim augurio, & profect... up... morsus ac rabiem, & illa communia per... itorum hominum, contemptum, odium, inuidiam, dolum, rapinā, carcerem exilium cogitabam. Tales homines, talem mortem nec cogitare didiceră, nec uereri, quippè qui nullis ex tragœdijs, tàm nepharias, & tàm truces insidias meminissem. Tulit ecce feracissima scelerum ætas nostra: quo glorietur antiquitas, quo se posteritas consoletur, utq; omne xitum fiat excusabile, hoc in tempus sæuitiæ, ac totius inhospitalitatis erupit. O' breui multum mutata Neapolis, O' infœlix Auersa: uerè auersa, nomen ex re sumptum, Auersa (inquam) prorsus ab humanitate ac fide, quarum prima homini, secunda Regi, & iusto domino debebatur, in te utriusq; spreta reuerentia, utriusq; in te laciū gentibus fractum fœdus. In te enim fraude impia perijt Rex tuus, ferro utinam, aut uirili morte alia, ut hominum manibus interfectus, nō ferarum dentibus atq; unguibus laceratus uideretur. O' iniquo condita sydere, infausto signata uomere, cementis extructa sanguineis, & ulpereis habitata cultoribus, magistra urbs crudelium exemplorum. Abunde impietatis & criminum erat, animantum principis sacro sanctam effigiem, ad imaginem Dei factam, uiolare tàm atrociter, tàm superbè, nunc id scelus non in homine, quolibet ausa es, sed mitissimum, inno centissimum hominum, & dominum tuum, & ante annos tui sollicitum, tui amantem, raræ indolis puerum, magnæ spei regem, truculentissimè laniasti. Imò non tu, sed in te acres & immites, dicam homines an belluas? an quod aduentitiū genus monstri, qui orbem Italicum Barbarica feritate maculantes, tuum, suumq; regem, non gladio, non ueneno, dura licet ac solita regum morte, sed uelut incendiarium, aut latronem, infami laqueo peremerunt, & cuius uertici debitum ac speratum diadema, diū perfida tergiuersatione distulerant, eius collo restem, & nodos miserabiles iniecerunt. Vt exequiarum genere alio, & uita longiore dignissimi corporis ludibria indigna prætercam, si nostro fortè silentio posterorum notitiæ subtrahantur, tu quidem misera ciuitas, hæc perpessa tuis in penetralibus, quæ omnes terras & omnia sæcula tristi sint inquinatura memoria. Cæterùm & culpæ expers, nisi quod patientia criminum, sæpe consensui proxima est, & nec obstare poteras, nec ulcisci, miseratione potius digna, quàm odio. At tu CHRISTE sol iustitiæ, cuncta uidens, & æternis radijs uniuersa collustrans, ut quid hanc infamiæ, nebulæ passus es, terris nostris incumbere, cùm posses tàm facilè, nisi delicta hominum obstarent, uapores noxios odiorum, caliginosæ noctis algore c... cretos, feruido tui amoris splendore perrumpere? Tu autem summe Regum nostri temporis Roberte, quam ex aliqua cœli parte, res nostras & miserari crediderim, & spectare, quibus hoc nephas luminibus aspex... is, & hāc tantam tui sanguinis iniu... iam, quo anim... ... An non po... eras pris ... An poteras, sed nolebas? Subd... ... ectura. ... enim simillimum ueri fit, te cœlesti gaudio repletum, terrenis doloribus non moueri, nunquid tamen tuorum charitate atq; ingenita ... non tangeri? Vtcunq; est, fœlicem te, qui hunc diem in corpore habitans, ... quin ... pe... te, nunquam

nunquam iam flebilis illuxisset dies, nunquã tantum in uidiæ licuisset. Fuit enim uerè fons ... coac... atq; animorum, ultrix, altrix, expultrixq; perfidiæ, ac uelut quædam ... gregibus tuis, ut tu ... doribus ... Quod si huma... oblitare decretis æthereis ... act, optanda utiq; & penitus opportuna ... quæ oculos tuos, quibus adhuc naturæ legibus horror, & lachrymæ inerant, tam ... saeculo liberaret. Proh dolor, ... illud ... charu ... dulce ... qui ... seruandum, colendumq; co... cras pe... non somn... ignauia ... sed flammanti odio & inuidia stimulati. O ultrix scelerum iu... neq; illi aut innocentia, aut sanguis, aut maiestas profuit? Non hominum quisquàm aut Deorum, non quæ efficacissima sperabatur tui recordatio opem tulit, uoces illas, monitusq; nouissimos pij patris, & regis optimi. Quibus moriens, quantum mortali consilio d... erat in longum & familiæ ... prospexeras, & regno prærupta, desperataq; nequitiæ ... atq; omnis ... humani iuris contexit obliuio. Sed iam fletuum satis est, ... finem ... Cum enim ut dicebam, & crebra, & ... nitata ueniant mala, cum rara & ... bona ... ex hoc malo nescio quid malorum sequi uideo, quod ne iterum certior, ... mali nuntij uates sim, silentio premam. Meliora cuncta proueniant quàm spero. Nec Reipub. noceat paucorum furor qui in illis, quorum est, inultus (ut au... ... Et si enim diuina iustitia, sæpe misericordiæ succumbat, in his tamen hoc accidit, quos pudet, ac poenitet, non his qui flagi... ... Hæc tibi quoq; Sorgiæ ad fontem, quo ... e tanto Italiæ naufragio, uel ... portum fugi, & præteriti dolens, & uenturi trepidus, dictabam Cal. Sextil. intempesta n... Vale tui cautus, memor mei.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ ... S. Epist. VI.

Deploratis ... corrigendis, inanem esse laborem.

Sine illum, linque eum sibi, ætatem habet, usæ patent, ire licet quocunq; libet, demitte in collum habenas homini indomito, frustrà niteris, repeto, linque sibi, eat quò fert animus, crede autem mihi, non ascendet. Vidisti equos ad iter & ascensum pigros, ad pugnam pauidos, tamen impatientes socij, frementesq;, degeneris animi, signum est insultare minoribus, non posse comitem pati, nocere cum possit occasionem expectare, non causam. Muscæ macros stimulant boues, pauperem peregrinum canis infestat: homunculum nostrum his exemplis ascribito. Vbi uel miserabilis orbitas, uel extrema paupertas, deniq; ubi defensionis est minus, ibi plus sæuitiæ, nocendiq; feruentior libido, qua in re nihil deliberat, nisi an facultas adsit, uoluntas nunquam abest, & semper una. Quid castigas igitur? Perdis operam, plus aliquid quàm uerba requirit hoc malum, da illi parem aduersarium, confestim ardor iste tepuerit, semper erit lupus oue conspecta, admoue lupum, ouis erit. Quid igitur (ut ait Flaccus) obseratis auribus fundis preces, quin tu, sine illum sceleribus obrutum, & oppressum suis superbia tumidum, ardentem auaritia, iracundia rabidum, inuidia tabescentem, libidinibus efferatum, gulæ, uentrisq; mancipium, nimio semper sopore confectum, & (ut ait Maro)

Somno, uinoq; sepultum.

Quid enim huic facias? Quid loquaris? Dolio loqueris, & quidem pleno, & nil penitus re... nsuro, nil intellecturo, nil etiam audituro. Perpropriè in hunc dixisse Licinius Crassus ... eretur, modo barbam æneam haberet, cætera enim adsunt. Os ferreum, cor plumbeum, ... callosas aures, callosumq; animum habet. Callum mendacijs superductum, uera uerba non penetrant. Nescio an ex illis sis, quibus perdere uerba leue est, illud certè scio, quæ homine uerba perdūtur, tollerabilis fore iactura, nisi contemptus hinc simul, atq; odium quærerentur. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ MESSANENSI, S. Epist. VII.

Loquaces contemnendos.

Quod ad studium rei familiaris attinet, coaceruandasq; diuitias, prouidentissimum hominem, omniumq;, quos ego quidem nouerim, circumspectissimum, non nego, quiquè non in uultu tantum, sed (ut Plautina anus) in occipitio quoque oculos habet. Cæterùm in eo quod de eloquentia hominis addidisti, longè ... Inter facundum enim ac loquacem largiter refert, alterum

qualitatis est, quantitatis alterum. Hoc ingenium, & ars, & exercitatio modesta, illud præceps impetus, & impudentia præstabunt. Contraria sunt hæc, plærique tamen in discernendo falluntur, tu illo loquente, si diligentius aduertens, fateberis, ut nihil prorsus, sic nihil illius sermone durius, nihil asperius, nihil intempestiuius, quod non ideo ut illi, cuius nomen sciens sileo, eloquentiæ falsam famam, sed ut tibi iudicij errorem eripiam, dictum scio. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMÆ MESSANENSI, S. Epist. VIII.

Munera ut recipienda.

QVam pauper, quam ite sis diues nescio, loquor de arculis, animus enim proculdubio diues est, ... in eo mare, sua secum bona circumferens, nec incendio peritura, nec naufragio, & quibus nihil omninò non prædonum uini, non furum metuit dolos, non rubiginem, tineasque, non morbos, non mortem, non senium, non ruinam. De arcula sanè idcirco sum dubius. Quia dum animū, moresque tuos, fortunamque simul existimo, simulque non multis, sic nonnullis egere te suspicor. Sicut enim insanorum est, innumerabilibus indigere, sic uerum est, quod ait Xenophon ille Socraticus. Nihil egere est Deorum, quam minimè autem proximùm à dijs. Quamobrem quia de arcula ipsa, nuper à conscio quodam, nescio quid au... rousili parte succurrēdum statui. Esse itaque de fortunæ meæ si reliquijs dicam super... quā... elim, si de muneribus aliter loquar ac sentio, dicam ergo, de muneribus, quibus ille me talia non curante, supra spem, ut præque uotum cumulare dignatus est, aliquantulum ad te misi, quod quantulumcunque est, haud dubito dignanter accipies, & in exigua re, paruo uelut in speculo conspiciens, magnū mentis affectum, munusculi paruitatem, animi uoluntate pensabis. Non quod ego sim nescius, quosdam fortes, quosdam doctos ac simillimos tui uiros, & utrosque magnanimos, frustra olim muneribus fuisse tentatos, in quibus antè alios est Fabricij clarum nomen, & Curij Romanorum ducum, quorum alter Pyrrhi regis, alter aurum contempsisse Samnitium laudatur. Clarius uterque contemptus, sed nobilitatis alter etiam claritate responsi. Quamuis enim scholastici quidam, more suo confundant historias, responsum tamen illud nobile, & famosum, Romanos nolle aurum, sed aurum habentibus imperare, non Fabricij, ut uulgus putat, ad regem, sed Curij est, ad Samnitium legatos. Xenocrates legatos Alexandri Macedonis, cum quinquaginta talentis, ad eum ab ipso Rege transmissos, inuitatos ad cœnam, in uillam Academiæ ac medioqui, & minimè apparato cibo, Philosophicè habitos, cùm dimisisset, postridie reuersos, quærentesque cui numerari pecuniam regis uellet, sic increpuit. Quid uos (inquit) hesterna cœna, non intellexistis, me pecunia non egère. Quo responso cum mœstos factos cerneret, ne munus, ac legationem regiam spreuisse diceretur de magna pecunia, exiguam particulam accepit, reliquū referri iussit ad regem. Fertur erga eundem regem & Diogenis Cynici contemptus, ad quem uersatili dolio habitantem, cum Alexander uidendi cupidus uenisset, & miratus hominem quæsisset: An donari sibi à rege aliquid uellet. Cætera (inquit) aliàs, nunc ut à sole dimoueas peto. Erat enim hyems, & fortè tunc fundo testæ illius ad Aquilonem obuerso, ore autem ad meridiem applicabatur seminudus, sed feruens animi seniculus. Facetum hoc, duriùs & propè superbum Demetrij responsum, qui missum sibi ab imperatore Romano aurum, ridendo ita contempsit, ut diceret: Si tentare me uoluit, toto illi fueram experiendus imperio. Calanus Indus, dum ingenti lignorum congerie extructa, & incensa more patrio, nudus ad uoluntariam mortem iret, Alexandro Macedoni obuio, & quærenti similiter. Num se aliquid uellet: Nihil (inquit) est opus, breui te uidebo. Sed hic quidem miri nihil, quod enim non spernat, qui ipsam propter quam cætera concupiscimus, uitam spreuit? Contemptus sanè miraculum, suppleuit uaticinij certa fides, siquidē intra dies paucos, Alexander apud Babylona cratere illo, Persarum atque Indorum ultore, consumptus est. Vrbanius aliquantò Dindymus, ad quem nudum cum Alexander, idem omni fastu regio deposito uenisset, in extrema solitudinum, è cunctis muneribus ab opulentissimo rege sibi allatis, non nisi minima & uilissima rerum sumpsit, ne contemptus asperior insolentiæ notaretur. Sed hæc singulorum hominum, illa publica animorum, & incomparabilis altitudo, Pyrrhi règis, cuius suprà memini legatus Cyneas, ui... enio & sapientia excellens, immensis cum muneribus Romam missus, e natu primum atque [illegible] ... us cunctis, ex ordine, ne quicquam tentatis p... emo plebem ipsam

[illegible] novit, [illegible] ego iam, [illegible]

FRAN. PETRARCHA [illegible]

[illegible]

Se [illegible] venire, [illegible] Socratem suum [illegible]

V[illegible] a [illegible], quando ita placeret [illegible] sentu, & [illegible] m[illegible] minis ad [illegible] am, postridie veniemus, nec horre[illegible] ta quamuis [illegible] rusticana [illegible] e contect. H[illegible] e[illegible] m [illegible] ta & [illegible], [illegible], fra[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] mix com[illegible] [illegible] migrare [illegible] are[illegible] m[illegible] s, eo[illegible] quo a[illegible] [illegible] magnopere curabimus [illegible] extrins[illegible] ideam [illegible] e, & cupimus, [illegible] [illegible] to Pa[illegible] [illegible] spites habere u[illegible], [illegible] apparat[illegible] [illegible] excipiat. Vale.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS FAMILIARIBVS,

LIBER VII.

FRAN. PETRARCHA BAR[illegible]A O S[illegible] O[illegible] SI, S. [illegible]

Amorem suum erga illum significat.

INter mul[illegible] das, quibus obsideor curas, illa n[illegible] u[illegible] ex re[illegible] expecta[illegible] one c[illegible] io: q[illegible] [illegible] o me[illegible] cla[illegible]: Quid d[illegible]: A[illegible] da, [illegible] omnia circumspiciens, & uan[illegible] mid[illegible]s. [illegible] e qu[illegible] sem[illegible] er[illegible] mu[illegible], ec[illegible] e [illegible] quod [illegible] non poter at [illegible] [illegible] autem De[illegible] t[illegible] a[illegible] res [illegible] ele [illegible] [illegible] uno su[illegible] fe[illegible] [illegible] a ce[illegible] me[illegible] t ple[illegible] e [illegible] Q[illegible] [illegible] atem, [illegible] [illegible] cra meru[illegible] re [illegible] [illegible] magis in[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] ... Vale.

[illegible] PETRARC[illegible] A THOMÆ [illegible], [illegible] Epist. II.

Veram b[illegible] emendam.

N[illegible] cum id [illegible] [illegible] missis, he[illegible] o hum[illegible] exal[illegible] ... Vera [illegible] ... veneran[illegible] ... [illegible]

[illegible] a, [illegible] um extra [illegible] & p[illegible] pu[illegible] me [illegible], in [illegible] n[illegible] as, pri[illegible] e [illegible] d[illegible] e & [illegible] oq; [illegible] n[illegible] dom[illegible] promota coniu[illegible] ar[illegible] per sop[illegible] cui [illegible] oom[illegible] quoq; le se quis no[illegible] er cius [illegible] m Dauid. Im[illegible] [illegible] propter CHRISTVM e[illegible] m radi[illegible] e s[illegible] [illegible] g[illegible] ntum [illegible] emere, quantoq; cum st[illegible] cl[illegible], [illegible] e, lo[illegible] at ipse Saul compatriota superbior, n[illegible] ssima [illegible] et [illegible] a editus, minim[illegible] qui [illegible] re[illegible] um libros le[illegible] erit inueniet. Ipse Dauid quam[illegible] eximię uirtutis atq; [illegible] xe[illegible] tis [illegible] e[illegible], tamen ad[illegible] le[illegible] tulus pastor erat, [illegible] ando e[illegible] electus à D[illegible] no, [illegible] e gr[illegible] us ouium (ut ipse fatetur) & de post fœtantes, acceptus [illegible] Regem, pau[illegible] o-cen[illegible] a cordis sui. An Moyses fortè nob[illegible] ilior, quando uisionem [illegible] am uidit rubi ard[illegible] incom[illegible] sti, quando tot prodigiorum signis illustratus, ad [illegible] e[illegible] n[illegible] op[illegible] clam [illegible] ute Aegyptiaca Deo iubente profectus est [illegible] e [illegible], q[illegible] to o[illegible] e[illegible] eretur, sed hum[illegible] pastor fuit, & quod magis [illegible] eas [illegible] am [illegible] e pa tes [illegible] braha[illegible] liusq; & nepo[illegible], quorum nominibus omnis sacræ pa[illegible] el[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] nta est gloria, ut omnipotens ab illis cognome[illegible] s A[illegible] [illegible] ac [illegible] eus Iacob dici uoluerit. Atq; ipse de se loquens, e[illegible] dem [illegible] [illegible], re[illegible] es aut tetrarchæ essent? Imò uero uel agricultores, uel [illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] bus insidentes, stipati gregibus suis, inter filios, & uxores [illegible] bant, [illegible] in [illegible] Deum merebantur ducem, qui eo ipso tem[illegible] te pote[illegible] si[illegible] er[illegible] [illegible] Assyriorum regibus, non modò familiar[illegible] esse, sed ne nasci quide[illegible] est. Ipse Iacob à gu[illegible] in scripturis sacris, crebrius illud insigne cognomẽ, ac [illegible] Deo est, non [illegible] pe[illegible] a origi[illegible] s, sed humilitate sua clarus, qualiter ab [illegible] lo soceri sui d[illegible] o, & grau[illegible] [illegible] redeat at[illegible] e. Certè non sceptrum reuehit, non diadema, non pu[illegible], n[illegible] rus a[illegible] e[illegible] a matos exercitus, sed ouium & caprarum, boumq; aciem [illegible] a c[illegible] m fu[illegible] s[illegible] orum turbam, ac seruorum, & simul duas ducit uxores, ac tot[illegible] em[illegible] on[illegible] u[illegible] nas, femen genti[illegible] nnu[illegible] eræ, quarum ex utero, duodecim Tribus Israel, & tanta populorũ mul-ti[illegible] Deo [illegible] d[illegible] re mulierculas, & humilitatem honorante descenderet [illegible] ant [illegible] s in [illegible] a, quæ [illegible] perf[illegible] cie tenus contemptibilia uiderentur, essent autem in [illegible] a re[illegible] m ueri-tate magn[illegible] ea. Si enim non aliter accepta fuerint, quam narrentur, quis non audita despi-ciat? Quòd si gloria temporalis clarior foret, quam humilitas, quis dubitet, quam in par[illegible] in isti[illegible] s Dei fauor, mulctaro propẽ[illegible] ior fu[illegible] urus esset? Confert enim e[illegible] hi[illegible] tribus seni-bus tàm famosis, cumq; omnibus illorum gregi[illegible] usatq; coniugibus tres immen[illegible] is exerci-tibus subnixos Romanorum duces, Scipionem Africanũ, Hannibalis corn[illegible] a confringen-t[illegible], & [illegible] tario iugo imperiosæ Carthaginis colla subdentem, Magnum Pompeium in S[illegible] entrione, atq; Asia tonantem, & non lacte, sed auro repleta patria, captisq; non o[illegible], se[illegible] um gregibus, à mari rubro ad Mæotidas paludes, Riphæosq; montes [illegible] e[illegible] Iulium Cæsarem in Gallijs ac Germania fulminantem, perdomitisq; hos[illegible] d [illegible] in uiscera patriæ uictricia pila uertentem, ipsamq; tum gentibus im[illegible] [illegible] am & in eo terrarũ orbem unico Thessalico prælio uincentem. Qu[illegible] ta [illegible] æc [illegible] aritas rerum, uides, poterat nasciturus ex homine Dei filius, uel ex his [illegible], u[illegible] eos [illegible] bu[illegible] nasci decreuerat tale[illegible] facere. Quippe qui utrosq; creauerat, poterat non Da[illegible] a[illegible] is Iudææ finibus, sed Augustum in toto orbe regnantem [illegible] cre[illegible] au-ctorem uel Dauid ipsum, tantũ principem facere, quantum fecit Au[illegible] [illegible] leem trico exiguo, sed Romæ cui Iudæa inter [illegible] ras seruiebat, [illegible] thal[illegible] mo[illegible] [illegible] n stabulo. Poterat natus, cu[illegible] m sedes est c[illegible] s est terra, [illegible] c[illegible] itudo [illegible] [illegible] summa pauperie, sed in summis del[illegible] enutriri, n[illegible] ate[illegible] s [illegible] nit, utinam & non oderit. Postremò poterat, qui ei su[illegible] rent su[illegible] ent [illegible] prædicarent, discipulos sibi literatos, ac potentes, re[illegible], [illegible] tar[illegible] q; & [illegible] tores, rusticos, inope[illegible] indoctos eligere, nisi quia ipse Deus [illegible] [illegible], humil[illegible] us autem dat gratiam, nec potentia nostra e[illegible] a[illegible] e[illegible] d[illegible] m [illegible] o-[illegible] facta sunt neque a[illegible] persuadendum eloquent[illegible] tal[illegible] e[illegible] m [illegible] e et al[illegible] dio an[illegible] e[illegible] i [illegible] pag[illegible] m qu[illegible] med[illegible] d[illegible] o[illegible] nium, [illegible] ne di[illegible] s arm[illegible] m [illegible] terra [illegible] con[illegible] [illegible] m

non [illegible] triumph[illegible], non Phil[illegible] m[illegible] e[illegible] entij no[illegible] [illegible] leis soph[illegible] u[illegible] non de[illegible] V[illegible] ap[illegible] po[illegible] x[illegible]. No[illegible] inter eos [illegible] [illegible] gereret [illegible] ut doceret [illegible] arguere non [illegible] ero qui sua [illegible] erei, sed homun[illegible] res, imbecilles, [illegible] am [illegible] [illegible] traxe[illegible] literas didic[illegible] tamen inter persequ[illegible] fe[illegible] de[illegible] s. flammasque ac tortóre[illegible] pe[illegible] quod [illegible] TVM Deum & hominem natum, passum, de[illegible] rexisse à mortuis, ascendisse in cœlum, re[illegible] urum ad iudicium, & cæteri[illegible] a, qui [illegible] le mandauerat qui [illegible] m est [illegible] a m[illegible] di elegit, & in arma ut con[illegible] nderet fort[illegible], qui cum [illegible] od [illegible] s[illegible] (ut ait Augustinus) prod[illegible] imperatori de[illegible] atore, non pis[illegible] atori de [illegible]. Quod simi[illegible] ter prorsus de O[illegible] tore ac Philosopho dici potest, idque non ætate ru[illegible] accid[illegible] e dendum facile [illegible] ed lo[illegible] magis inueteratis literis, atque doctrinis, omni[illegible] o antiquo, ex inculta hominum uita, errore [illegible], longéque magis iam d[illegible] is hom[illegible] s ac temp[illegible] bus ipsis eruditis, quam ætate Romu[illegible] fuerant. De cuius diuini[illegible] e credit[illegible] Cicero loquens, ait: H[illegible] ec in sua Repub. & Augustinus retulit in sua, ut ad fingendum, [illegible] eum uix quicquam [illegible] idem ait nūc omninò minus esset loci. Antiquitas enim inq[illegible] t recep[illegible] ul[illegible] s, fictas e[illegible] am n[illegible] quam incond[illegible] tè, hæc ætas iam exculta præs[illegible] tim e[illegible] dens om[illegible] e q[illegible] d fieri [illegible] on potest respuit. Quæ (ut dixi) ad colorandam falsam Romuli d[illegible] uin[illegible] tatem, quæ credi iam cultiore ætate potuerit. Cicero, uelut non parua argumenta conquir[illegible], Roma uix dū con[illegible] a, & unum e septe[illegible] llibus uix integrum, eum [illegible] non tectis, muroque [illegible] armoreo, sed [illegible] so ambitu, & cul[illegible] s agrestibus occupante, atque adh[illegible] c nescio quid [illegible] redolente, [illegible] d [illegible] r re [illegible] HR[illegible] t dici debet, Rôma dante iam [illegible] a gentibus, imperan[illegible] us Augusto T[illegible] [illegible] quorum sub altero natus, sub altero CH[illegible] TVS e[illegible] passus inter quo[illegible] tem[illegible] [illegible] ætatem, incredibilior, quàm pro numero annorum, rerum mutatio facta e[illegible] od m[illegible] d[illegible] in tempus exiguum sit, siquidem ex quo, propter suam insole[illegible] am à [illegible] en[illegible] u [illegible] mano, ad [illegible] apreæ paludem discerptus est Romulus, usque dum propter peccata n[illegible] stra [illegible] deis, in monte Caluario crucifixus est CHRISTVS, paulò (nisi fallor) [illegible] lus, minu[illegible] ge[illegible] an[illegible] orum tempus effluxit, quamu[illegible] s e[illegible] im Cicero m[illegible] s sexcenos d[illegible] ad [illegible] uam ibi, sed ad Africani, & cæterorum re[illegible] pexit ætatem, quos in eo ipso libro [illegible] loqui facit. Et præterea inter Ciceronis cædem, sub Antonio, & CHRIST[illegible] passionem [illegible] b Pilato, quantum uerisimilibus coniecturis assequor, septuaginta uel circiter annoru[illegible] dum intercessit. Longiùs ferebar, sed nunc [illegible] tius scribenti imminet, & sing[illegible] los [illegible] tractus notat, morulasque medias metitur & crebro o[illegible] ium, cœlóque respiciens suspirat. Misereor, expertus, quid est, expectatio properanti animo, & ante destinatum, cogor ut dicam, humilitatem ama. Vale.

FRA[illegible] PETRARCHA SOC[illegible] ATI[illegible] VO, S. Epist. III.

Somnium, quod de inuento thesauro somniauerat narrat.

HEsternæ noctis somnium referam tibi, u[illegible] debar mihi incertum unde, nihil enim [illegible] e, uel co[illegible] itare sum solitus, uel loqui. Videbar (inquam) in a[illegible] ello meo, q[illegible] [illegible] nem Sorgæ habeo thes[illegible] rum inuenisse, monetæ peruetustæ aureæ, n[illegible] e- [illegible] ocrem cumulum, una spatiabamur soli (ut noster est mos) te itaque con[illegible] uo [illegible] ns, digito rem designo, ambos, ut [illegible] audium, stuporque defixerat, mihi quidem ut e[illegible] am [illegible] em[illegible] enim, occurr[illegible] bat illud Annei. Vitate [illegible] c[illegible] nq[illegible] uul[illegible] o pla[illegible] quæ tribu[illegible], [illegible] mne fo[illegible] m suspicio[illegible] & pa[illegible] re, & ter[illegible] s, spe a[illegible] a[illegible] ctan[illegible] e decipi[illegible] ur, mune[illegible] a fortunæ, quæ p[illegible] is [illegible] idiæ [illegible] nr De[illegible] oc ergo con[illegible] tan[illegible] p[illegible] mper [illegible] tauimu[illegible] ti, trepidique. Qu[illegible] mu[illegible] ta? V[illegible] mæ insaniæ uisum est, quod per[illegible] fas [illegible] a[illegible] la[illegible], [illegible] tisque peric[illegible] r[illegible] let, ad ol[illegible] a[illegible] m ultrò cont[illegible] e[illegible]. M[illegible] xc[illegible] m[illegible] c[illegible] m[illegible] a[illegible], domum cl[illegible] nuehim[illegible] s, [illegible] d[illegible] pr[illegible] te[illegible] e[illegible] ex[illegible] asce n[illegible] terant, ho[illegible] em [illegible] h[illegible] te[illegible] um, & [illegible] terum [illegible] cimus, & se[illegible] e [illegible] a rerum habet, c[illegible] m pe[illegible] lo[illegible] d[illegible] pid[illegible] que [illegible] [illegible] ecti [illegible] e [illegible] [illegible] is [illegible] d [illegible] [illegible] pri[illegible] n [illegible] [illegible] acrite[illegible] g [illegible]

[illegible] armat [illegible] rum [illegible] us, [illegible] p [illegible] iterat, [illegible] terent, at [illegible] Q [illegible] br [illegible] tamus [illegible] es o [illegible] & [illegible] a [illegible] udabatur Ca [illegible] mati [illegible] urij, K [illegible] um [illegible] s l ac [illegible] orre [illegible] m tu [illegible] is, omnia [illegible] ta a c [illegible] em [illegible] a [illegible] at [illegible] s [illegible] os habuisse [illegible] en [illegible] ic eramus ut iam [illegible] obsi [illegible] eret [illegible] am [illegible] premi certa [illegible] anxi [illegible] experge [illegible] g [illegible] dos [illegible] corpu [illegible] ut ego per [illegible] s a [illegible] m [illegible] m non somnians sed [illegible] ns a [illegible] Nec [illegible] thesauro simul, & [illegible] t, quantumque uitæ sut [illegible] it, non q [illegible] q [illegible] m, quam mihi ut [illegible] la [illegible] p [illegible] ad [illegible] s mortalibus afferre diui [illegible] s. Surrexi [illegible] um ho [illegible] quotidianis laudibus. Deo di [illegible] ex more m [illegible] q [illegible] od sopitum exercuerat [illegible] le o [illegible] tulit expe [illegible] o, qui particeps [illegible] debi [illegible] Vale

[illegible] PETRARCHA IOAN[illegible] TRICA[illegible] S. E[illegible] IIII.

Promiss[illegible] uelle [illegible].

P[illegible] nis tuæ memor, promissique mei non oblitus, Italiam, siue (ne [illegible] ma [illegible] er, q [illegible] am in epistolis [illegible] ciceroni suo mouet Atticu[illegible]) in Italiam [illegible] emi [illegible], quid me de ipsis Ciceronis libris in ordinem redig [illegible] m [illegible] ut dicere soles [illegible] ueluti s [illegible] nullarum lumine declarandis, [illegible] la [illegible] tes præceps esse [illegible] R[illegible] m. Pon. qui seruo[illegible] tui co [illegible] todiam [illegible] a [illegible] re [illegible] lim nostri pr[illegible] es, [illegible] A [illegible] Pom [illegible] e [illegible] & R [illegible] Ae [illegible] s [illegible] io, c[illegible] mmis [illegible] en [illegible] tur, cura [illegible] pr [illegible] us in [illegible] enio [illegible] d [illegible] sex di [illegible] redienti [illegible] a [illegible] e modestissime ind [illegible] ca [illegible] an [illegible]

[illegible] su [illegible]

[illegible] al en [illegible]

[illegible] e cce [illegible] an [illegible] r [illegible] c [illegible] em [illegible] d [illegible] s c [illegible] bus [illegible] per [illegible] dis, [illegible] ta sit re [illegible] m penu [illegible] ia [illegible]

ne[illegible], inter [illegible] hominis, [illegible] maxi[illegible] quam [illegible] me[illegible] ca[illegible] extendi[illegible] praese[illegible] [illegible]. Vale.

[illegible] Epist. V.

[illegible] se exc[illegible]

Multa [illegible] tem[illegible] [illegible] non ago, ne [illegible] mea pep[illegible] [illegible] fac em & [illegible] def [illegible] mum ind[illegible] ero quod [illegible] m[illegible] ciplam, non aliter, [illegible] V[illegible],

[illegible] ratus

Aut enim [illegible] longa deliberat [illegible] na m[illegible] [illegible] est quic[illegible] exiament, [illegible] ex[illegible] an [illegible] consi[illegible] in unum aliquod uersa [illegible] at. Tu [illegible] [illegible] S[illegible] & uelut in somnis loquar, excusat[illegible] iam [illegible] [illegible] loco [illegible] amantib[illegible] [illegible] ergo erimus, simul enim[illegible] amut scrib[illegible] [illegible] em, breuiter expedire: nil enim in m[illegible] molestius exi[illegible] quam [illegible] [illegible] iens [illegible] nunquam feci, ne[illegible] iam [illegible] place[illegible] [illegible] ne [illegible] mo[illegible] ersus [illegible] exci[illegible] apud [illegible] nostr[illegible] [illegible] med[illegible] or [illegible] d nescio qu[illegible] ter schedula tua, qua decies in man[illegible] [illegible] fe[illegible] ne me domi substitit, quare eam ibi, & post me mitte, licet, [illegible] re[illegible] ear [illegible] us sum, modo frondosi nemoris uspiam diu[illegible] culum occu[illegible] b[illegible] [illegible] quam m hi m[illegible] sti, uidi, legi, stupui, quid respondeam no[illegible] [illegible] par[illegible] o, & quocunque me uerto, dolendi causas, materi[illegible] reperio. R[illegible] [illegible] Italiae status. Italia deformata, qualis mea uita futura [illegible] In ho[illegible] & [illegible] to m[illegible] e, alij ope[illegible] res [illegible] corporeas, al[illegible] potentiam, alij con[illegible] um con[illegible] quid conferre possim, praeter lachrymas non u[illegible] co.

[illegible] PETRARCHA [illegible] SVO, S. Epist. VI.

Medio[illegible] atem se amare scribit.

Summae [illegible] dem rerum mearum, q[illegible] as spectatae fidei tuae credidi, nihil d[illegible] a[illegible] io. [illegible] n tantum firmus sed [illegible] xus etiam in proposito meo sum, cuius [illegible] peruacuum est, qu[illegible] hac re ulterius loquor. Vt tamen me, [illegible] scias, [illegible] Magnae fortunae appeten[illegible] nunqua[illegible] [illegible] quod [illegible] agnis uiris placet) magni animi [illegible] [illegible] ommemoro, & quorum te in primis testem habe[illegible] [illegible] rem [illegible] terdum ue[illegible] ualitate temporum amicissim[illegible] [illegible] ere[illegible] erem, & [illegible] idendum [illegible] [illegible] ant ae quererer [illegible] pert[illegible] nomen, infamiamque conseq[illegible] [illegible] mei [illegible] tenus [illegible] on p[illegible] ter. Omnis enim mihi altitudo suspect[illegible] [illegible] fus, m[illegible] fac[illegible] atura duce, in [illegible] rum [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] et an [illegible] em?

[illegible]

[illegible] e Flaccus a[illegible] eam [illegible] [illegible] piam [illegible] ani[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] a [illegible] m [illegible] etret, [illegible] [illegible] ed [illegible] e [illegible] non [illegible] quia [illegible] m in [illegible] pon [illegible] ere, [illegible] Vale.

[illegible] ROMAE [illegible] Epist. VIII.

Famam [illegible] imminutam [illegible]

F[illegible] hoc [illegible] Q [illegible] Q [illegible] tarta [illegible] tuarum nu [illegible] ten [illegible] tur [illegible] m meam [illegible] utilis m [illegible] re ut dicam, [illegible] spe [illegible] imari famæ tuæ [illegible] fundamenta [illegible] et archo [illegible] timus [illegible] tum [illegible] s ad gloriam a [illegible] s. Latissime enim patet, neq; [illegible]

[illegible] is descensus Auerni.

[illegible] desperata miseria, præsentis uitæ uarietate d[illegible] quidem, & resurgimus, descendimus & ascendimus [illegible] Quid uero dementius, quam cum stare possis, cadere fiducia re[illegible] casus est, & quid, oro, uirtute altius ac gloria quarum [illegible] inaccesso, tàmq; impigr[illegible] tam insueto cal[illegible] formidolo[illegible] cui sit uina. Pedem [illegible] præbeas, ridendum hosti [illegible] lugend[illegible] seruat [illegible] quidem.

M[illegible] bor est, m[illegible] custodia famæ:

[illegible] m[illegible] qui adeo mihi placuit, ut eum ex [illegible] & hanc mi[illegible] durissim[illegible] lum, in quo te[illegible] quidem, hoc calam[illegible] m, ne me casu in hanc narrationem in[illegible] ad[illegible] m, ami[illegible] cræ c[illegible] sunt, in quibus ad me [illegible] um dis[illegible] fama peruenit. Non te po[illegible] lum [illegible] re, illo obsequi, illam amare illam admi[illegible] [illegible] udet [illegible] s ac fortun[illegible] M[illegible] dus [illegible] reprobo[illegible] batæ [illegible] starum [illegible] tis loqua[illegible] Neque [illegible] Q[illegible] egit [illegible] ut Garat[illegible] as p[illegible] am, [illegible] nimi[illegible] res meas A[illegible] [illegible]

dem [illegible] m[illegible]
catu[illegible]
num [illegible] m d[illegible]
ten [illegible] mn [illegible]
Tu[illegible]
tes [illegible]
f[illegible] neglig[illegible], at [illegible] tem [illegible]
ta[illegible] cœpens, [illegible] ca[illegible] m[illegible]
(ut [illegible]
dio [illegible] excitare ac [illegible] exami[illegible]
quo [illegible], quorum [illegible] tate pro[illegible]
nom[illegible] [illegible] deceris, qu[illegible]
Rei, sed [illegible] Vale.

[illegible] PETRAR[illegible] A I[illegible] ANNI A[illegible] S. E[illegible] VI[illegible]

Patriæ libertati congratulatur.

O[illegible] ia optato prouen[illegible] amice, gratul[illegible] r ego [illegible]
[illegible] gloriæ [illegible] ciuium, religionis [illegible]
[illegible] cuius manibus turbidæ hactenus [illegible]
[illegible] dulcis [illegible] ueheb[illegible], u[illegible] quoq; [illegible]
tu[illegible] [illegible] cumul[illegible] ac[illegible]
[illegible] inficiat. At si quando [illegible]
[illegible] ratam, [illegible] tis modis [illegible] experigitur du[illegible] m[illegible]
[illegible] in gaudium. [illegible] fortunæ mu[illegible]
[illegible] hoc un[illegible] amicitia [illegible] est. Itaq; quiduis di[illegible] Non tantum uo[illegible] is eu[illegible]
ca[illegible] nostris, atq; d[illegible] cultatibus gratulari [illegible] o, uni scilicet m[illegible] uncul[illegible]
po[illegible] is, [illegible] gens, atq; a[illegible] multiplex lætitia temperata e[illegible] & u[illegible] m mearu imp[illegible]
tis, [illegible] ac uarijs quibus effectu[illegible] spero, ut ambo simul in p[illegible] certam[illegible]

FRAN. PETRARCHA THOMAE MESSANENSI, S. [illegible] p[illegible]. IX.

De ficta amicitia.

A Gre[illegible] prouerbiu, Lectu cani sternere magnus labor. Dict[illegible] tio si quæri[illegible] scilicet ac[illegible] bitur[illegible] s, hu[illegible] atq; huc in gyru uertitur ut nescias tibi puluinar [illegible] Ludrica quidem e[illegible] o [illegible] us, cui primum hoc dicere [illegible] animum uen[illegible] sic est. Idemq; de mu[illegible] s hom[illegible] us dici potest, quod de cane dictum [illegible] en[illegible] nt, quibus nihil ritè fiat, ita crebr[illegible] uoluuntur, ut quàm in partem fit[illegible] casu[illegible] [illegible] t [illegible] nequeat. Cum illis placui[illegible] e credas [illegible] nihil c[illegible] eris, omnis labor, omne [illegible] qu[illegible] as illis offeras delitias, ruris f[illegible] galitatem laudent. Si ex ur[illegible] e d[illegible] quen[illegible] am q[illegible], solitudinem execren[illegible] ur, [illegible] lloquio cœperis, fastidiant, ind[illegible] [illegible] s, ab[illegible] desiderent, præsentes despiciant a[illegible] s, s[illegible] pè etiam oderint. [illegible] semp[illegible] abe[illegible], intelligis quid uelim, & [illegible] a erit, quicquid ampliùs dixer[illegible] tamen, ne[illegible] ua d[illegible] nis occa[illegible] io tuæ mans[illegible] d[illegible] ni, meo silentio præbeatur. [illegible] op[illegible] am per[illegible] is gen[illegible] m[illegible] L[illegible] è tibi imparem, atq; dissimilem nactus, pedem h[illegible] a[illegible] n[illegible] pro l[illegible] bono[illegible] & [illegible] a[illegible], conciliare illum tibi, ne qu[illegible] quam n[illegible] is, in [illegible] esse non potes, [illegible] m[illegible] tes esse, quem hunc [illegible] c[illegible] [illegible] piet, [illegible] apertè incipias tra[illegible] c[illegible], quisnam esset, q[illegible] em gra[illegible] s, [illegible] [illegible] ndum duxe[illegible] t. M[illegible] dic[illegible] m [illegible] cægro & infecto h[illegible] m[illegible] e se[illegible] [illegible] re c[illegible] r a. [illegible] din[illegible] ca[illegible] [illegible] ertas fueri[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] c[illegible] a[illegible] n[illegible] n[illegible] l[illegible] fiebit ex[illegible] c[illegible] ta exerce[illegible] uersi[illegible] m[illegible] s f[illegible] um rebus con[illegible] d [illegible] m [illegible] facia[illegible] u[illegible] et in[illegible] a[illegible] uter esse for[illegible]

[illegible] A IOANNI A[illegible] S. E[illegible] X.

Qua[illegible] Cisalpina[illegible] am, q[illegible] rentiam pet[illegible]

L[illegible] s at [illegible] d[illegible]
[illegible] u[illegible] m[illegible]
[illegible] ex [illegible]
[illegible] non [illegible]

[illegible] mini [illegible] ou e- [illegible] a omi [illegible] unum [illegible] huius [illegible] em, sed [illegible] præ- [illegible] q[illegible] nea su cepto [illegible] et, [illegible] peruen[illegible]sem. [illegible] quod secundum [illegible] n[illegible] ep[illegible]m, imò uero [illegible] re[illegible]m nostrarum [illegible] p[illegible] spei, re[illegible] ipsa su[illegible] cederet [illegible] nc [illegible] laboris sensu [illegible] enim improui[illegible] [illegible]. Accedebat quod [illegible] e pou[illegible] spera[illegible], [illegible] mnia inimica erat, quippe cum n[illegible] as ex[illegible]cta fu[illegible] erit. Quid d[illegible] [illegible] spes inanes, scio quod qu[illegible] nihil perd[illegible], m[illegible]us dix[illegible] multum [illegible] men expertus loquor, u[illegible] u[illegible]a minori a[illegible]a, quàm sp[illegible], si[illegible] nul a mol- [illegible] è pluris fiunt sperata [illegible]iam possessa, [illegible] sæpè quantum [illegible]s spes [illegible] [illegible] piscendo cognos[illegible]imus. Hinc est, ut quotiens ante experimentum [illegible] [illegible]s incommodo affectos extimemus. Preuertit ergo cons[illegible]um meum Deus, [illegible] s[illegible] bitrabar superuacuas declarauit, ut uel [illegible] ed[illegible]ctus a[illegible]no[illegible]cerem [illegible] ta- [illegible] uanas esse. Et de hoc quidem hactenus. Super negoti[illegible]is nost[illegible] [illegible]i- u[illegible]a uertitur, spero fore ut illius prædonis insidiæ dete[illegible] [illegible]nes ta- n[illegible] paratus est animus, uict[illegible] g[illegible]udebo, [illegible]ctus uicta cũ iustiti[illegible] me so[illegible] nc p[illegible]næ ludis exerceor, d[illegible] di[illegible] q[illegible] us artibus cad[illegible]æ spei [illegible] i[illegible] nq, modo [illegible]o non mo[illegible] ne[illegible] cle qu[illegible] mo[illegible] d[illegible] tel[illegible]. Nempè [illegible] mo possum uel assequi, quod [illegible] uel di[illegible] ere quod [illegible] t[illegible] ndiana ad diuitias Philosop[illegible] n[illegible]a est quæ monst[illegible] at [illegible] a[illegible] de[illegible] du[illegible] t[illegible] ditat[illegible] ous [illegible] aliendum. Han[illegible] qu[illegible] d[illegible] pos[illegible], ne in illud di[illegible] um ac labori[illegible] n[illegible] n[illegible] iter incidam a quo me Deus & ipsa naturæ meæ con[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] e[illegible] axerunt. De lite igitur, sit quicquid esse potest, m[illegible] [illegible] paupertas mea [illegible], nec [illegible] sed plu[illegible] e[illegible] quam uellem, inuidiosa sufficiet, cum qua [illegible] bi be[illegible], [illegible] eca[illegible] sum. Vale.

[illegible] ARCHA IOANNI ANCHISEO, S. Epist. X[illegible]

Aduent[illegible] ami[illegible] gratulatur.

[illegible] non [illegible] sset, quantum mihi [illegible] arum dece[illegible] ert, quan[illegible] e lætitiæ ac[illegible] [illegible] ent[illegible] dam nuncio, quod tecum quamu[illegible] mu[illegible]a [illegible] m, te[illegible]pus q[illegible] [illegible] quantalibet breuitate d[illegible]. Franc[illegible] no[illegible] ad[illegible] re au[illegible] [illegible], multis quidem [illegible] at [illegible] us, & ter[illegible] us, ma[illegible] c[illegible] & di[illegible] ne prim[illegible] m ill[illegible] c[illegible] aiunt, ca[illegible] e[illegible] tit at, & de[illegible] [illegible] xi[illegible] e[illegible] an [illegible] llud in[illegible] cus.

[illegible] illum sequimur [illegible] tem, [illegible]

[illegible] putabat e[illegible] m[illegible] Gal[illegible] e. Sed illam [illegible] dem [illegible] ne- [illegible] oximus [illegible] us in [illegible] am, tu[illegible] eno ard[illegible] d mi[illegible] le, [illegible] crem si proposi[illegible]um me[illegible]m prau[illegible] e pos[illegible] ro[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] n[illegible] s hominum [illegible] [illegible] tur [illegible] ns est, quando [illegible] [illegible] amor, nihil n[illegible] ure[illegible] a te- [illegible] d[illegible] recondi[illegible] [illegible] m, quò pa[illegible] [illegible] us sum, [illegible] p[illegible]

p[illegible] res [illegible] f[illegible] præ f[illegible] Ti[illegible] tu [illegible] as, longe te [illegible] ap[illegible] vale.

[illegible] X I

A[illegible] dolet.

HEu quid hoc est? Quid [illegible] sp[illegible] falsum [illegible] st[illegible] flatus, nihil h[illegible] traq[illegible] m[illegible] bile, nihil [illegible] mortis insidi[illegible] munc[illegible] t[illegible] laqueos, [illegible] te[illegible] is fucum [illegible] aliquid audemus [illegible] spera[illegible] nem, [illegible] hes [illegible] cred[illegible] m[illegible] imus [illegible] dul[illegible] ed[illegible] st. Heu dem[illegible] heu[illegible] ob[illegible] tua [illegible] tibi s[illegible] dixi. Vide hic nota, attende, subst[illegible] Memento [illegible] haus [illegible] Nihil un[illegible] fortunæ, mo[illegible] dax est uaria, leu[illegible] infida, priora eius [illegible] N[illegible] iam hoc ferale prod[illegible] um, expect[illegible] à nem[illegible] [illegible] ule, & [illegible] m, e[illegible] m hac intre commerti[illegible] æque rapic[illegible] gient[illegible] mq; contemne [illegible] at[illegible] tam unde prop[illegible] m, ec[illegible] e rursus quam mu[illegible] briter, [illegible] dixerim an uerò flebiliter? R[illegible] ulosè alijs fortasse mihi qu[illegible] mirab[illegible] fime [illegible] ost t[illegible] rerum speratarum inopinos casus, induxi in animum, sperare [illegible] m[illegible] entaneo, & uelut hyberi[illegible] serenæ noct[illegible] redere, & ex euentu crastini p[illegible] meranus, inconsultus, interblandin[illegible] mordacibus ausus sum. Ecce [illegible] adest Franciscus meus, non minus mihi iunctus uoluntate, quam nomin[illegible] amore, quam sanguine. Ecce aderit, & fortè iam adest, tàm uehementi enim m[illegible] n[illegible] abiberam, ut sæpè uelut ante oculos aspicerem, tanto maris ac terrar[illegible] d[illegible] heu, nunquam amplius in huius, mihi peregrinationis exilio reu[illegible] d[illegible] dam meo quod amantium omne est commune [illegible] fict[illegible] egressib[illegible] moras solabar absentiæ, meq; ipsum (ut fit) quadam cum uoluptate [illegible] Quoti[illegible] uis ex pueris meis, quibus ille se fecerat mu[illegible] morum [illegible] auitate cha[illegible] ad me al[illegible] turus [illegible] erat [illegible] eram, qua[illegible] ille iam a[illegible] oret Quotiens quis [illegible] res impulerat flu[illegible] am, & pas[illegible] orum ill[illegible] d in primis occurrebat animo.

[illegible] quæ certe est, & [illegible] in limine lectat

Credimus, an qui amant ipse sibi somnia fingunt?

[illegible] miser amans somnia fingebam, his angebar curis, his æstuabam [illegible] licit [illegible] ui quadam spe, non aliter quàm [illegible] imis per quietem dap[illegible] s[illegible] atis [illegible] cum & seruorum uoces, & m[illegible] cardinis & p[illegible] gul[illegible] pe[illegible] & omn[illegible] s om[illegible] strep[illegible] ex[illegible] bat. Quoties [illegible] lo[illegible] ellos, q[illegible] b[illegible] ui m[illegible] bam [illegible] abiecer. Quotiens [illegible] exit. Q[illegible] ssu, uidendi au[illegible] curarum mearum prædulcis [illegible] ticipem. Neq; fratre[illegible] possum propr[illegible] e uerbis uta[illegible] uitate fratrem, [illegible] op[illegible] obseq[illegible] o [illegible] um, conf[illegible] io parentem quem nesc[illegible] an [illegible] f[illegible] rò cognouerim, an [illegible] nim[illegible] enim amare hominem cœpissem, n[illegible] te eius in has lachrymas [illegible] nio uix integro illius conuictu, & am[illegible] lum, tempu[illegible], heu, uix allo[illegible] am[illegible] tiæ satis patens. Sed hoc un[illegible] em meam, [illegible] od a[illegible] bo [illegible] tem[illegible] reuitatem, ardentissima h[illegible] te laxauimus, [illegible] in ami[illegible] ia d[illegible] an[illegible] im e[illegible] quod [illegible] ut ia[illegible] d[illegible] nior, amic[illegible] s a[illegible] dit [illegible] am mihi [illegible] fidei suæ p[illegible] epi, qua in a[illegible] n[illegible] i, spem [illegible] dem de me, ille [illegible] em, n[illegible] erat. N[illegible] m[illegible] hinc eruciat [illegible] an [illegible] A[illegible] fœlix & [illegible] t[illegible] am [illegible] s meipsum ut[illegible] & [illegible] rium min[illegible] erat m[illegible] ita [illegible] longaq; ter[illegible] a

uersus [illegible] s & [illegible] s fortunæ. [illegible] bar in [illegible] nihil me mollius, nihil eneruatius, putabam [illegible] dem [illegible] tus eram me Francis [illegible] m meum amare tenerrime, hoc enim il [illegible] us ei [illegible] a me [illegible] amerebant [illegible] tum tamen amauerim, heu, [illegible] nec alter, quàm per [illegible] d [illegible] nunc [illegible] ius ulcerosa mens dolet [illegible] amisisse, [illegible] m [illegible] ederet, quam te nihil m [illegible] t, quam impræmeditat [illegible], q [illegible] d ue- [illegible] non cogitaueram m [illegible] ctò [illegible] qui in hoc [illegible] tente rerum hu- [illegible] t, an [illegible] me mor [illegible] t, [illegible] e nar [illegible]. Accessi [illegible] ten [illegible] atque a [illegible] xia [illegible] de qua multa iam [illegible] xi [illegible] premo lachrymis digre [illegible], [illegible] s, [illegible] oll [illegible], sic Socrates ille [illegible] non futurum iam, sed præsentem eius nu- [illegible] digressum ex Galli [illegible] metram te [illegible] am properare, heu mihi, [illegible] ec [illegible] uen [illegible] f [illegible] x atque in [illegible] ximam a [illegible] instantes miserias præ- [illegible], me [illegible] rem optima [illegible] us parte [illegible] imam fœlicitatẽ [illegible] per dere, quid fata mecum agerent [illegible] ns. Ve [illegible] ebam prius me, grandæuum patrem, quam dulces fratres ac sorores ui [illegible] re. Injiciam ma [illegible] ac teneho h [illegible] e [illegible] ui [illegible] opus erit. O [illegible] tulatorem ex aduerso inueniam. Amor, qu [illegible] um [illegible] o hab [illegible] ecum faciet, iam ille [illegible] ebro mihi dicere consueuerat Horatianum illud:

Tecum uiuere amem, tecum obeam libens.

[illegible] manus, quas ego sibi injicere cogitabam, mors iniecit, & [illegible] od ad te pr [illegible] epistola dixeram, de consilijs hominum iudicare fortunam, lon [illegible] è ali [illegible] tque [illegible] interpretata est. Nunc erepta spe, geminatoque desiderio, quid ag [illegible] Lachrym [illegible] e a [illegible] lat, & in amissi locum mœrorem meum indesinenter amplectar? An iter [illegible] ere [illegible] r, & circunstrepen [illegible] bus fortu [illegible] minis, in atcẽ rationis euadere? Hoc præ- st [illegible] d [illegible] c uirtus erigit, hinc affe [illegible] us incuru [illegible] t. [illegible] quo me uertam, quidue p [illegible] [illegible] u [illegible] n [illegible] s sum, & m [illegible] le mihi est sæpissimè cadent [illegible], sæpissimè res [illegible]. S [illegible] a [illegible] e im [illegible] a, quæ me his anxietatibus inuoluisti. Quid tibi pro meri [illegible] s im [illegible] A [illegible] animæ meæ dimidium, ac florentissima ætate, crescentemque iuuenem u [illegible] d [illegible] m [illegible] huc o [illegible] diretur inexorabiliter succidisti, & nunc i [illegible] i pectori, in quo Franciscus m [illegible] h [illegible] b [illegible] tur, ui [illegible] lenter incumbis. Ipse enim abijt, te licet inuita. Nihil in illum iur [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] tum illius, & spem meam simul obruis, pro quo quid aliud optem [illegible] cu [illegible] uadi [illegible] m [illegible] es extendantur, ut in faciem directi, & importuosi littoris redacta [illegible] ua præ- b [illegible] s stationem. Corruant mœnia, & manufacta præsidia, quæ uent [illegible] a [illegible] uc [illegible] us [illegible]. Huc uis Syrtium, & Eurypi feruor, huc Scyllea rabies, huc Cl [illegible] dei [illegible] p [illegible] tu [illegible] & [illegible] uastim mar [illegible] s pericula transferantur, laxet Aeolus inqui [illegible] es, Au [illegible] trum & [illegible] ui tuis finibus insultare sunt soliti, ut toto orbe trãquillo, t [illegible] cipet [illegible] [illegible] el [illegible], quicquid uel mortium, uel morborum per omnes terras, ac m [illegible] a pesti [illegible] er un [illegible] t, in te solã c [illegible] fluat, quæque a ijs annuatim, tibi pestis æterna sit, p [illegible] quic [illegible] id cœ [illegible] crassions usquam est, purgẽtur stagna, & sulphurei lac [illegible], lim [illegible] æ [illegible] ludes, tepescat arctos, refrigeretur Aethyopia, uacuetur serpent [illegible] bus u [illegible] o [illegible] rcania, quicquid monstrorum, & immanium belluarum orbis habet in te ex [illegible] [illegible] rum parte conueniat. In te tristes nebulæ, in te latices funesti, & inclement [illegible] a [illegible] in [illegible] ra, æstusque desæuiãt. Denique c [illegible] summa humani generis salute, tu s [illegible] la de [illegible] mortis, tu formidinis ac terrori [illegible], regio tu luctus ac miseriæ [illegible] mus esto, te per [illegible] cator: postremum te ciues tui fugiant, te uiator pallidus à summis mon [illegible] um [illegible], te nauta trepidus ex alto prospectet, & infamem scop [illegible] lum declinans o [illegible] a [illegible] iat. Heu [illegible] o me dol [illegible] per [illegible] quid loquor, aut ubi sum. Mortal [illegible] a [illegible] au [illegible] ter [illegible] eo, & in [illegible] ntem terram, quæ [illegible] recipit exe [illegible] r, in [illegible] ertus u [illegible] atque hunc p [illegible] lucrem, t [illegible]. Itaque iam [illegible] m [illegible] m e [illegible], & pro [illegible] tre præm [illegible] pe [illegible] s or [illegible] d p [illegible] d [illegible] as pul [illegible] herrima, quæ [illegible] m feru [illegible] s, ad [illegible] se [illegible] gratiam habeo quo [illegible] rica fac [illegible] u [illegible] as fatalis s [illegible] at [illegible] d [illegible] o meo iuueni [illegible] rum [illegible] alici salt [illegible] requies sepulchri leue [illegible] amẽ, sed multis [illegible] ui [illegible] T [illegible] enus ut cupide uid [illegible] em ipse ter [illegible] rũ [illegible] tus, a [illegible] [illegible] en se [illegible] uatricem amara [illegible] am dulce [illegible] om [illegible] cum [illegible] cadau [illegible] [illegible] ò, ut inde [illegible] cur [illegible] di [illegible] mei [illegible] m [illegible] tellus eg [illegible] are d [illegible]

hæc in me iam [illegible] num uale. E[illegible]o quidem ex te [illegible]au[illegible]um ac [illegible] in his qu[illegible]is expectabã, ubi neq; gaud[illegible] neq; [illegible] multo certius [illegible] q; [illegible] umul[illegible] s [illegible] terra u[illegible]. Sed ecce [illegible] experti [illegible] legi:

O... te [illegible] miseris.

P[illegible]cto sic est quam mu[illegible] f[illegible], [illegible]pet a ma[illegible]s, qu[illegible] d[illegible] fer e[illegible]udi, nec loquendo satior, sed ac[illegible]r, n[illegible]ere [illegible] tur. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI [illegible]LVMNAE, S. Epist. XIII.

Forti animo [illegible]atrum, & nepotum obitum ferendum esse.

FAtebor i[illegible]genue, & si en[illegible]m soluendo non sim, bonæ fidei debitor sum: fatebo[illegible] me omnia debere, ingenium scilicet, & corpusculum hoc quod [illegible] to, & si quid externorum obtigit bonorum. Neq; en[illegible] m[illegible] a t[illegible] m[illegible] con[illegible]lit, q[illegible]am corpori, quàm fortunis. Sub te nutrit[illegible] a [illegible] m a[illegible] atq; eru[illegible]s sum quantum uel intercurrẽtium casu[illegible]m mali[illegible]s, uel ing[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible]as pa[illegible]a est. Vt ex mer[illegible]o teneat, & hunc calamum, & hanc dexte[illegible]m, & hoc qua[illegible] [illegible] q; e[illegible]t animi lumen [illegible]d animi tui solamen, refrigeriumq; conuertere. Id me in[illegible] n[illegible]is pro u[illegible]bus ob[illegible]eruasse memini, nec ut reor oblitus es. In ho[illegible] uero [illegible] m g[illegible]au[illegible] imeq; [illegible] [illegible]unest[illegible] uulnere, quod nobis nond[illegible]m flentibu[illegible] nostris fatata mor[illegible]u qui[illegible] a[illegible]erem, quid [illegible] quærer, uel omnino quid hi[illegible] m non inueni: Corrui m[illegible]r, a[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]amam, & uelut repentino [illegible]ulm[illegible]nis fragore dirigui. Deinde ubi primùm spar[illegible] iat[illegible] n[illegible] arma col[illegible]er[illegible] & prostratu[illegible]e iacentem animum attollere posse cœp[illegible] teras in[illegible]l[illegible] imi [illegible]ori, quem prius ab egregio uiro Paganino Mediolanensi, qui ha[illegible] urbem re[illegible] [illegible]r narrante, mœstus audieram, poposci, & ostens[illegible]s, non sine lach[illegible]ymis legi. L[illegible] [illegible] ambagi[illegible]u[illegible] perplexa omnia, & nil penitùs certum legebatur, ab urbe ueteri fama f[illegible] xer[illegible]t, [illegible] x perla[illegible]a Flore[illegible]tiam, & per quorundam religiosorum liter[illegible]s, Apenn[illegible] gr[illegible]a, [illegible]n[illegible] iam primò, inde ad nos semper, ut [illegible], crescendo ac [illegible]tando peruen[illegible]re [illegible]g[illegible]r d[illegible] (quia natura hoc habet, ut audita quæ displicent, [illegible] otis præcor[illegible] m[illegible] tantur [illegible]malui mihi interim fœlicitora promittere, sic ægra mens, ad melioris spei du[illegible]em recurrebat, ea tamen euanida, & [illegible]elut somniantis miseri fugitiua fœlicitas erat, quid m[illegible]. Quamuis assiduè [illegible]peruentu nouorum nunciorum, spes illa decresceret, nihil tamen [illegible] planè comptum [illegible], quàm ad me Socraus nostri lachrymabiles literæ peruenire[illegible] mi[illegible]um Tybe[illegible]inas ærumnas, ex alio orbe m[illegible] Rhodanus nunciauit. Ille uerò mih[illegible] ancipitis spei refugium præcl[illegible]serunt, quo effectum est, ut id modicum intellectus, u[illegible] n[illegible] un[illegible] m [illegible]mi medelam mihi atq; alijs eli[illegible]i, fletus & quæst[illegible]m pon[illegible]us [illegible] [illegible] c[illegible]e [illegible]ec cessauit. Quotien[illegible] al[illegible]r[illegible]ere nisus, scribere al[illegible]uid uolui: Q[illegible] b[illegible] [illegible]ginem inge[illegible] tabescentis a[illegible]si, & in intimas memoriæ m[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible]on[illegible] Deniq; omnia feci, in[illegible]um tamen. Venе[illegible] ad ma[illegible] p[illegible]lx[illegible] [illegible]ædam quas uisitante nos sæpiùs fo[illegible]a per hos annos [illegible] uti oq; stylo ad [illegible] [illegible]m [illegible]us ni[illegible]il [illegible]mninò meis, ne dicam [illegible]ngoribus, non solùm curandis, [illegible] [illegible] sa[illegible]s [illegible] uisum est. D[illegible] pudebat toties uulgata repetere, noua autem cud[illegible] [illegible] in[illegible] in[illegible]enio non ualebam, ordiri tamen & tentare non destiti, si forte [illegible] succederent [illegible] t[illegible]a[illegible] quatu[illegible]r literarum ostentare primordia diuerso cha[illegible] [illegible] sq; f[illegible] e [illegible]s, [illegible]bu[illegible] r[illegible] u[illegible] te enim grauidæ mentis affectus, c[illegible] [illegible] S[illegible]e [illegible] pla[illegible], c[illegible]d[illegible] ridem, & [illegible] atot calam[illegible] [illegible]ra[illegible] ere[illegible]. Hos c[illegible] s im[illegible]l[illegible]s, [illegible]e firmauera[illegible] [illegible] CHRISTO consolatore [illegible] solan[illegible]um [illegible] d[illegible]q; [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]ei dixerim, [illegible] n [illegible] uo[illegible] te p[illegible]tum [illegible] m [illegible] m[illegible] p[illegible], [illegible] etati gaud[illegible] p[illegible] me [illegible] super [illegible], & [illegible] mos est mœrorem proprium [illegible]manti, eiu[illegible]em [illegible]ati[illegible] recent[illegible] xe[illegible] [illegible]m [illegible] er t[illegible]t f[illegible] impetu [illegible] m m[illegible]nit[illegible] m [illegible] [illegible]di [illegible] o em meu [illegible] ulceram fu[illegible] d[illegible] n[illegible] d [illegible] o [illegible] & [illegible] r [illegible] qu[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible]d [illegible] & reuer[illegible] [illegible] s [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]

P

[illegible] & m[illegible]m anchora [illegible] posito, tan[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible]m [illegible] ubi uehem[illegible] [illegible] feren[illegible] [illegible] quo[illegible] Q[illegible] fortunæ m[illegible] o[illegible] [illegible] ac [illegible] [illegible] hos Adam no [illegible] a est imma[illegible] n[illegible]lla [illegible] matris com[illegible] [illegible] credit [illegible] ma [illegible] es, non magis [illegible] am [illegible] min[illegible] [illegible] forma, non diuitię, n[illegible] [illegible] es, non amici, non d[illegible] [illegible] ta. C[illegible] tandum [illegible] unæ, in [illegible] [illegible] xi, se e[illegible] imperio [illegible]. Rel[illegible]quos enim te[illegible] [illegible] non sternit. Reu[illegible] [illegible] omnis æui exemp[illegible] p[illegible] populorum opes effud[illegible]rit, seu [illegible] regum [illegible] [illegible] ne mundi intactu fun[illegible]nda reliquerit Non uacat [illegible] [illegible] torijs epistolis ad te se[illegible], & quæcunq; possem studio, [illegible] [illegible] misse, neq; muliebriter agam, non enim uel fœminam [illegible] [illegible] be musciuola, sed utrum fortem, & nat[illegible] semper exce[illegible]um, [illegible] [illegible], & ipsis calamitatibus altiorem, utrum [illegible] signatum for[illegible] [illegible] callo, minas illius, & prælia contemnentem. Non [illegible] [illegible] atibus tantis interseram, neq; ingeram spem nepotum, [illegible] D[illegible] casus nostros miserante non desit, tibi ostendam. Otabo luctus tuos [illegible] [illegible] mare, decline in ea quæ restant, lumina iam tersa conuerte. C[illegible]cumsp[illegible] [illegible] nensium domos, solito pauciores habeat c[illegible]lūnas [illegible] [illegible] bile, solidumq; permaneat. Vnus erat Iul. Cæsar, [illegible] [illegible] men oculum est. Quid tamen unus [illegible] o[illegible]es [illegible] [illegible] d ue[illegible]num est, quò p[illegible] sæuijt, eò m[illegible] metu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] tempore & [illegible], & nepotes, & [illegible] [illegible] p[illegible]egit ad paucos. [illegible]curus generos[illegible] q; ple[illegible] [illegible] magnan[illegible]um genitorem, prope iam nihil est, in quod a[illegible] [illegible] an nihil [illegible]iam intol[illegible]dum fuit, [illegible]hil de[illegible]ceps int[illegible] [illegible] meta [illegible] post ter[illegible]um liquit. Quem uero tenum mihi da[illegible] tot u[illegible] [illegible] quot h[illegible] fœlicitatis, & gloriæ numerat? Omnium p[illegible] [illegible] nos a ætas habu[illegible], si aliquanto citiùs abijsset. Cæterùm [illegible] [illegible] ectantis ai[illegible] e solet. Qui iam suum recepit, in tuto est. Quantum uer[illegible] [illegible] tribuet, inter seniles angustias, quibus eum sub uitæ [illegible] [illegible] ut unde illum explicar[illegible] [illegible] uel propria, uel superstit[illegible] filij uirtus [illegible] [illegible] mali reme[illegible] [illegible] funto: re[illegible]qua enim q[illegible] remed[illegible] unde [illegible] [illegible] lentunt sed acerbant: mors nec lachrymis redimit[illegible] ne[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] potest. Hęc insuperabilis, & ineuitabilis ma[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] quod ere[illegible] [illegible] memor animus loquaci[illegible] [illegible] propriæ [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as ext[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] mum [illegible] dis[illegible] [illegible] us suis mœsti, latent [illegible] [illegible] m laboranti [illegible] [illegible] d sæpe [illegible] memo[illegible] [illegible] sæpe [illegible] [illegible] dicia, ferm[illegible]nesq; hominum [illegible]ugere non p[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] um esse debet, inter multas q[illegible]dem iniurias [illegible] [illegible] m[illegible]udi[illegible] [illegible]tulit materiam. H[illegible] t qui [illegible] [illegible] d in te suspi[illegible]nt [illegible] [illegible] mals animi to[illegible]ur [illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] ma[illegible] V[illegible]e

FRAN. PETRARCHA [illegible] SIMONI FLORENTINO [illegible] Epist. XIII.

Amantum cæca [illegible] credulitas.

Sæpe [illegible]s com [illegible]um [illegible]is, [illegible] a me re[illegible] [illegible] & quanquam [illegible] a[illegible]t, [illegible]nen, int[illegible] [illegible]p[illegible]um, aut alterius non amant[illegible] [illegible]us amici[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]m narrationem uenerat, min[illegible] [illegible] illud enim [illegible] sunt, [illegible]n eandem sententiam dici p[illegible]t, respond[illegible] sufficerit. Solere [illegible] [illegible]. Hinc & apud Flaccum. *Balbinus [illegible] polypo delectatur*, & apud [illegible] [illegible]s. qui monoc[illegible] mulieris amore [illegible]reptus, à parentibus tand[illegible] [illegible] alias oras [illegible], & p[illegible] aliquo[illegible] amore deposito, [illegible] [illegible] uehemen[illegible] [illegible]obuiu[illegible] repentè [illegible] [illegible] ocu[illegible] [illegible] amisi, sed tu o[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]dem [illegible] Sed ne[illegible]. Si quis usquam est amans, senex [illegible] [illegible] reliquis [illegible] deinceps [illegible] mihi fide[illegible] sibi, [illegible] [illegible] Apollini, sed [illegible] [illegible] aures, anim[illegible] [illegible] amat, cuius mel[illegible], & suauis sermo descenderit, partiùs [illegible] [illegible] in sapientem cad[illegible], errare nonnunquam & decipi dulce est. Sanè carmen [illegible] [illegible] erat [illegible], sine responso mansisset, tacita mei pect[illegible] admirat[illegible] [illegible] ingenij tui meritum, in tanta præsertim uulgans ignoran[illegible] [illegible] Accipies igitur seorsum, & qualecunque est boni consules, carmen breue, [illegible] [illegible] materia occupato [illegible] nunc animo uix extorsi, non tàm ut id respon[illegible] [illegible]. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA LVC[illegible]O VICECOMITI MEDIOLANENSI [illegible] S. Epist. XIV.

Veterum Principum & recentiorum collatio.

Quales speraueram, imò quidem quales nec speraueram lit[illegible]ras tuas le[illegible] [illegible] inter excellentiam tuam, & humi[illegible]tatem meam, hoc saltem interuen[illegible] [illegible]um, talemque mihi ad notitiam tui ad[illegible]um aperui[illegible] fortunam, in [illegible] [illegible]terarum ipsarum ultima pars iubet, diligentiæ meæ cura non deerit, [illegible] [illegible]ptiùs enitar, quò pl[illegible] delectationis labor afferet, dum hortulanus he[illegible] [illegible]boribus, [illegible] uerbi[illegible] & carminibus incumbam, inuitante riui murmure, qui querul[illegible] & dexte[illegible] [illegible] prominentem pomiferam syluam secat, cuius studij primitias, [illegible] degustabis. [illegible] fortassè animum altissimis intentum curis, ista non tangant, ut tèpo[illegible] [illegible] scio tamen, [illegible]os tàm magnos rerum Dominos, Iulium & Augustum Cæsare[illegible] [illegible] neg[illegible] bellorumque [illegible] [illegible], in nostr[illegible] [illegible] ocij q[illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]s, a[illegible] [illegible] syllab[illegible]meran[illegible]as, ac uoces ad[illegible] [illegible] inte[illegible] tubarum clangore[illegible], [illegible] m[illegible] strepitum, [illegible] [illegible] amin[illegible] Neronem [illegible] fco, ne præ[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] commemorat[illegible] comm[illegible]em. Quam ded[illegible] [illegible]mus, cui[illegible] intentio [illegible] [illegible] fu[illegible] uicina quid[illegible] morte le[illegible] [illegible] extremum uitæ [illegible], de an[illegible] discessu uers[illegible]ulos edidit. [illegible] uel tu[illegible] rum aliorum notos [illegible] fido. Quid Marcum Ant[illegible] [illegible] non ambitione sed meritis ad imperium ascendisset, uetus [illegible] [illegible]n tenuit, nouum [illegible]euit, [illegible] antò maiu[illegible] extimans Philosophum esse, [illegible] [illegible] generis exem[illegible] [illegible]a ingens est, uixque aliquis principum, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]em esse celebat. [illegible]ed mutata fu[illegible] [illegible] indixerat [illegible]do, & gemma[illegible] atramēt[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] non metu[illegible]. Sed grat[illegible] [illegible] offensione[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] publ[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] rusticanæ [illegible]

[illegible] a [illegible]em publicam appel[illegible] V[illegible] non quidem imperatore digna, se[illegible] [illegible] s, & ip[illegible] quo[illegible] it at Cicero uere [illegible] licet [illegible] occu[illegible] natura literarum a[illegible] em fac[illegible], literatos ta[illegible] es amabat [illegible] Poe[illegible] q[illegible] rerum [illegible] [illegible] s ag[illegible] du[illegible] n [illegible]. Q[illegible] [illegible] lite[illegible]s n[illegible] me[illegible], [illegible] alium [illegible] s: quisquis illas non me[illegible] o [illegible] onin[illegible] cp uerum est [illegible] ud[illegible]:

[illegible]audet enim uirtus, si te[illegible]s iungere [illegible]es.
[illegible]armen amat quisquis carmine [illegible] scit.

[illegible] er [illegible] n[illegible]il, ni i Satyrico carmin[illegible] [illegible]um ge[illegible] u[illegible] m[illegible] tu[illegible] od [illegible] L[illegible] ntiunt omnes, nemo [illegible] uin[illegible] lano, n[illegible] im [illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] m fuit, id quod pretio[illegible] imum h[illegible] ebant, t[illegible] [illegible] nlim peruenere, ut iam inter diuiti[illegible] sua[illegible] graui[illegible] [illegible] sensu, pro paruo regni angulo, in aciem de[illegible]cend[illegible] et, [illegible] lictu[illegible] [illegible] umabile proiecerunt, inque ipsam animi re[illegible] iam permiserunt [illegible] [illegible]os non purpureis, sed sydereis ue[illegible]bus s[illegible]oliatos, inde [illegible]epellerent. V[illegible]de [illegible] [illegible]us, uidemus plebem doctam, reg[illegible]sque asinos corona[illegible] [illegible] licet [illegible]e enim [illegible] c[illegible] [illegible]peratoris epistola quædam, ad Francorum re[illegible]em Tu e[illegible]o hac ætat[illegible] [illegible] ad regnum nihil præter [illegible] [illegible]um nomen d[illegible], e duabu[illegible] pr[illegible] nc[illegible]pum s[illegible]nte[illegible] c[illegible] num te applices ignoro, sed meliora om[illegible] de te spero. Itaque [illegible] [illegible] x[illegible] breue carmen, quod extempore occur[illegible], i[illegible]er arbor[illegible] illas, de qu[illegible] [illegible]mo[illegible]m famil[illegible]ter partem poscis[illegible] excellentiæ tuæ mi[illegible]. Quod si [illegible] ac[illegible] e [illegible] [illegible] eo genere po[illegible]e enim uideor, quam putas, & quam occupatio mea spo[illegible]det liber[illegible] a[illegible]arebo. Vale.

[illegible] PETRARCHA IACOBO FLORENTINO, S. Epist. XVI.

Adulationem uitandam esse.

V[illegible]am laudibus meis, plenæ tuæ [illegible]uper ad me literæ uenêre [illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] a [illegible]ermulsere animum, sic in eis affectum po[illegible]ùs, quàm eff[illegible]ct[illegible]m mete[illegible] [illegible] mitterent[illegible], illud crederem. Nunc de pu[illegible]rima[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] deuntes scio n[illegible] fallunt, utinam non fall[illegible]r, proind[illegible] ue[illegible] tib[illegible] n[illegible]tus [illegible]m. Amori tuo gratulor: compatior errori, ne[illegible] h[illegible] [illegible]n, adeò delectat, quod non sum uideri [illegible]bi, mallem e[illegible] [illegible] d [illegible] [illegible] ne[illegible]atum est [illegible]u tamen ne amicus tibi error exc[illegible]at caue[illegible], eq[illegible] [illegible]perare nequiuerim, quóminus ad literas tuas, ite[illegible]um a[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ct[illegible] nem ipsam, non uacare pericul[illegible], sic enim grauit[illegible] [illegible] pe[illegible]suadendum apposite in proposito uersaris, u[illegible] u[illegible] e met[illegible] m[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible]un qu[illegible]libet facil[illegible] possis impellere. Quod si e[illegible]eis, haud [illegible] opi[illegible] [illegible] t[illegible]us gen[illegible] is & ingenuus error sit, me imp[illegible] te[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] m fi[illegible] & [illegible] labore fiat, ab illa deinceps literarum tuarum p[illegible] [illegible] e, & [illegible] re[illegible]um me [illegible] iugem ac sedulum lectorem uis e[illegible] [illegible] Sat[illegible] pote[illegible]s, quàm L[illegible] mecum agas. Larga enim materia est, [illegible] [illegible] de[illegible] in me in[illegible]a, an[illegible] o[illegible] grauia, & fauentis etiam [illegible] [illegible] precor incum[illegible]e h[illegible] [illegible]cond[illegible] mum tuum calamum uer[illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] linguæ manum, arr[illegible]e, lig[illegible] u[illegible]a, tumida comp[illegible]e, [illegible] [illegible] cin mihi fecisse timueris [illegible]orem. Tristis pou[illegible] tristes p[illegible] n[illegible] is nescit? Acriore [illegible]bi f[illegible]nd[illegible] antidot[illegible] n[illegible] e [illegible] ara d[illegible] [illegible] n sese trudunt, si prod[illegible], h[illegible] e quod d[illegible]cam [illegible] ac[illegible] e[illegible] as a[illegible]o, non mihi nunc primum, tuæ m[illegible] a [illegible], & [illegible]e[illegible]tam. Comœdia[illegible] quam petis, me adm[illegible] [illegible] ob [illegible] ne[illegible] la quidem [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] d[illegible]am, q[illegible] e a[illegible] l[illegible]inum au[illegible]s di[illegible] [illegible]e, exc[illegible] ami- c[illegible]

[illegible] GRAMMATI[illegible] [illegible] AR[illegible] [illegible]

De [illegible] lastica dis[illegible]lina.

A[illegible] n[illegible] rum [illegible] in[illegible] tis a[illegible] ita[illegible] foli- [illegible] pe comple[illegible] m u[illegible] m Pyt[illegible] e- [illegible] m pruden[illegible] æ minu[illegible] am [illegible] ic[illegible] li magis est. L[illegible] ua [illegible] fert, ad cœlum dextera, [illegible] ed [illegible] ius p[illegible] na, lati[illegible] sima, & mult[illegible] m gen[illegible] m [illegible] ta [illegible], hæc ardua, angusta, d[illegible] p[illegible] m h[illegible] minum [illegible] n ego [illegible], [illegible] Dominus omni[illegible] [illegible] Spatiosa uia quæ d[illegible] ad per[illegible] & m[illegible] qui intra[illegible] per eam. Arcta u[illegible] d[illegible] t ad ui[illegible] am, & [illegible] unt qui in[illegible] eam [illegible] lane no[illegible] dum [illegible] act[illegible] um pue[illegible] s [illegible] e u[illegible] l cæ[illegible] uul[illegible] arc[illegible] pr[illegible] m [illegible] u[illegible] rrat[illegible] bit itinere, &, quæ [illegible] tra [illegible] m [illegible] ui[illegible] p[illegible] r. N[illegible] ro, uir optime, f[illegible] tant [illegible] uua, re[illegible] e, [illegible] ta. D[illegible] e magi[illegible] dextrum sequi [illegible] ce[illegible] Quo[illegible] m[illegible] ius [illegible] aciet, si peculiariter in eum oculos dehxeri[illegible] & ad[illegible] æ [illegible] ul[illegible] is quædam tuæ prouidentiæ medicina subuenerit. Scis quam in p[illegible] m [illegible] e[illegible] ruinæ proximu[illegible] opportuno præsidio fulciatur. Vetus medicorum re[illegible] [illegible] n æ contrarijs cu[illegible] n. In lætitiam effuso, triste quidlibet, mœstitia contracto l[illegible] m [illegible] o[illegible] ci[illegible] tens[illegible] nimia, si obtusum erit ingenium, more sol[illegible] rtis agricolę, altem[illegible] [illegible] uis[illegible] ne repar[illegible] bit[illegible] rubi[illegible] m situ traxerit, exercitio enitescet. Atque ita fiet, ut a[illegible] or [illegible] ete[illegible] c[illegible] diat, laborem quie[illegible] sim[illegible] nunc[illegible] une negotio recreetur animu[illegible] n- [illegible] era[illegible] præterea sunt m[illegible] fficientiæ, & ta[illegible] diuersa remedia, non ma[illegible] s morb[illegible] [illegible] oris, q[illegible] n animi passi[illegible], ut quod [illegible] pe[illegible] erum est, alteri sit salubre, in hoc [illegible] ta [illegible] præceptoris uerti[illegible] r. Iuuenilis pau[illegible], fami[illegible] ar[illegible] ate ac [illegible] lan[illegible] mulcetur. Insol[illegible] [illegible] minis, & seueritate comprimitur, nec una scholas[illegible] censura mi[illegible] æ est, leuia uer[illegible] [illegible] ia uerberibus castiganda. Hic laudibus erigendus, hic [illegible] oercendus infan[illegible] a, hic ope[illegible] e[illegible] gandus, hic domandus est [illegible] erula. Generoso animo, perseuerantiæ studium, affecto f[illegible] a[illegible], desperanti subsidium, [illegible] eruor algenti, præcipiti frenum. Lento calcar addendum. Not[illegible] [illegible] nti ingero, ut attritu memoria recalescat, & de communibus magna pars artiu[illegible] & ali[illegible] uando iucund[illegible] us a[illegible] ncta loca reuisimus, sæpe non tam notis [illegible] quam nouis c[illegible] nti [illegible] ec[illegible] amur. [illegible] uer[illegible] hu[illegible], ut ad rem rede[illegible] m, uel inuito manum inijce, ne corruat, ne deui[illegible] [illegible] ram [illegible] e q[illegible] to periculo processurus, quãto inde labore, quantoq́ dispendio reg[illegible] [illegible]. O[illegible] ende [illegible] tutius, iam hic rectum [illegible] te[illegible] [illegible], q[illegible] am spe redi[illegible] us[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] d[illegible] uertere. Facilem calium esse, paratum[illegible] m[illegible] b[illegible] s, [illegible] ur[illegible] [illegible], magno nisu, mag[illegible] o auxilio opus esse. Monstra ei [illegible] e [illegible] [illegible] nn[illegible] [illegible] rti[illegible] n de u[illegible] luptate sentẽtiam [illegible] ru[illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] frag[illegible] e, cadu[illegible] um nihil ad dexteram n[illegible] pul[illegible] um, l[illegible] cidu[illegible], [illegible] [illegible] am pr[illegible] p[illegible] illam [illegible] que[illegible] b[illegible] c[illegible] nueniat, quod scriptum e[illegible] [illegible] um & am[illegible] la[illegible] t per uias tenebrosas. Atq; illud: Viæ e[illegible] rum & tenel[illegible] æ, [illegible] V[illegible] a ini[illegible] u[illegible] t[illegible] ne[illegible] osa, nes[illegible] iunt u[illegible] rruant. Hanc uerò alteram [illegible] nt[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible] e[illegible] nu[illegible] ire. V[illegible] æ [illegible] lorum pulchræ. [illegible] llud: V[illegible] a [illegible] orum [illegible] ne offendi[illegible] [illegible] tem simul d[illegible] m. Vias quæ à dextris s[illegible] nt nouit dominus, peruersæ uer[illegible] [illegible] sunt. Neq; f[illegible] on[illegible] di[illegible] um populo, ecce ego do coram uobis uiam uitę [illegible] [illegible] s. Facil[illegible] a c[illegible] nder[illegible] t fac[illegible] u[illegible] eat quam reprehen[illegible] [illegible] post tot duce[illegible] uamq; [illegible] b[illegible] per inextricab[illegible] e[illegible] uitæ a[illegible] actus, ut de sæpe r[illegible] e[illegible] ntibus seu red[illegible] re medita[illegible] s [illegible]. D[illegible] niq; dum [illegible], dumq́ ipse su[illegible] est, ne[illegible] d[illegible] m pec[illegible] um [illegible] [illegible] an[illegible] facil[illegible] d[illegible] nare, quàm excutere, & Po[illegible] [illegible] e [illegible]

[illegible] ac[illegible] ir ad astra [illegible]
[illegible] um nodis, at lana m[illegible]
Exerc[illegible] & a[illegible] mpla[illegible]

In[illegible] o[illegible], s[illegible] utum H[illegible] æ[illegible] r[illegible] c[illegible] nsonat, sic enim ait: Via peccan[illegible] um co[illegible] a[illegible] n[illegible] em illo[illegible] u[illegible] ten[illegible] æ, & p[illegible] næ. [illegible] s hac [illegible] at[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] it d[illegible] recess ex[illegible] ip[illegible] pat[illegible] ia, ac[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] quæ [illegible]

rum, [illegible] s [illegible] i. E[illegible] tram [illegible] d[illegible] is [illegible] erare [illegible] t, nosti [illegible] g[illegible] m [illegible] exp[illegible] m [illegible], pa[illegible] rum [illegible] [illegible] fiant, [illegible] modò si bon[illegible] x[illegible] eant obs[illegible] quent[illegible] s, [illegible] dem [illegible] m [illegible] ùm [illegible] la n[illegible] [illegible] um dignatu[illegible] a, [illegible] us an[illegible] e[illegible], ni[illegible] a [illegible] p[illegible] c[illegible]. V[illegible]

[illegible] PETRARCHA LANCELOTO [illegible], S. Epist. XVIII.

De [illegible]

HAc [illegible] calamo dextera, scri[illegible] di[illegible] d[illegible] incerta, qu[illegible] d scribet, tàm mult[illegible] is & tàm u[illegible] i[illegible] opè tempore, nunc[illegible] [illegible]. Interpel[illegible] hinc Tyberi[illegible] hinc Ar[illegible] [illegible] Rhodanus, ille mihi in[illegible] de me[illegible] ume m[illegible] tæ urbis statum, [illegible] [illegible] am [illegible] quam sine lachry[illegible] re non [illegible] um, n[illegible] nciau[illegible] t. [illegible] d[illegible] dolescentium querelas, [illegible] d me diuerso quid[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] at [illegible] ndi[illegible] antium, [illegible] uit[illegible] q[illegible] tan[illegible] m, q[illegible] d [illegible] e [illegible] [illegible] natali [illegible] lo habitaculum, [illegible] tu[illegible] te[illegible] rum, [illegible] [illegible] autem cu[illegible] talium literis am[illegible] corum [illegible] me[illegible] in [illegible] excell[illegible] am[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] oribus malis minime [illegible], [illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] t[illegible] m [illegible] d[illegible] o qu[illegible] [illegible] ot[illegible] [illegible] imæ familiæ ac mœrore [illegible] alca[illegible] andæ, [illegible] d ual[illegible] æ repichen[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] nam ergo primùm uerterer, Romanis amicis miserat[illegible] Florentinis ex[illegible] u[illegible] [illegible] consolatio debebatur, in hoc triuio hæsitanti quartus [illegible] mor ac[illegible] erat, [illegible] dã [illegible] or[illegible] e mihi iunctus, & sanguine, quodq; super o[illegible] est, & amore & obsequijs a[illegible] [illegible] atissimus, atq; charissimus, dum ex Gal[illegible] d me uisendi cupi[illegible] s accele[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] boribus uiarum, seu cœli inclementia contract[illegible], Saone subi[illegible] re co[illegible] ce[illegible] a mihi no[illegible] te subtrahitur. Qua in re, quib[illegible] lõgæui parentis, ac miseræ ma[illegible] fra[illegible] fortudine, ac sororum lachrymas cõ[illegible] lar[illegible] r, qui meas proprias lenire [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] q[illegible] rer[illegible] m circumuentus, feci quod in talibus soleo, q[illegible] q; m[illegible] s peculiari[illegible] inertiæ [illegible] æ [illegible] [illegible] x[illegible] uo, uniuersa negligere, uel si possem etiam obl[illegible] Si a[illegible] cõ[illegible] o tua i[illegible] [illegible] porem abstulit, & destitutum atq; abiectum calamum [illegible] tuit, t[illegible] m dul[illegible] [illegible] uis dulcedo inerat. Sanè quòd inter cætera scriptum erat, A[illegible] æ meæ [illegible] rare, uel inuitum compulit, neque enim solus cœpti illius exitum expe[illegible] s, m[illegible] [illegible] pro[illegible] pt[illegible] t, arenas maris, & cœli astra numerare, [illegible] uam cuncta fortunæ lab[illegible] ibus [illegible] ide[illegible] obstacula. Finem & ipse incertus operior, prorsus ne frustra u[illegible] lauerim an [illegible] em [illegible] dij mei uoluptas aliqua, quamuis sera seruetur. Quòd si ritè succe[illegible] r adh[illegible] [illegible] nq; spectaculum ingenij curabo, ne quis te præueniat in orchestra. Vltimam [illegible] [illegible] im particulam subridens legi, iuuat enim morbi mei, ueteris tales nos[illegible] e part[illegible] [illegible] cogor nõ[illegible] nobile accidens, quod in tali consederit subiecto. Sol[illegible] m[illegible] u[illegible] [illegible] ur[illegible] quod ex me iocosè (nisi fallor) exigis, ego ex te, si forte animi u[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] cen[illegible] um dicerem, & sperandum. Hiscine uersiculis speras, tibi p[illegible] e d[illegible] [illegible] sq; [illegible] ucès è pectore pelli? Augentur potius, aluntúrq;. Alia e[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] na, cuius quidem, quod [illegible] ateri ueritas iubet, nost[illegible] Ac[illegible] apius [illegible] æ [illegible] m, quibus illa confici[illegible] uel in hortulo tuo certè non sint, uel [illegible] nec [illegible] m[illegible] en[illegible] gustu e[illegible] c[illegible] u[illegible] t, ne tangantur. Vale, & quod optimum adue[illegible] s [illegible] m[illegible] a[illegible] tæ nostræ mala remedium reor, quicquid se ad mouendum loco animum obtulerit, diligenter examina, & si principio delectaris, finem cogita.

FRAN[illegible]

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE R[illegible]BVS FAMILI[illegible]A-R[illegible]BVS,

LIBER VIII.

FRAN. PETRAR[illegible]HA STEPH[illegible] [illegible]OLVMNAE, [illegible]. [illegible]. I.

Fortitudin[illegible] [illegible]m laudat.

S E V M[illegible] [illegible]nde f[illegible]nex, he[illegible] [illegible]itracissimũ ca[illegible] [illegible]culi [illegible]e cœlum off[illegible]isti? Qu[illegible] fecisti, ut tam l[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]p[illegible] [illegible]u nireris. Met[illegible]llus altei dicebaris, nec imme[illegible], [illegible]ia co[illegible]ue rant, patria, genus, forma, diuitiæ, aliæq; corpo[illegible], atq; animi [illegible] g[illegible]lares, & admirabiles dotes, uxor quoq; clarissima, [illegible] ux[illegible] generosa fœcũditas, & Cos. dignitas, & in Romanis exerc[illegible] imperij fastigium, & ui[illegible] [illegible]arum, ac triumphorum tituli. [illegible]e-ctus l[illegible] gæua, & inc[illegible]n [illegible]ssa usq; sub ulnmum fortuna, [illegible]quid [illegible]nim [illegible]ersi intermiscer[illegible] hactenus ausa est, qualia multa famo[illegible] pers[illegible]onibus pertul[illegible] fecit hoc ut asperitate insigni abst[illegible] [illegible]ur[illegible] enitesceret gloriæ tuæ decus. Hanc tibi fidem prope centesimum uitæ annũ fortuna [illegible]ruauerat, & tu similiter in orbe terrarum, & in [illegible]is regina Vrbe princeps natus, poteras ubi de fœlicitate agitur, ea scilicet quæ [illegible]perari p[illegible]test, in hac uita rarissimis exẽplis, tuũ nomen inserere, nõ ut S[illegible]phidius inops, & inglori[illegible] arator, mendaci fœl[illegible]x dictus oracul[illegible] sed ut glori[illegible]issimus omnium nostræ ætatis Romanorum ducum, & quód prors[illegible] d[illegible] limũ ac penè impos[illegible]ile dixerim, in altissima fortuna fœlicissimus, poteras excl[illegible] [illegible]Arche de pr[illegible]no, sedere fide[illegible]s, Romanus cum Romano, princeps cum [illegible]rincipe, [illegible] cum M[illegible]lo [illegible]isi quod præter r[illegible]ligionis eminentiam, cuius inter paganum, Chr[illegible]ianu[illegible] hominem, comparatio nulla e[illegible] dere illum tibi, saltem fratrum ac l[illegible]berorum numer[illegible] gnum erat. [illegible]ratrem ille nullũ habuisse legitur, tibi quinq; contigerant, summi uiri, &, ut [illegible] [illegible]lter dicam, nec sanguine, nec fortuna, quàm uirtutibus, & gloria clariores. Quatuor [illegible] lios habuit, prætori[illegible]s, consulares, censorios, triumphales: tibi septem fue[illegible]nt. Vnus R. Cardinalis, alius uel Cardinali maior futurus, si ad legitimam peruenisset ætatem, tres [illegible] scopi, duo bellorum duces, & bellica gloria parenti, ut omnia simul expediam, propè pa[illegible] illi[illegible]es, tibi uer[illegible] sex fi[illegible]tæ, de quarum moribus silentium breuiloquio præferendum [illegible]ut[illegible] quæ nam Deus[illegible]one, quàm flores ex utroq; sexu, nepotum ac pronepotum acies, quam du[illegible]s n[illegible]rba, q[illegible]iam iucunda societas? Quis [illegible]ne in[illegible]nita sequar, ex primogenito [illegible] mo[illegible]en[illegible] nep[illegible]s Ioa[illegible]nes diuin[illegible]s q[illegible]dam, & p[illegible]is pri[illegible], ueræq; Romanæ ind[illegible] sese [illegible]re[illegible] Columnæ c[illegible]g[illegible]omen obrigi[illegible]e diceres? Neque enim de [illegible] ut [illegible] [illegible]umna d[illegible]e[illegible]atur, in quam f[illegible]licet am[illegible]corum spes, [illegible] q[illegible]am d[illegible] g[illegible] & ar[illegible] [illegible]re[illegible]eret. A[illegible]riam Mar[illegible]ell[illegible]nus e[illegible]se[illegible]t, eadem ætas erat, eadem [illegible] par [illegible]ig[illegible] [illegible]dem & amor armorum, & eq[illegible]orum [illegible]d[illegible]m, & e[illegible]tand[illegible] pen[illegible]a, [illegible]q; Marcell[illegible]s in [illegible]es, [illegible] q[illegible]id Marcello cla[illegible]s [illegible]ebat. Quæ cùm it[illegible] ess[illegible] [illegible] si[illegible] Roma[illegible]um ref[illegible]men, uulgò iam fœlicissimus, si duci potest, fa[illegible] ac [illegible]imi [illegible] [illegible]d[illegible]n[illegible] sed sapi[illegible] expectare finem iubent, quod [illegible]le fortunat[illegible] [illegible] Ly[illegible]m S[illegible]nt[illegible]lio m[illegible]etur. F[illegible] enim uera de mortali fœlicitate mors iu[illegible] quod mir[illegible] [illegible]terna. Ne[illegible] [illegible]at lubrica fœlicitas est. Vi[illegible]e [illegible]cem fa[illegible]. M[illegible]rere u[illegible]te[illegible] [illegible]nt ciui[illegible]e s[illegible] [illegible]lter enim, quò altior es, eo grauio[illegible] f[illegible]a[illegible] [illegible]onæ [illegible]um [illegible]s ex[illegible]p[illegible]lu[illegible] [illegible]stri temporis, si qual[illegible] uitę cursus, tal[illegible]s ex[illegible] in[illegible] quód n[illegible] [illegible]on[illegible]a at[illegible]. Vt multorum dierum na[illegible] ga[illegible] [illegible]m [illegible]um ur[illegible]. N[illegible] c[illegible] [illegible]dus, non una tempestas [illegible] fæ[illegible] l[illegible] sæp[illegible] [illegible] sæpè qu[illegible]n[illegible] peri[illegible] [illegible]a-be[illegible] [illegible] ut di[illegible] ra[illegible] ai[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] apud seipsum [illegible] imus, impri[illegible] dum [illegible] fortunæ tuæ uarietatem [illegible] nos fratres [illegible] tantarum colu[illegible] [illegible] tamen inconcussis [illegible] proprium mag[illegible] nus sarcinam transtuli [illegible] x illo quidem [illegible] ma rerumque præ[illegible] im me[illegible] ria [illegible] us ordo succeſſer [illegible] [illegible] m est. [illegible] tua morte con[illegible] geminum graue uulnus, tam multa perpe[illegible] s. Inde aliq; usque ad nu[illegible] [illegible] repereras, & mi[illegible] ens amara [illegible] o leniebas. Iam senilem [illegible] bliteratus primor [illegible] Metello fœlicior mori poteras, longa uita præ[illegible] Priam[illegible] lo. Metellum quippe sepelierunt sui, suos Priamus [illegible] ux fortuna, pauca ne inconſtantiæ tuæ arg[illegible] enta [illegible] exemplis Stephanus noster ad[illegible] ederet, que [illegible] ac nepotum mul[illegible] ine spoliatum [illegible] ſpectaculum poſ[illegible] O magnam me[illegible] O [illegible] rabilis Stephane [illegible] q[illegible] heri poſſes inf[illegible] x, iam [illegible] cras, qu[illegible] m qui sol[illegible] proximior, quàm cui [illegible] orum adoleſcentium m[illegible] um con[illegible] uidebaris. Sed impotens illa, & immitis Dea est, seu uerius D[illegible] [illegible] arum uoluntatum executrix impigerrima, sed occulta, mitis & incompreh[illegible] agens. Cuius ut clandestini semper & uarij, sic sæpe mœsti, & flebil[illegible] [illegible] hac ætate clarius, suæ uarietatis indicium erat, ideò [illegible] crediderim, quo se mundo notiorem faceret, & post tant[illegible] id[illegible], & ex tam alto terribilior casus esset. Neque enim poteras tam infœlix [illegible] [illegible] ut spectabilis orbitas tua, heu dulcedo am[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ndiæ. Quid metuendum? Quid optandum? Q[illegible] [illegible] est? [illegible] portunum nihil habuisse, quod placeat, d[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] nimium fateor, sed sic oportuit, ut do[illegible] [illegible] unam, si eius alteram tantummodo faciem a[illegible] [illegible] casibus quid n[illegible] expectas ut dicam? Nolo speres, nolo d[illegible] [illegible] animi est. Quid enim [illegible] te speres? Nouos filios? Noua [illegible] tempus [illegible] est ætas, tam senectus apta nuptijs quàm bruma messibus. Rid[illegible] [illegible] contrà autẽ quid deſperes? De tot filijs nullum habes. S[illegible] [illegible] ores, n[illegible] or poſſeſsio, quàm in poteſtate an[illegible] [illegible] inuenit. Hieronimus quid in ex Ar[illegible] seipſum habere paucis contigit. A[illegible] [illegible] cum alijs enim [illegible] cum loqui pa[illegible] in tàm longa uita fecit [illegible] mum esse por[illegible] at apud Ciceronem [illegible] Maximi, ut ut [illegible] ones, u[illegible] destres nau[illegible] ut triumphos recordentur [illegible] orum es acie, quibus [illegible] riosa est. Recordare quæ [illegible] quæ per [illegible] la obieris [illegible] t. Fatebens [illegible] fustes, ma[illegible] quidem fœl[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] quod [illegible] est [illegible] mite [illegible] os est, du[illegible] decem, Romæ tecum ag[illegible] & [illegible]

foli,

[illegible] quæ [illegible] am seca [illegible] m [illegible] im [illegible] quæ [illegible] bello g [illegible] quàm paterna [illegible] tas tua quod m [illegible] te negaueras, ut me au [illegible] e tunc re [illegible] m [illegible] um cum d [illegible] m familiarit [illegible] qu [illegible] esse [illegible] ta f [illegible] æc fi re [illegible] n [illegible] re [illegible] ò, sed uel bo [illegible] m [illegible] t me [illegible] micus tu [illegible] de [illegible] m [illegible] erne sim affectus, in [illegible] m meam, quæ [illegible] uo [illegible] uit, [illegible] d qu [illegible] re ibi hoc n [illegible] præterea [illegible] m [illegible] & u [illegible] nc diem, nullu [illegible] m non [illegible] o, cuius te [illegible] s in omne testem [illegible] em [illegible] tra [illegible] tati meæ [illegible] ecu [illegible] pluribus me be [illegible] hac [illegible] o [illegible] t [illegible] hæreditatem relict [illegible] tam me [illegible] acri bella suscipere. Qu [illegible] uitim [illegible] iam [illegible] re frigescens animus, uel longa humana [illegible] m c [illegible] im [illegible] dit obseruatio. Verum [illegible] a [illegible] m atque firmatũ habe [illegible] bori terga non uertere, m [illegible] n- [illegible] ra, s[illegible] d ita f [illegible] erit, ad sepulchrum potius pugnando perueniam, quam [illegible] am [illegible] senex. Ad id [illegible] quod de hæreditate dictum, hoc unum respondisse uelim [illegible] e oc [illegible] n municque. V [illegible] m hæreditatem [illegible] quam filijs dimitterem, sed aliud u [illegible] to uisum, [illegible] d mœstus [illegible] c [illegible] quidem cum [illegible] naturæ ordine [illegible] mini. hæres ero. Hæc dicens, undantes lachrymis oc [illegible] s auerti [illegible] [illegible] no, seu Dei monitu dix [illegible] cer [illegible], quamuis uat [illegible] aliqua, d [illegible] rum euen [illegible] is, principes solere, testis e [illegible] ius Vespasianus, qui alterius natorum [illegible] genus, amborumque prænunciauit imperium. Ego quidem die illo, tanquam uel cas [illegible] lapsum, uel ab indignatione profectum uerbum contempsi, fateor, neque tantarum fo [illegible] rum suspicatus sum. post longum uerò tempus, dum crebris filiorum mortib [illegible] [illegible] uiuerem, rem inter amicos retuli. Inde in uulgus effusa est, itaque fa [illegible] m [illegible] Ioa [illegible] Romani decus Cardinis, & familiæ tuæ princeps, tribus iam fratribus def [illegible] uic [illegible] pic [illegible] us ex [illegible] que, ut [illegible] tem totam ordine narrarem. Quod cùm inuitus fe [illegible] suspirans ait. Vtinam genitor noster non tàm uer [illegible] icus uates esset. Eodem anno, [illegible] lo primogeniti tui ac nepotum casum, magis ac magis horrere præsagiũ [illegible] uum cœpit, d [illegible] ipse dolore con [illegible] us, ut arbitror, nouissimè moriendo, dictum patris tri [illegible] uidem, se [illegible] na fide compleuit. Quæ res cunctis qui eam audiuere mirabilis, mihi uerò magis in [illegible] ies [illegible] is ac stu [illegible] enda est. Meministi omnium non dubito, ego certè sic memini, ut adhu [illegible] [illegible] hrum [illegible] mar [illegible] oreum antiquum, quod in angulo est, & cui uter [illegible] ue [illegible] ostrum cu [illegible]. A [illegible] hæc, & omnis tui habitum spectare, uoce [illegible] que il [illegible] as t [illegible] as his au [illegible] bus au [illegible] [illegible] d [illegible] Qu [illegible] m ita sint, non debet [illegible] o [illegible] ab [illegible] le d [illegible] mnum e [illegible] e, quod tanto [illegible] nt [illegible] p [illegible] a [illegible] m meditatio animum. Quid p [illegible] ri, quod non te p [illegible] llarum [illegible] [illegible] orat [illegible] m se [illegible] enuisse mort [illegible] lem nisi s[illegible] t idem am [illegible] s & propriæ mortalitatis o [illegible] li us. [illegible] m [illegible] miles [illegible] os habere, nihil uerò magis est nostrũ, quam insita atque indict [illegible] n [illegible] ndi [illegible] o m [illegible] riendi, sola omnium inseparabilis, inhærensque ossibus ac medull [illegible] [illegible] e [illegible] t homines in funeribus filiorum? Profect [illegible] non certum & publicũ natu [illegible] [illegible] s [illegible] peratũ [illegible] hic tibi (quantũ intelli [illegible] datur) nec im [illegible] n [illegible] c [illegible] ma [illegible] di c [illegible] st, [illegible] opinis dolor [illegible] uulneris. Aut [illegible] gi [illegible] affe [illegible] m [illegible] d d [illegible] mnes & ben [illegible] ti faciũt & quæcunque ub [illegible] c [illegible] ua [illegible] r [illegible] quàm t [illegible] A [illegible] rt [illegible] quoniam suũ naturæ ius e [illegible] gemi [illegible] ict [illegible] nus [illegible] r u [illegible] t, tantũ tamen tempus effluxe [illegible] m [illegible] il [illegible] as aruisse. Lentes [illegible] it enim [illegible], [illegible] a [illegible] en [illegible], humanarum passionum [illegible] a p [illegible] m [illegible] em [illegible] Vt u [illegible] que [illegible] at Se [illegible] p [illegible] quibus n [illegible] iam nisi memoria sua habet, uetera memorando, [illegible] nouas miserias [illegible]

acni-

[illegible] ... mortalium ... [illegible] ... Monstro tibi ... ante omnia ... In hoc desino, ... animo ... im cogitat, quid minatur ... cui etiam, ne tu habes, ubi de cætero loquar. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA OLYMPIO SVO, S. Epist. II.

Se domum non repererit, dolet.

Nihil omni ex parte fœlix, aut dulce, dum uiuimus ... [illegible] ... dum non uiuimus ... m enim ... mum erit ... optimi ... pectus ... perdidi ... uix ... ubi comperi ... uarum asperitate ... non ... magna ... Hæc enim & famulo ... uocibus perdidici, & literis ... eximiæ dilectionis obsides reliquistis, & arrabonem ... Sed quoniam dura leniorem in partem flectere sapientis est, ... me ut optabatis inuenio, congressu amici feruor ... per absentiam irritato, pro paucorũ forte dierũ ... nditas compensetur, de hoc etamẽ ... acies, infirma retundi. Certò ego sic mihi fingo, sic ... laborib. conquiesco. De quo quid sentio, ... & nũcius hic festinat, in diem aliũ differre coactus sum. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AD OLYMPIVM, S. Epist. III.

Quanto fontis Sorgiæ amore teneatur.

Ex ... nuncius, aut ociosis dies affuit ... no quidem ex animi mei sententia, noui ... m maximus, mul ... permi ... iam contemptibilis ... d licet, quando ... od ... nõ non licet. Et quoniam ... des erat unam duxit epistolæ tuæ partem exequar, ubi ... nades, ut illam ... dinẽ eripiam. Videris enim mihi, de ... nec immeritò quod ... tus ... antè S... tẽ nostrum ... em precibus, ... ram, si tract ... ccederent, ... ui ... necessari ... rerent ... inqua ... conuenient ... mea ... pedita sit ... [illegible] ... me ... [illegible]

Nulla

[illegible] opacis [illegible]

[illegible] ... ac [illegible] ... em [illegible] ... placet ... necessitatis ... um [illegible] Neque enim [illegible] ... sed [illegible] ur Clau[illegible] ... tempus ... tædio affe[illegible] ... nemorum de tota. [illegible] præcipi[illegible] ... pationes tam uaria [illegible] simul & [illegible] moremus, [illegible] nam [illegible] gubernaculo [illegible]. Sed Claudi ualles [illegible] m æstiuo præsertum t[illegible] ... & [illegible] e gratus fui [illegible] e gran[illegible] m. Decen[illegible] est [illegible] ud alterum [illegible] actantur [illegible] an licet, p[illegible] ... que nunc [illegible] sed cer[illegible] ... eo acc[illegible] ... pirari ausim, apud multos, [illegible] ... Quod [illegible] erim [illegible] dubitet [illegible] re, quo [illegible] rebus aptissim[illegible] per[illegible], ubi [illegible] ... d non tantùm electu[illegible], sed [illegible] ... uerbis atque carmi[illegible] us ill[illegible] ... Africam meam cœpi, tanto impetu, tantoque [illegible] animi, ut nu[illegible] limam [illegible] ... ipse meam audaciam, & magna operis fundamenta, [illegible] ... epistolarum [illegible] ... styli partem non ex[illegible] uam, & pene [illegible] ... carmen a[illegible] quàm bre[illegible] erum spatio, si noris stupeas. Nullus locus, ut p[illegible] ... aut simul [illegible] actiores, ex omnibus terris ac seculis, illustres ui[illegible] ... dedi a[illegible] solitariam uitam, religiosique oci[illegible] ... us [illegible] da, & laudanda [illegible]. Denique [illegible] ... nolo [illegible] ns, illi umbraculis lenire, eo iam inde [illegible] ... ut in arcem mun[illegible] Sed heu, mihi incaut[illegible] planem [illegible] in exitium uertebantur. [illegible] quas mecum aduexeram curis [illegible] cendent[illegible] ... nullo prorsus a[illegible] cendi [illegible] urrente, desperari[illegible] ... labor[illegible] orum cantica [illegible] issima. Q[illegible] ... a omnia, o[illegible] ... gratissima [illegible] ... tas, [illegible] ... tas, [illegible] nec libertas [illegible] ... suffragi[illegible] ...

[illegible]

[illegible] hec [illegible] rebellant [illegible] o, & fateor [illegible] illam, nunc uel maximè re-[illegible] m [illegible] rum ne [illegible] lgco [illegible] m amo [illegible] uellicat. Ibam [illegible] to nunc [illegible] ex [illegible] mure nunc ij adm [illegible] ncor, [illegible] dicam. Vale.

[illegible] Epist. IIII.

[illegible] iterum, [illegible] eros [illegible] uitam [illegible] inuitat.

O [illegible] at [illegible], fe [illegible] appetens, nec ulla [illegible] cel [illegible] itas est, [illegible] ar [illegible] tas sit am [illegible] ltra [illegible] he [illegible] cino die scripseram. [illegible] ed [illegible] m [illegible] a [illegible] er eran, & ex [illegible] nerari animus ardebat, cum fortuitus nunc [illegible] us no [illegible] a [illegible] mesticos me conuen [illegible], & [illegible] gulorum [illegible] idem obseq [illegible] iatr [illegible] a [illegible] e [illegible] citus [illegible] im, coqu [illegible] occurrit, q [illegible] o [illegible] com [illegible] em. Coquus [illegible]) quod [illegible] n te latet, ap [illegible] m [illegible] s [illegible] im [illegible] a [illegible] pium, u [illegible] cta de [illegible] a in pre [illegible] o haberi [illegible] uam [illegible] mus, ne unquam su [illegible] a delitijs, nos uicisset. Sed ad no [illegible] c mihi pro uiatore fuerit, u [illegible] cos pro [illegible] oquio, scis me ru [illegible] ico [illegible] eit [illegible] us delectari, & in t [illegible] i uictu [illegible] cu [illegible] picuro sent [illegible] e, cu [illegible] in h [illegible] s [illegible] se laudatæ uol [illegible] mma rep [illegible] ur [illegible] e quidem [illegible] mihi perpetuam fecit, q [illegible] od [illegible] is delicat [illegible] ac lau [illegible] u [illegible] t al [illegible] Qu [illegible] m tàm fastidiosè arrogans, cui non semel in anno dulce [illegible] uel in hero [illegible] is a [illegible] e [illegible] s [illegible] duo, uel in amici pastoris tugu [illegible] io discumbere, [illegible] uamuis a [illegible] ratæ trabes n [illegible] im [illegible] en [illegible] tam [illegible] is mensas argentum gra [illegible] oneret, mu [illegible] marmoreos, pur [illegible] urea [illegible] u [illegible] cuius tàm ambitiosa sit [illegible] ut præter p [illegible] gemmam, seu l [illegible] e [illegible] tantes, Polycleti opus poc [illegible] lum omne [illegible]? Aut cuius tàm [illegible] æ n [illegible] inter [illegible] m rustico conuiuio sed [illegible] ueat, quamuis peregrinæ Co [illegible] cl [illegible] non absint nec ignotis l [illegible] toribus iacta [illegible] ombus, interq; duos pontes ca [illegible] Ty-[illegible] lupus, cu [illegible] ueterum opinio palmam inter pisces tribuit? Hæc ergo, quæ [illegible] nun [illegible] am raritatis lenocinio temptâtur, m [illegible] hi naturæ benef [illegible] cio [illegible] m [illegible] nd [illegible] f [illegible] tan alternare libuerit, hic mihi iugis u [illegible] endi tenor plac [illegible] r. L [illegible], sed q [illegible] rarissime, & magno redeât interuallo. Ne'ue me f [illegible] q [illegible] e [illegible] iud [illegible] im dicturus, ista sic accipies, ne fortassis incommodo meo co [illegible] o [illegible] meum mihi antè remiseris, quàm plenè cō [illegible] lium experitus, de summa [illegible] quæ nunc agitur. In quam quæso, aperite aures, & non repugnantes anim [illegible] s [illegible] Q [illegible] e [illegible] m [illegible] dico, omnibus dico, & cupio has literas (si [illegible] eri possi [illegible] er o [illegible] a [illegible] cu [illegible] rri, & si quis ibit il [illegible] c ad occidentem n [illegible] nci [illegible] s, Soc [illegible] ati nostro nomi-[illegible] igi, ut omnes agnoscant, uel sensus meos, uel ineptias. M [illegible] lta quidem al [illegible] è dici pos-[illegible] non multa (nisi fallor) utiliùs, de hoc tamen uos tamen uideritis, ego in [illegible] itutum se-[illegible] quidem aut omninò nihil calleo, aut nisi iam uiri sumus, nunquam erimus. Nemo n [illegible] landiatur, nemo nos iuuentutis appe [illegible] latione decipiat, non sumus decrepiti, esto ne s [illegible] us, at p [illegible] ofe [illegible] nec pueri. Te [illegible] puerilia relinquendi, temp [illegible] s est [illegible] am [illegible] m, nec tra [illegible] t, sed mihi crede [illegible] nsiuit, & magna iam ex parte po [illegible] terg [illegible] c [illegible] quid rel [illegible] qui e [illegible] e non in [illegible] cior, [illegible] ne pari segnitie dilabatur, celeriter oc [illegible] dum [illegible] uin eueniet nobis (quod uul [illegible] o [illegible] erè omnibus) ut adolescentiam respectâtes, & in [illegible] culis, ac mente conuersi, senectutis in foueam incidamus, atq; ita demum iacen [illegible] e [illegible] l [illegible] at [illegible] ræ frag [illegible] itate, deq; æ [illegible] reuitate lamẽtemur: Et ueræ querimoniæ The [illegible] a [illegible] eramus auct [illegible] rem, Cic [illegible] ronc [illegible] c [illegible] lu [illegible] o, & [illegible] enec [illegible] re [illegible] i [illegible] entib [illegible] s, ma [illegible] n arri [illegible] imus hoc quantulum [illegible] neq; quod restat [illegible] u [illegible] us nost [illegible] o [illegible] u [illegible] rt [illegible] m [illegible] a [illegible] um ipsius Senecæ sententiam, [illegible] æ Ciceronis ante [illegible] ucrat quod facere [illegible] en [illegible] q [illegible] t, & uolunt tempus celer [illegible] a [illegible] rare, c [illegible] lca [illegible] a [illegible], cuius [illegible] c ucr [illegible] s [illegible] tentem nacte [illegible] s beatam [illegible] e [illegible] b [illegible] fer [illegible] t, quod s [illegible] l [illegible] tar [illegible] & [illegible] a [illegible] c [illegible] c [illegible], [illegible] laude [illegible] na e [illegible], certe [illegible] d [illegible] m e [illegible] p [illegible], [illegible] m [illegible] q; non e [illegible] te [illegible] um [illegible] Q [illegible] c [illegible] red [illegible] it n-[illegible] nihil iam n [illegible] m [illegible] n [illegible] s u [illegible] ccu [illegible] e [illegible] e [illegible] ia [illegible]

nec nostra [illegible] menses, sed quorum [illegible] mortalium. Qu[illegible] exiguus & [illegible] imi uapor. Sen[illegible] in se quilq; quam putre [illegible] cum corpus inhabitet, sed errore iam pu[illegible] co dissimulamus, & [illegible] diutu[illegible] cupida menti [illegible] ocep[illegible] est. [illegible] imo uero [illegible] est, qui non se mortalem [illegible] longum pro[illegible] quisq; rejicit: ita cuius moxim[illegible] præsentia timemus, eius a[illegible] dim[illegible] nihil tàm ambigué absit [illegible] tam subitó præsens fiat. Fallit m[illegible] cum quæ longe ualde [illegible]entur. Sciunt enim omnes [illegible] non propé, nihil curant. [illegible] uir tantus, in Rhetoricis, ego autem & n[illegible] omnes fateor, & esse quam idem [illegible]cit incuriæ causam, no[illegible] eam [illegible] concedo, nam qui [illegible]ius, q[illegible] longè ualdè mortem cr[illegible] long[illegible] æ breuitas sa[illegible], ut semper imp[illegible]eat, supraq; caput [illegible] sum mira uis, ineluctabilis euentus, infinita uarietas. Nihil ergo hom[illegible] mortem c[illegible] non quia [illegible]st, sed quia creditur longi[illegible]qua, si enim scirent, quàm prope e[illegible] scire[illegible], nisi ultro oculos auerterent [illegible] uel timere mortem inciperet, ue[illegible] armarent, ut eam ceu melioris uitæ principium, meritó non timerent. Nunc [illegible] quem inuenies, qui non uirtute ab[illegible], longæ uitæ spem arripiat? Quæ ut nõ fallat, & [illegible] longissima, breuis erit, & in finem uitæ spes uiuendi, quamuis rarius, quamuis nihil me[illegible] fefellerit. Quem (inquam) mihi reperies, qui non coætaneis suis, se superuicturum speret. [illegible] cogitatus nostros, actusq; disponimus, quasi nulli [illegible]oriter, omnium hæredes futuri [illegible] interim nostra suos expectantes habeat h[illegible], & haud dubie falli alterutros [illegible]. [illegible]piamus nos huic ludibrio, & si ratio no[illegible]et, moueant nos exẽpla, [illegible] undi[illegible]ntibus oculis se offerũt, & uel exclusa se in[illegible]erunt, uel admissa præco[illegible] insid[illegible] nisi contemptu impio, & obliuione mortifera differuntur. Delectat scire q[illegible]mus, & q[illegible]imus, quis cunctantes, tergiu[illegible]tesq; manet exitus, intueamur ali[illegible] ceis oculis est opus, aut illius acie, qui a Lilybei specula, digredientem portu Carth[illegible] classem Punicam numerabat, iuxta respicere iubeo, uicina ostia, contiguas do[illegible] psas, quas in[illegible]olimus, nimis uagos, ad proprios lares ac limina redeamus, unde [illegible] repentè uelut somnium ac umbra præterijt, atq; ab oculis nostris euanuit, qu[illegible] chanus habeamus. Amici qui pro nostra uita ituri ad mortem, si res posceret uide[illegible] mœstam nobis, & nimis solitariam sorte sua uitam effecerũt. Non illi nos hic perpetu[illegible] quêre, sed eodem properantes præuenêre, & sorte sua in tempore usi sunt, utem[illegible] nos. Nam, ut ait Flaccus: Omnes eodem cogimur, omnium uersatur urna serius, ocyus, [illegible] exitura, exiuit ocyus sors illorum, exibit nostra seriùs, sed confestim. Nulla mora est, q[illegible] tulum enim refert, senex an iuuenis moriare? Si ad finem uitæ respicis, quæ ultima & communis omnium est senectus, uerum est illud:

Nemo non senex moritur.

Si ad uitæ spatiũ nemo non iuuenis: si ad opiniones nemo non puer. Verum ista præter[illegible] tàm multa enim occursant, ut uix propositũ se[illegible] possim, piget & impedior gem[illegible] gere numeris, quos affectus intimos, quæ dul[illegible] pignora mœstus, ac pestilens, & e[illegible] seculorum serie eradend[illegible] nobis annus h[illegible] abstulit. Pauci fateor, ex omni grege ho[illegible] pauci admodum supereius, cum quibus & uiuere eligam & mori. Non quod ego [illegible] ab hac acie secludam, nisi quos a nobis uel contu[illegible]um, uel occupatio, uel [illegible] ficultates aliæ disiungunt, amariq; iubente longinq[illegible]. Neque uero nunc de super[illegible] a[illegible]orum beneuolentia fortasse aliqua c[illegible]uersatio nulla est, obstat en[illegible] m[illegible] uict[illegible], d[illegible]as fortu[illegible]um, & amicitia[illegible] u[illegible] so[illegible]entia, dum uilescere me[illegible] rari expetunt non ama[illegible]. Nos uerò quid impe[illegible] minus has uitæ reliquias, [illegible] cunq; [illegible] n[illegible] natu[illegible] d[illegible] tran[illegible]mus? Et si [illegible] [illegible] ait Sene[illegible] or[illegible] a[illegible]ndam domino obseque[illegible] id n[illegible] iuentes [illegible]ud[illegible]? Pl[illegible]s p[illegible] seruitutis studi[illegible]m [illegible] [illegible] pes maris & [illegible]

teles [illegible] nec [illegible] tet ad beatam uitam, habemus autem quod sufficere possit animis molestis [illegible] e c[illegible] ne [illegible] s ad natu[illegible]am, quod [illegible] sin[illegible] s sat est, quid omnibus euenturum su[illegible] alter alteri [illegible], [illegible] quicquid necessitatis inciderit, altera o[illegible] Abundabimus m[illegible] de, magisq; forsan inuidia nobis, quàm inopia metue[illegible] Qu[illegible] igitur expectamus [illegible] quid mari & montibus, fluminibusq; distrahimur [illegible] dem domus una coniungi[illegible] im iunxit u[illegible]itas uoluntatũ, ni[illegible] quia no[illegible] insueta refugimus, multaque po[illegible] licitam spem dimittere, uocantemq[illegible]e no[illegible] fo[illegible] n audire stultum credimus, c[illegible] multò sit stultius, contemptis reb[illegible] c[illegible] ac [illegible] lid[illegible] n umbris inanibus spem habere? [illegible] go quidem non conscientiæ meæ, sed præs[illegible] is epistolæ testimonio, in uos culpam omnem retorqueo, quicunque [illegible] s, ad [illegible] um tardiores: quin [illegible] solutis [illegible] præfectis occu[illegible] tionum laqueis [illegible] na[illegible] t[illegible] ih[illegible] d[illegible] tu[illegible] ar[illegible] antiæ quod trahere [illegible] r non sequi, a[illegible] umlibet ex æquo paratu[illegible] s. [illegible] s usquam uitæ nostræ locus e[illegible] aptior, raptim adero, non sum e[illegible] im, q[illegible] fidele [illegible] ernere soleam, nulli credo mortalium, maiorum est uel fides, uel au[illegible] citas am[illegible] hic uestro iuditio prælatus est, quod nostre sarentur litere, quod uos nunc etiam te[illegible] olite cupiditati aurem dare, nunquã dictura est [illegible] cit, semper nescio quid de[illegible] oc auaritia proprium ac pessimum insatiabilis est, [illegible] dum promittit absentia, p[illegible] uetat, hæc habendi sitis nunquam plura quærendo, sed pauciora concupisce[illegible] ur. Crede non mihi, sed Philosop[illegible]s, quorum hæc ad ueras diuitias uia est, quod ad me attinet, cupiditatibus metam fixi, & oraculi loco Poëticum illud accipiens:

Semper auarus eget.

[illegible] c quoq; semper egeam, quod sequitur feci, certum [illegible] oto finem petij, eumq; lamp[illegible] cr rel[illegible] ntibus fortunæ uentis attigit. N[illegible] erebor, ne mihi segnitiẽ meus hæres o[illegible] ci[illegible] o non sibi, & rerum mearum cu[illegible] cis, Dominus non negotiorũ eius, qui nond[illegible] cc te[illegible] noscitur sum gestor, pro me autem, quid mihi tantoperè laborandum? [illegible], expedit[illegible]m esse, impedito itinere gradientem, quid nunc etiam inutiles, & funest[illegible] fa[illegible] lus co[illegible] itamus? Eleganter ait Flaccus:

Sp[illegible] breui spem longam reseces:

[illegible] a[illegible] de breui aliqua uitæ particula dictum putes, & non de tota uita, alio loco ait [illegible]

Vitæ summa breuis, spem [illegible] uetat inchoare longam.

Ita e[illegible], non fallitur, nihil est uerius, & si enim uitæ huius angustias, quo possumus modo, [illegible] m [illegible] licet [illegible] perosa distinctione, laxemus, & in quantaslibet minutias diuidamus, re[illegible] amen in unam cuncta congeriem, & curiosius scissa reintegrans, a primo ad ul[illegible] imum, [illegible] mus longi[illegible] imæ uitæ diem, totum simul mẽte complectere, fateberis summam huius rapid[illegible] imi temporis esse breuissimam, huius ipsius si retrò, circumq; respicimus, bona pars no[illegible] is exacta est. Colligamus nos igitur ad extremã uiarum, quodq; nõ ambig[illegible] duno[illegible] ie[illegible] isq; superuacuis necessaria tenemus. Quid procrastinamus? Quid d[illegible] mus? [illegible] mens[illegible] men[illegible]em sequitur, atq; in se, sua per uestigia uoluitur annus (ut præclarè [illegible] desinendoq; reincipit, & nunquam sic desinit ut quiescat. Quis igitur expectandi[illegible] us? Aut quis finis? Canos iã comites senectutis, & nuncios mortis aspeximus. Q[illegible]d am[illegible] s præstolamur? An ut oculi senio caligent? Tremant poplites? Terga curuentur? [illegible] m[illegible] is Mathematicus [illegible] longè nobis spondet est uitæ. Esto, sit Petosyris, sit Necepsus, [illegible] ex nostris, sit Veritas demum ipsa, quanta tamen amentia est, quod iustis in spa[illegible] m[illegible] do fieri potest inter angustias differre, præsertim, quia ut uini & olei, si[illegible] tem[illegible] sex in fundo iacet, at illam t[illegible] um superiora neglexeris reseruare ridiculum. [illegible] t esse uiatoribus ante noctem [illegible] os[illegible] tari, accingam[illegible] cro, & post multos it[illegible] [illegible], [illegible] nos æterno tandem [illegible] æpare [illegible] ob[illegible] luce chariores fr[illegible] me opis, aut co[illegible] lij e[illegible], [illegible] d o[illegible] ectat [illegible], ex me spectari po[illegible] id[illegible] ex his rebus quas impr[illegible] me[illegible] dicunt [illegible] m [illegible] æ sint. [illegible] q; me[illegible] ne ar[illegible] ogantia po[illegible] u [illegible] s atq; [illegible] ul[illegible] me[illegible] cro, & [illegible] qu[illegible] aliud. [illegible] p[illegible] ca, quorum n[illegible] [illegible] æc & [illegible] uæ nomi[illegible] st[illegible] lo [illegible] extrem[illegible] it[illegible] am n[illegible] c[illegible] [illegible] s[illegible] c[illegible] re, [illegible] sp[illegible] cimus, & [illegible] espiremus ad [illegible].

Solitudinem suadet ad capessendam Sorgiæ fontem.

IAm superiori epistolæ anulum impresseram, dum ecce nondum [illegible] animo, uenturi dulcedo temporis, quam mentem & cogitatione præcepto fatigat [illegible] calamum, & cunctante nuncio [illegible] sionem perdere, sed [illegible] ex q[illegible] admonuit. Iuuat enim diu col[illegible] iuuat lateri tuo, qu[illegible] ipse ex[illegible] [illegible]ere, omnes igitur beatam quærimus uitam, nec ab hoc fine, ulla usquam mortalium [illegible] dissentit, quanquam quibus ad illam tramitibus peruenitur, multum solet [illegible] curiositas altercari. Si, inquam, nobis est illa, quam licet perdimus, nec perdere possumus [illegible] ue im[illegible] perdere si possimus, uelle possumus, ipsa cum anima [illegible] itatis insepa[illegible] tera [illegible] cupiditas, si fœlicitatem ipsam scimus, sine amicorum [illegible] tio, plenam h[illegible] n posse c[illegible] ngere, quo g[illegible] dijs nostris obstamus? Quid'ue omnium b[illegible] impedit tar[illegible] singulorum? Venit equidē ad nos (ut ait Seneca) ex his, quos amamus, etiam absentibus gaudium, sed id leue & euanidum, conspectus & præsentia, & conuersatio habet aliquid uiuæ uoluptatis. Ea ergo, quàm primū nobis arripienda est. Etenim si olim scœnæ [illegible] ptas, philosophorum aliqui adeò appetentes fuerunt, ut ibi summam boni ponerent, & iam [illegible] norum actuum dominam [illegible] tuentes, ipsius quoque uirtutis sibi tribuerent famulatum, quis erit tam ferrei pectoris, qui honestæ uoluptatis non capiatur illecebris, quā uirtutis comes amicitia præstare potest? Nam quæ, oro te, uita fœlicior, aut lætior, quàm cum illis degere, cum quibus te perfectus amor, & mutua charitas, [illegible] int, indissolubili quodā nodo, consensu unanimi, rerum adhibito. Cum quibus [illegible] ssionum, nil occultū, sed cōcordes [illegible] serenæ frontes, sermo uerax, & inelaboratus, [illegible] timor etiā cogitatus. Hæc si nobis contigerit, nil amplius optabo, & sicubi fœneratore, aut hæredipetā alieno tumidū uid[illegible], nullam mihi mouebit inuidiā, me quidem æstimatore pauperrimus, licet (ut Satyricus ait)

Possideat, quantum rapuit Nero, montibus aurum
Exæquet, nec amet quenquam, nec ametur ab ullo.

Vbe sanè unum in locum conuenerimus, quid enim & uenturo prohibet ga[illegible] dem hoc meum habitaculum approbare uidemini, nec immeritò, etenim & [illegible] bet apud Virgilium rex Latinus, augustum, ingens, centum sublime columnis [illegible] cundum, solitarium, salubre, & profectò paucorum [illegible] bene concordium hospitum capax. Siquidem ergo uos huc fata contraxerint, faciemus anchoram, portum inue[illegible] debimur, & si forsan ad quietis nostræ famam, confluentium amicorum turba succreu[illegible] non deerit urbe media domus angustior, quam sub hac spe uacuam sino, ego enim pa[illegible] eius exiguam non implerem, cum omni familia, quæ mihi solitudini [illegible] turba [illegible] est. Ne'ue tibi his ueibis iniectas compedes, teque [illegible] domicilio adscriptum [illegible] bis in Bononia studiorum nutrix, in qua primùm adolescētiæ tempus expendimus, & d[illegible] ce erit, mutatis iam non solum animis, sed capillis antiquar euisere, & simioi e iuditio [illegible] tatis illius, simulque nostrorum animorum habitum, & ex collatione temporum, quātum uiuendo processerimus contemplatio. Erit inde Plato imminens Placentia, & Ant[illegible] tui uenerabilis domus, cui tu præsides, mediocritatem loci non aspernatus, multis [illegible] tior [illegible] neglectis, quoniam, ut dicere solebas, uicinitatem meam, in prouentibus [illegible] sti [illegible] u omnium hospes eris, occurrent, si paulo longius proficisci libeat. [illegible] Me[illegible] num, illinc Ianua, illa terrestrium, hæc maritimarum decus urbium. [illegible] tractus lacus [illegible] & [illegible] æquor [illegible] disonum, tumidum, ueliuo[illegible] m [illegible] lacum, cui Comum adiacet, unde Abdua amnis egreditur. Vide[illegible] Verb[illegible] cus Ma[illegible] incolis dicitur, quem Ticinus intersecat. Videbimus unde O[illegible] proc[illegible] cum [illegible] Mintius erumpit, [illegible] lacu [illegible] [illegible] mos, doct[illegible] gn[illegible] nomi[illegible] Vid[illegible] endentes [illegible] Alpes, [illegible] mum pe[illegible] a tang[illegible] inter co[illegible] upium, q[illegible] sum[illegible] dem[illegible] um [illegible] cadentia flumina [illegible] au[illegible] tractu altero [illegible] te[illegible] s Tri[illegible] Ne[illegible] [illegible]

Canæ

Cætera ol[illegible] os la[illegible] h[illegible]toribus, po[illegible] labores Pyeri[illegible] sortiemur. Si quando autē hac ter[illegible] parte [illegible] s, alia no[illegible] is Patavi, nec m[illegible] la, nec minus idoneas sedes [illegible] no [illegible] a p[illegible] o bonorum fuerit, talis [illegible] lius uiri meruisse conuictum, sub quo ci[illegible] mul[illegible]orum serie laborum fessa, respirat, ipsum honoris causa nomino, laco[illegible] sem, quem amare & [illegible] m ut inducas uelim. Nam cum omni æt[illegible] abilis fuerit, nostra eo ama[illegible] ò rarior, eritq; nobis, ad latus omnium quas ego [illegible] im, & uidi cunctas ferè quibus [illegible] pæ regio superbit, miraculosiss ima Ve[illegible]narum ciuit[illegible] eiusq; dux i llustris, honoris quoq; causa nominandus, Andreas, n[illegible] mi[illegible] ona[illegible] m studijs, quàm tanti mag[illegible] ignis uir clarus, erit & T[illegible] flumin[illegible] usq; circumfluum, domus emporiumq; lætitiæ. Itaq; quo[illegible] dem[illegible] mater off[illegible] it, aderit opuma [illegible] medicina uarietas, & quicquid [illegible] stiæ [illegible] alter [illegible] loquio, & locorum [illegible] m mutatione pu[illegible] tur. uides no[illegible] dub[illegible] s te a[illegible] redior, quibus artibus u[illegible] eo, ut uinlibus mo[illegible] blanditias mu[illegible]ebres m[illegible] om[illegible] ut persuadeam, qu[illegible] fidel[illegible] ipse mihi sum testis, quàm e[illegible] cacuer, ex[illegible] tus a[illegible] od in me erat præstitisse uideor, poteram fortè si uellem hoc ipsum com[illegible] plus el[illegible] ectus immodicus, sæpe facundi[illegible] of icit, dixi utcunque quod in a[illegible] mo c[illegible] qu[illegible] el[illegible] geres, atque utinam probares. Noli, quæ[illegible] qualiter, sed quid dicam e[illegible] mare, me[illegible] us contulit balbutiens amicus, quàm disertus h[illegible] is. Nescio hnem inueni[illegible] sentio me animi calore longiùs, quàm destinàram processisse, unum hoc identidem [illegible] e hortatu meo tibi in animo [illegible] perpendi, inciticare non de[illegible] nam. Conuen[illegible] amus, [illegible] grem hunc locum omne[illegible] hic omnibus placet, alioquin è toto orbe [illegible] n[illegible] ullum enim mundi latus, n[illegible] m barbariem recuso) eligite, ubi uobis placeat [illegible] ectus meos exuo, uestros induo, modò simul esse liceat, benè erit. Eligite u[illegible] od re[illegible] pacificè uiuamus, ubi æquanimi[illegible] moriamur, tu interim cura, ne sanum co[illegible] um corru[illegible] mora. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA BARTHOLOMAEO HEREMITÆ, S. Epist. VI.

Carmina quæ petierat amico mittit.

[illegible] od professionem tuam decuit, ex Augustini dictis, uolumē ingens, per al[illegible] ha[illegible] eti literas collegisti, rem maioris operis, q[illegible] iam gloriæ. In quo ipso animu tuum miror, qui studio utilitatis publicæ [illegible] aio a[illegible] nisi fallor) au[illegible] rum inge[illegible] incli na[illegible] cuius ut uotiuus exitus, sic prosper c[illegible] sicut dec[illegible] S[illegible] em [illegible] c[illegible] im ob eam causam, Clementi Rom. Pont[illegible] simo, sed occupat[illegible] imo ho[illegible] q; ob id talium compendiorum auidiss im[illegible] placu[illegible] s, patriæ tuæ Pontifex [illegible] ius, [illegible] perare n[illegible] quamuis, ut e[illegible] tanimi mod[illegible] & religionis, hum[illegible] tas, nat[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] edini, ne[illegible] o apnihil non dico altius, sed gratius inter hæc rerum præterea [illegible] [illegible] petare quea[illegible], & de labore in laborem missus, quod de Augustino fecisti, de Am[illegible] f[illegible] erc[illegible] be[illegible] Parebis iam, cœpisti enim & perficies spero, pari utinam facilitate & [illegible] inquam) si te noui, non ut altior fias, sed ut gratior, & si c[illegible] forte [illegible] m te, a[illegible] ris [illegible] aus cupido non tangeret, æquum tamen animum decet, [illegible] m [illegible] m [illegible] ultrò oblatis quàm optatis, petitisq;. Nihil enim æquè in omni munere [illegible] randum a[illegible] antis inte[illegible] s[illegible] d ad Augustinum tuum redeo, & ad te. Petijsti eq[illegible] idem ut in fine m[illegible] o[illegible] is quod sudore [illegible] o de illius opulentissimi patri[illegible] mil[illegible] as, [illegible] us & c[illegible] [illegible] mpactum, Pontifici præsenti, sed multò maximè posteris præparasti. A[illegible] uer [illegible] cribendos mitterem: parui & ipse tibi, cui nil negare uolens, & quamui[illegible] iam [illegible] indig[illegible] ntibus, longeq; al[illegible] s curis exercent[illegible] s ani[illegible] ab eo studi[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] t preces [illegible]. Mitto igitu[illegible] pa[illegible] s Elegos eius[illegible] q; sent[illegible] iæ [illegible] ros. Vtere uel utrisque, uel ut[illegible] beturrosq; ra[illegible] po[illegible] s, nuncio tuo mecum syllaba[illegible] metiente, ta[illegible] breuis fuer[illegible] uæ si[illegible] uideretur. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SOC[illegible] Epist. VII.

[illegible]

M[illegible] frater, mi frat[illegible] tiqu[illegible] & ante [illegible] quadr[illegible] tos an[illegible] o [illegible] ca[illegible] de[illegible] undi[illegible]

—non crudelis ubiq;
Luctus, ubiq; p[illegible], [illegible] plurima mortis imago.

Vtinam frater, aut nunquam natus, au[illegible]us extinctus forem, qu[illegible] n[illegible]re [illegible] q[illegible]d dict[illegible]um [illegible]utas, ſi ad extremam ſene[illegible] item uenero. Ad quam [illegible] utin[illegible] ſed ueniam, timeo, non ut diutiùs uiuam [illegible] ar. Noſco etenim [illegible] & ſen[illegible] intel[illegible]igo, ad quid in hanc ærum[illegible] infœlicem uitam [illegible]m pr[illegible] m[illegible] f[illegible]e optime, piget ex intimis, ac m[illegible]ret me mei. Quid enim dicent, qu[illegible] Tu [illegible] ſolamen, auxilium quę alijs latu[illegible] uidebare, qui de te nobis nil medio[illegible]re, [illegible] ſera[illegible] q[illegible] m[illegible]l[illegible]rum uſu obduxiſſe ia[illegible]um aduerſus omnes fortu[illegible]bulo[illegible] om[illegible] durit[illegible] magis in ſilicemq; obrigu[illegible]e debueras. Ecce quàm mo[illegible] ſarcinas [illegible] ecce q[illegible]ebris eiulatibus aures noſtras percutis, ubi nunc ma[illegible]e profeſ[illegible]o[illegible] deb[illegible]ta ce[illegible]tudo animi? V[illegible] uerba magni[illegible]. Quæ ſi ad ingenij laudem, non ad uitæ [illegible]ſ[illegible]um referantur, quid n[illegible] nitus inanis, & c[illegible]ſarum delinimenta [illegible] aurium. [illegible] ſtolabamur ex te carmen Heroicum, e[illegible]os legimus, hiſtorias uirorum illuſt[illegible]ium ſperabamus, unam cernimus proprij dolor[illegible]toriam, quas putabamus epiſtol[illegible], ſunt lamenta, ubi artificioſas iuncturas uerborum, [illegible]ona incude percuſſorum, & dulc[illegible] intermicantes colores Rhetoricos quærebamus, nil niſi dolen[illegible] interiectiones, atque indignan[illegible] ac[illegible]centus, & lituras aſpicimus lachrymarum? Et quis erit modus, aut quis finis? Si omn[illegible] f[illegible]a mortalium deplorare uolueris. Vnum tibi pectus, & una lingua, non ſufficit, in[illegible] m[illegible]ſer, moleſtumq; negotium ſuſcepiſti, ſuperuac[illegible]um, inexplebile, alio de fonte pet[illegible] ſunt lachrymæ, ſemper nempè recentibus, aſsidu[illegible]aſcentibus dolorum cauſis, duo fe[illegible] [illegible] iamq; exhauſti, & arentes oculi, parum mœ[illegible]oris infuderint. Quid agis igit[illegible] [illegible] oblite, & propria non contente miſeria ac morbo, in quem ſciens, uolensq; incideris, amicis inſuper uenenum porrigasq; pollicitus medicinam? Quin potius uel fle ſolus, [illegible] diſce mortalis æquo animo ferre mortalia, [illegible] non ſolum, neque cum amicis ſolis, ſed cum omnibus rapi uidens, iam tandem inutilibus querimonijs modum pon[illegible]. Erit ali[illegible]is indignantior natura, qui mœſtos apices prorſus abijciat, aut conc[illegible]cet cum irri[illegible]rd[illegible]ci. Abi, inquiet, in malum ſydus, an ſi tu muliebriter uictus es, nos ſal[illegible]em uir[illegible] nes? Cuncta præſentio, nilq; me horum frater fallit. Scio uiri eſſe, primum qui[illegible] propellere, proximum extinguere, tertium moderari, [illegible]mũ abſcondere. Sed qu[illegible] a[illegible] Moriar, niſi dolorem in fletum ac uerba profudero? Illud me ſolatur, quod qui[illegible] quid [illegible]e ro, molle quamuis ac friuolum, cum ad tuas uenerit, non ad alienas peruenisse, ſed ad [illegible] prias manus meas rediſſe uidebitur: quamobrem non magis erubeſcam, dum hæc [illegible] gentur, quàm dum à me ſcriberentur erubui. Nec me tamen erubuiſſe negauerim. [illegible] enim animum ac ſtylum excuſſo rationis freno, extra deſtinatum iter, affectibus iun[illegible] hi, quo nil moleſtius pati poſſum, id pudori meo grauius inſultat, quod iam annus inte[illegible] iamq; alterius bona pars abijt, ex quo nihil uiro dignũ, non dicam facere, ſed ne loqui quidem contigit, tonante undiq; ac fulminante ferociter fortuna. Qua in re, benigno ſub iudice forſan excuſer, ſi ad examen uenerit, illud quoq; non leue aliquid, ſed M. CCC X[illegible] ſextæ ætatis annum eſſe, quem lugeo, qui non ſolum nos amicis, ſed mundum omn[illegible] tibus ſpoliauit. Cui ſi quid defuit, ſequens ecce annus, illius reliquias demetit, & [illegible] ſ[illegible] procellæ ſuperfuerat, mortifera falce proſequitur. Quando hoc poſteritas cre[illegible] e temp[illegible]s, ſine cœli, aut telluris incendio, ſine bellis, aut alia clade uiſibili, quo non hæc pars aut illa terrarum, ſed uniuerſus ferè orbis, ſine habitatore remanſerit? Quando un[illegible]a[illegible] le aliquid uiſum, aut fando auditũ, quibus hoc unquam annalibus lectum eſt [illegible] mos, de[illegible]as urbes, ſqualida rura, arua cadaueribus angu[illegible]ſta, horrendam, u[illegible] orbe [illegible]nem? C[illegible]e hi[illegible]oricos, ſilent, in[illegible]ro[illegible] a phyſicos obſtupeſcunt, [illegible] lo[illegible]phis h[illegible]meros c[illegible], fr[illegible]ntem rugant. & digitulo labris impreſſo ſil[illegible] Credes iſta p[illegible]ſt[illegible] [illegible]us, [illegible] credamus, ſomnia crede[illegible] c[illegible] aper[illegible]s [illegible]æc oc[illegible]s ce[illegible]nerem[illegible], & luſtrata [illegible]be funeribus [illegible]uis plena, dom[illegible] e[illegible] tis p[illegible]bus ua[illegible] u[illegible] m illam [illegible] emus uti [illegible] tiera eſſe, quæ [illegible]emi[illegible] p[illegible] ronepotum [illegible] ui[illegible]s non agn[illegible] forraſsis re[illegible] moni[illegible] [illegible]s n[illegible]de[illegible], [illegible]a[illegible]on [illegible] [illegible]re[illegible]e t e[illegible] q[illegible]us[illegible] q[illegible]od [illegible]x[illegible]a [illegible]

Iam [illegible], audeo enim a[illegible]rmare, quod [illegible]omnium sæculorum flagella post aream illam [illegible]ssimam, reliquias mortal[illegible] informi pe[illegible]o circumferenter[illegible], cum præsentibus extimentur, delitiæ fuerint & [illegible] re[illegible], neq; enim cum his malis con[illegible] d[illegible]a quantalibet, in q[illegible] remed[illegible]rum multa sunt genera, & (quod ultimum e[illegible]altem mori licet. E[illegible] aut[illegible] m[illegible]rtis eximium, benè mori. [illegible]ic remedij n[illegible]rsus, nihilq; solatij est, cumuloq; cla[illegible]s additum, mali causas, princip[illegible] nescire, nam nec ignorantia, nec ipsa quidam pest[illegible]diosior nugis ac fabulis quor[illegible]n[illegible] ho[illegible]um, qui professi omnia, sc[illegible]unt [illegible]hil, quor[illegible]men ora licet assuefacta mendacijs, tandem [illegible]lent, & quæ impudentia primum ex more laxauerat, ad ultimum clau[illegible] stupo[illegible] ad inquisitionem meam redeo. An uerò sicut longum iter a[illegible]entibus euenit [illegible] usq; [illegible]ti[illegible]ationem faciat, alia fateatur, sic no[illegible] [illegible]it, ut lenita[illegible]a Deus, hum[illegible]s pau[illegible] lassata criminibus, & iugi accessi[illegible]ne prægrauata, nunc potissimum uicta su[illegible]sederit, tuq; nos uec[illegible]tor optime, tolerare amplius non ualens in terga proieceris, atque à nobis misericordiæ t[illegible]ulos iratus auerteris. Quod si est [illegible] nostrorum mod[illegible], sed paternor[illegible]m simul crim[illegible] pœnas damus, an peiore[illegible]lis ne[illegible], sed cert[illegible] [illegible]feriores. An illud fortasse uerius quod magna quædam ingenia su[illegible]picata sunt, Deum [illegible]rtalia non curare? Sed ab[illegible]t à mentibus nostris hæc amentia. Si [illegible]on curares, illa non [illegible]terent. Nam de his qui nostri curam non Deo tribuunt, sed naturæ, quid sentien[illegible]um nobis sit, ueritatis tuæ stu[illegible]io de[illegible]tis, cum Seneca ingratissimos om[illegible]um appellet, qui m[illegible]ta[illegible]o nomine, dissimulent Dei m[illegible]nus, & cauillando impiè, superno[illegible]um abnegent ma[illegible]statis? Curas profectò nos, & [illegible] a Deus, sed aliquid latitantis, & [illegible]otæ nobis causæ est, cur ex omnibus sæculis di[illegible] [illegible] sumus, qui acerrimè plecterentur, non idcirco minore iustitia, quod occulta e[illegible]. Namque iuditiorum tuorum imperscruta[illegible]ilis, & hum[illegible]is sensibus inaccessa pro[illegible]un[illegible]d[illegible]s, uel ergo p[illegible]ssimi omnium uerè sumus, [illegible]od negare uelim, potius quàm ausim, uel ad futura bona præsentibus malis exercitatores, purgatoresq; seruamur, uel omnino aliquid e[illegible]uod ne co[illegible]tare sufficimus. Cæterùm quæcunque sint causæ, quantuml[illegible]bet ab[illegible]ditæ e[illegible] ape[illegible]simi sunt. Sed ut à publicis ad priuatas lachrymas reuertamur. A[illegible] [illegible]i[illegible]undi, uix dum prima pars acta est, ex quo Ital[illegible]am repetens, te procul ad fon[illegible]æ lachrymans dimisi. Non iubeo in longum oculos reflectere, hos pauculos dies numera, & cogita, quid eramus, & quid sumus. Vbi dulces nunc amici? Vbi sunt amati uult[illegible]s? Vbi uerba mulcentia? Vbi mitis & iucunda conuersatio? Quod f[illegible]lmen ista con[illegible]mpsit? Quis terræmotus euertit? Quæ tempestas demersit? Quæ abyssus absorbuit? [illegible]ti eramus, propè iam soli sumus, nouæ amicitiæ contrahendæ sunt, unde autem siue [illegible]uid, humano [illegible]enere penè extincto, & proximo (ut au[illegible]tror) rerum fine? Sumus, quid [illegible]similem, uerè [illegible] credo id agente Deo, ut uitæ huius ille[illegible]ebris, impedimentisq; suauibus spoliati, liberiùs iam ad alteram suspiremus. En quo subita rerum mutatione peruenimus, ut experiri liceat in nobis, an præclaram illam Epicuri uoce, iure possumus dicere: S[illegible]s magn[illegible]m [illegible]ter alteri theatrum sumus, quod ut uerè dici posit à nobis q[illegible] tamen d[illegible]ci poterit? Aut q[illegible]s augur statuat, quorsum nob[illegible] d[illegible]tum sit, de [illegible]ius m[illegible]hca[illegible]bilitate confidere? Alteri secus nutantibus iam columnis: quid enim ego de tua uita c[illegible]r, h[illegible]c scribens, quam tu hæc perlegens de mea? Nimis caducum simul ac superbum animal est homo, n[illegible]is altè fragil[illegible]us superædificat fundam[illegible]tis [illegible]è tanta sod[illegible]ium turba, ad quem redacti numerum sumus uides, & ecce dum l[illegible]quimur ip[illegible] etiam, fugimus atque u[illegible] b[illegible]n morem euanescimus, momentoq; temporis abijsse alter alterum accipiet, & ipse [illegible]m secuturus. Quid ergo sumus frater optime, quid sumus, nec de[illegible]imus su[illegible]s angoribus consternatu[illegible] [illegible]icero in epistola quada[illegible]d A[illegible] [illegible]quo) qu[illegible]mus, aut quamdiù hæc curatu[illegible]mus? Breuis qu[illegible], sed bon[illegible]or, quæstio [illegible]atis, & grauida, atque utilibus plena senten[illegible] qua multum ueræ humili[illegible]destiæ, multumq; contemptus rerum fugitiuar[illegible], uigil fossor inueniet. Quid [illegible]m. Quàm graui, quàm tardo, qu[illegible]m fra[illegible]li corpore, quàm cæco, quam [illegible]bi[illegible]quieto animo, quàm uaria, quanq; incerta, u[illegible]liq; fortu[illegible]a: aut q[illegible] hæc [illegible] Profectò perbreuiter, nempe non aliud [illegible]am si diceret [illegible] quid [illegible] quandiu[illegible]turi [illegible] Vi[illegible] [illegible],cùm hoc idem nostrum [illegible] [illegible]umum e[illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] eq[illegible] ac[illegible]dat mi[illegible]ciderit. [illegible]nq; igitur beni[illegible] qu[illegible].T[illegible] ed[illegible] te, u[illegible] nam [illegible] reliquisti, & euentu periculosius, [illegible] quæsitu[illegible]gnius? Postquam [illegible]c esse desierimus,

mus, quid futuri sumus? O rem magnam & am[illegible]iam, sed neg[illegible]ctam. Su[illegible]erat hic mihi paululum de fragmentis annis præteriti, ante alios uir clarissim[illegible] & [illegible] mi[illegible]edi[illegible]) magni animi, consilijq; Paganinus Mediolanen[illegible]s, [illegible] mihi post plurima e[illegible]perimenta uirtu[illegible]s, acceptissimus, nec me modò, sed nobis d[illegible]mus uisus erat. Itaqu[illegible] m[illegible] Socrates alter esse ceperat, fides, familiar[illegible]as [illegible] pro[illegible] eadem (q[illegible]dq; du[illegible]t amicitia) participatio utriusque fortunæ, aperitisq; animi latebris, [illegible]da com[illegible]o secre[illegible]m. Quantum uerò te amabat, quantum uidere cupiebat, quem internis ocu[illegible]iam ui[illegible], quantum uitæ tuæ sollicitus erat, in illo publico naufragio, ut mirarer ipse hominem [illegible]gn[illegible]m sic amari posse? Nunquam t[illegible]istiorem solito me ui[illegible]t. Q[illegible] amice, trepid[illegible] inquirere[illegible] quid rei est, quid amicus noster agit? Cùm uerò benè te ua[illegible]m audiu[illegible] me[illegible]tu posito, perfundebatur alacritate mirabili. [illegible] hic quidem (quod sin[illegible] multis lachrym[illegible] dico, & cum pluribus dicerem, nisi præcedentibus malis exhaustos hosce oculo[illegible] atqu[illegible]nes, si quæ sunt lachrymarum reliquias instantibus reseruarem) hic inquã pestile[illegible] mor[illegible]bo, qui nunc orbem populatur, repente correptus, ad uesperam, postquam cœnam cum amicis, & quod occidui temporis restabat, in nostro tantùm sermone & am[illegible]iæ, rerumq; nostrarum commemoratione consumpserat, noctem illam, inter dolores [illegible]timos im[illegible]territo animo transegit. Mane autem rapida morte subtractus [illegible]c ne quid de funesta [illegible]suetudine laxaretur, triduo inexpleto, illum filij, omnisq; fam[illegible]a consecuti sunt. Ite nu[illegible] mortales æstuate, anhelate, laborate. circumite terras ac maria, ut non secuturas opes, nec mansuram gloriam cumuletis, somnus est uita, q[illegible]m degimus, & quicquid in ea geritur, somnio simillimum, sola mors somnum, & somni[illegible]cutit. O si prius expergisci datum f[illegible], sed de hoc aliàs. Nunc inexhaustam seriem gemituum meorum prosequor, nondum f[illegible] feceram fortunæ, nisi acutiore me cuspide impeteret, & ad iram Dei malignorum furor accederet. Hei mihi, iam deficere, iam tremere incipio, illorum more, quos primus [illegible] gelidæ febris inuadit, iam toto corpore cohorresco, & libenter ualdè ab his curis, & ab hoc [illegible]r mon[illegible] diuerterem, sed impellit ac præcipitat animum dolor, quem frenare nõ ua[illegible]co. D[illegible]os nobis amicos fortuna reliquerat, & licet alios reliquisset, ij tamen erant, tempus [illegible]olig, quod restat ea non prohibente posse traducere uidebamur. Quid enim ex o[illegible]abat? Non paupertas, non diuitiæ, non disparitas uolũtatum, Animus in quatuor [illegible]. Itaq; gloriabar antiquitatem perraris, & in diuersis sæculis uno uel altero, ætatem uero nostram esse, & domum unam, breui fore, duobus simul amicorum paribus adornatam. Minus propriè paria nominaui, unum erat, imò uerò nullum par, sed una omnium m[illegible]ut dixi. Quid heu mihi, Luca nostro benignius? Quid Maynardo suauius? In quorum iud[illegible] nos errare, diuturnior experientia non sinebat. Primus quidem sic animo composit[illegible] præter dulcissimum, iocundissimumq; cõuictum, etiam nostrorum studiorum partice[illegible]s, & comes esset. Alter autem, etsi huiuscemodi rerum expers, abundè tamen ornatus ijs, per quæ studijs talibus peruenitur, humanitate scilicet, fide, liberalitate, constantia. Quid multa? Liberalium disciplinarum nescius, sed uir bonus, & amicus esse didicerat, & in cœtu nostro talis [illegible]us aptior erat, quam si omnes studio deditos, cæterarum rerum om[illegible]um [illegible]uriositas habuisset. Itaq; ad opportunitates uarias cõmodè admodum, & penè diuin[illegible] ille nobis quartus accesserat. Nimis fœlices uisi sumus, inuidit crudelissima fortuna, & indignata est, quod nos nondum totos tantorum comitum perditione prostrasset. Moue[illegible]ant ambo simul, & te frater apud Auinionem, ut certus [illegible]m, non sine suspirijs dimisso me alteram animi sui partem cupidissimè petebant. Mœstam n[illegible]is, & miseram historiã ag[illegible]re[illegible]us sum. Sed est quædam & lugendi dulcedo, qua sæpe nimium pascor infœlix. [illegible]e[illegible]c[illegible]at [illegible]ariter opti[illegible]o fato pessimo, miser[illegible]bili eue[illegible], ille Romam petiturus, ille [illegible]or[illegible]. Quo erg[illegible]s am[illegible]. [illegible]e rectius, ire securius [illegible]on hoc [illegible]ũ iter, quid uobis [illegible]pibus nutibusq;? Omnia uin[illegible]t amo[illegible] & uos cessistis amori. Veniebatis me u[illegible]ri, h[illegible] erat inimicus, hac cathena trahebami[illegible] no[illegible]batis, sed trahebamini ab illo, cui cœl[illegible]sum [illegible]e[illegible]qu[illegible], [illegible]ui di[illegible]c[illegible]dantia inuicem obed[illegible] elementa, am[illegible] omnipotens uos [illegible]. A[illegible]gro[illegible]as fort[illegible]næ, ho[illegible]e[illegible] ut inc[illegible]bilius d[illegible]lerem, quin & ill[illegible]d im[illegible] ut q[illegible] m[illegible]so anni [illegible]patio [illegible]dem Parma non n[illegible]ram, nunc abe[illegible]m [illegible]tu[illegible]a [illegible], n[illegible]ni, q[illegible]et & nos aspectu m[illegible]aret, & u[illegible] anim[illegible] [illegible]e [illegible]es, facil[illegible]s in [illegible]æ[illegible] d[illegible]u[illegible]æ[illegible]m. [illegible] [illegible]pe[illegible]rum[illegible], cæteras enim curas & spes, ac desiderium oppresserat. Naturale est, ut minorem pas[illegible]m

maior

maior absorbeat, ardebat animus ... cernere, & mecum de uitæ totius ordinat one disserere ... iter agere, & re... in patria ... huc reuerti, hoc eis nempe ... mi frater, ac meorum ... nice ut re il ... simul usque ... iueremus. Quod ... t, poterat mora longior, fortunæ duritie ... s inflectere, mutasset ... m, per nuncios actis, quæ actu erat, in patria, ... oris dulcedine compediti, mecum inseparabiliter resedissent. Et nunc ... prohiberet, quò minus simul omnes essemus in ... re illa animi diutiùs exoptata? Sed ... mantinis fatorum uinculis tenebamur, & ut abesset ... ox fortuna prouiderat. Itaque cum Parmam ue ... cunctando per obuios, re comperta, tristes ad domum nostram, de... animis ac uul... us descenderunt. Quid singula prosequar? Omnem domum atque ortum ... lum, omnes h... bosos cespites (cœperat enim iam ad arietem ... duentum bruma m... ie... e) dulci accubitu compresserunt implentes cuncta suspirijs. Deinde cùm post ... ambo, per noctem in lectulo meo iacuerunt, credo ut quem ad quietem necessariam humanæ fragilit... meditata est, ad laborem mihi perp... uum consecrarent. Posterò autem circa horam d... sextam abierunt literis domi rel... ibus mihi, & eorum tristitia, redeundi ... opositum, multaque præter hæc alia, nota sunt quas ego literis, dum uiuam inter delitias ... ebo dolorum stimulos, ac lachrymarum materiam immortalem. Mensis ab hinc in... ... ius erat, cùm ego ignarus horum omnium domi redij, literas reperi, famulosque ... cum earum tenore concordes audiui & admirans. Sed quid agerem? Illi tan o antè discesserant, ut iam demens expectarem reditum ac negligentiam accusarem. Quæ post... iam mihi de... ito longior uita est, u... m ex famulis Florentiam misi, Maynardum literis excitans, ad obseruantiam promissorum, atque illud adijciens ut eundē nuncium Lucæ nostro mitteret, seu ille Romæ moras ageret, seu Theani, cui ingētem quoque epistolam f... exhortatoriam, ad notorum modestiam, & ad huius uel alterius loci electionem, quecunque rebus nostris apparēret oportunior, nec non ad morem studiosæ solitariæque uitæ, quæ quoniam omnes æqualiter rangebat, ut per eum ad te etiā mitteretur inserui. Præclarè quidem ut m... à Vergilio dictum est,

Nescia mens hominum fati, mortisque futuræ.

Literarum portitor abscesserat, & ego qui Romam secundā multa mihi dulcia fingebā, hæc quidem ab ortu aderunt, illa autem ab occasu. Quis me fœlicior cong... ellu talium amicorum? Quorū usque tranquilliora studia? Quorū uita quietior? Has inter c... ras, quæ insanus rumoris amaritudinē geminarū, nūcius meus, de octauo, postquam hinc discesserat ... tenebrosū imbrem non expectatus affuit, & pluuia, & lachrymis madēs, & fronte uultus anxius ... isibiliter præferiente, dirigui, & excusso manu calamo, scribentē enim forte comprerat. Quid noui affers dic ocyus: exclamo. At ille gemitu uerba frangente: Infœlix (inquit) nuncius aduenio. Amici tui super Apennini uerticē in fæuas latronū manus inciderūt. Hei mihi, Quid ma... est? Prosequitur ille singultiens. Maynardum, qui casu quodā nil tale me... ... s subsistit in insidias lapsum, & repente cōpressum inter carnifice gladios procubuisse ... cā c... amore permotū adacto calcaribus equo, aduolasse uiriliter, solumque inter decem ... amplius sicarios, stricto mucrone constitisse, multisque uulneribus datis & acceptis, uix ... uitā euasisse. Prædones sublata occisi præda, impio gressu abijsse: ita tamen, ut labore simul & conscientia delassi, facile capi potuerint, excitatis agrestibus ad tumultū, nisi quidā falso & indigno nobilitatis nomine superbi, quos nominare non est necesse, accurrentes ē ... & cohibuissent iustum impetū insequentium, & cruentam prædonum caterua... suis ... s excepissent. Lucā adhuc gladiū in ma... s habentem, procul ind... ultum inter ... ac nemora, nil de eo deinceps aliud auditum. O frater, q... mihi ... fuisset ... uobus una mortiferis ictibus, in cordem ... scilicet de... , & repara... ... inde sollicito, ancipitique metu. Auertat ... malu ... odo ... audiui ... ambos extinctos. Scirem ... gerem ... con... uderē, solus essem, & dolori meo totus ... ita uel exonerare mœrore ... primerē, uel lenirem ... desiderium, ... Nunc uer... tis ... ed ... erimis pas... enter athe... dolore, metu ... pe. Et ... in mod... atque ... cura ... lacerer, atque discerpor, quæ mihi uita nihil morte ... est & ... ... us, atque assiduis uotis expecto. Aliquāto enim longior ... quàm uellē

 adhud

adhuc quidem iuuenes uidebamur, ecce biennio [illegible] am op[illegible] ximus. [illegible] cios ac literas, per diuersa terrarum, [illegible] s [illegible] etiam, Florentiam ac [illegible] am [illegible] enim præcipue ciuitatibus, de eo qui [illegible] er [illegible] es [illegible] aliquid expectabam. [illegible] iam [illegible] tus atque inhians, & omne iter circunspiciens, [illegible] omnem strepitum c[illegible] trem [illegible] tandem [illegible] mum diem ago, quod tempus [illegible] c[illegible] orum annorum calam[illegible] nem [illegible] facile præponderet. Fuit mihi [illegible] us interdum ire, nec su[illegible] ere, [illegible] pr[illegible] ens L[illegible] nostri statum, quicunque esse [illegible] cerem, & Maynardi (ô ineuitabilis sors homi num) alpinum & rude cernerem sepulchrum. Fuit enim ut fama est, ingenii non modo circumstantium castrorum, sed ciuitatis etiam concursu, summaque [illegible] mium misericordia tumulatus, indignantibus & exclamantibus multa ruricolis, gra[illegible] ferentibu[illegible] modo defuncti casum, sed propriam quoque fortunam, quod animo præsagirent, id [illegible] o consecutum est. Interrupto scilicet itinere pro hospitibus ac lucris, damnosa [illegible] b[illegible] a succedere. Issem profectò iampridem, in easdem fortè manus, simul fato impellente uenturus, nisi me & anni tempus aduersum, & ualetudo corporis imbecillior t[illegible] isset, & tamen, an sibi animo contrarium sugg[illegible] ti poti[illegible] is obtemperem, h[illegible] ctenus [illegible] ter [illegible] sum. Transibat hâc, sextus hodie ut reor, aut septimus dies est, [illegible] bilis quidam ui[illegible] tinus, ciuis è curia ueniens, cui cum fort[illegible] in uia publica equos suos currenti, occurr[illegible] unus ex pueris meis, secretorum mihi [illegible] ius dolorum, & ex sermone hominis ut [illegible] etiam, patriam cognouisset, ultrò uerbi[illegible] aggre[illegible] s inquirere cœpit: An de hoc am[illegible] rum nostrorum casu nosset aliquid. Et cùm no[illegible] omnia uideretur, hortatus est, ut mecum loqui, & infestum dubietatis meæ nondum [illegible] e let absoluere. At ille audito nomine meo, alioquin licet mihi incognitus, benignè admodum multis comitantibus ad me uenit, quem de omnibus diligentissimè percunctatus [illegible] n summa d[illegible] dici Lucam nostrum uiue[illegible] e[illegible] si[illegible] & apud nos literas Florentia transmissas, sic publicam famam loqui. Ita ego quod [illegible] rari, & indignari soleo, in media positus Italia, rumores Italicos ignoro, donec ex Galli[illegible] a [illegible] ncientur. Illius ergo digressu, sic remansi, quasi inter densas animi mei nu[illegible] es quidam insperati gaudij radius penetrasset. Heri autem, cùm iam aduesperasce[illegible] e[illegible] dos quidam senex, familiaris meus, ad me lachrymabundus accessit, narrans [illegible] quendam, de Tuscia uenientē dicere Maynardum non solùm, sed cum alijs per[illegible] audienti mihi de pectore statim alterius inuecta sagitta, serenitas omnis ablata est. Sed u[illegible] x dum sacerdos uerba compleuerat, [illegible] ecce mercator quidam Mediolanensis, notus [illegible] c[illegible] s, locum [illegible] o mœstus eram ingreditur, salute data & reddita. Cum (inquit) hac tr[illegible] n[illegible] m facerē, [illegible] iens quod hic esses, licere mihi non credidi, sine conspectu & colloquio tuo p[illegible] gredi. V[illegible] ne, inquam, sed unde nunc te reuehis? Quartus (inquit) dies est, ex quo Flor[illegible] tia d[illegible] scc[illegible]. Et heus bone, inquam, quæso quibus itineribus transiuisti? Rectum (inquit) iter se[illegible] nō potui. Audisti enim ut arbitror illius boni uiri mortem, pro cuius ultione po[illegible] [illegible] rentinus ad arma consurgens, multa iam in illis montibus castra [illegible] bussit. [illegible] qu[illegible] quodam, & syluestri calle profectus sum. Dic age, inquam, uir an[illegible] rorum [illegible] tem memoras. Hic enim & sacerdotem illum digito signaui, plures narrat occisos. M[illegible] uerò (inquit) unus profectò sol[illegible] occubuit, reliqui euaserunt, & cùm intentum me a[illegible] anxium uideret: adie[illegible]. De hac re, præter uoces populi, nihil habeo. Illic enim in om[illegible] ciuium co[illegible] entu, non [illegible] de unius nece audiuntur in[illegible] nationes hominum & querelæ. Credibile est autem, qu[illegible] plures essent, de pluribus [illegible] erentur. Placuit co[illegible] ura, sed q[illegible] hi[illegible] crebat, serenare a[illegible], frontemq; [illegible] potuit, & qualem f[illegible] misi. [illegible] la fra[illegible] sc[illegible] quor [illegible] t pa[illegible] laut[illegible] intelligas, quod [illegible] ma[illegible] d[illegible] im mihi esse, a[illegible] an[illegible] bus [illegible] rum fluctibus, & f[illegible] spei[illegible] a[illegible] æ[illegible] ec[illegible] iact[illegible] u[illegible] ad ærumn[illegible] quod [illegible] erare d[illegible] es i[illegible], qu[illegible] te[illegible] tes, mito & stu[illegible] o [illegible] quod [illegible] ras meas Turu[illegible] inde Pa[illegible] mox Vero[illegible] tas, tant[illegible] b[illegible] se[illegible] præserti[illegible] pe[illegible] uncios[illegible] e rebu[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] fsi[illegible] e ut [illegible] x[illegible] [illegible] an[illegible] [illegible] o [illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] pc[illegible] [illegible] tus [illegible] ar[illegible] meu. [illegible] der[illegible] te[illegible] p[illegible] qui [illegible] per[illegible]

adhuc

[illegible] semel aspiciam, ante [illegible] iam [illegible] me satis arbi[illegible] bor. Cæterùm epistolæ texi [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] præcip[illegible] dele[illegible] in malis meis, quod scri ben[illegible] & [illegible] to no [illegible] ipse [illegible] forma etiam literarum & papy[illegible] [illegible] quæ ni[illegible] ero, [illegible] dolori fecero, nullus erit modus. [illegible] rumpunt. Sed [illegible] dierum omnium occubuit, & aliqu[illegible] m refe[illegible] andum est. [illegible] iam Florentinis misi, super hac tanta [illegible] minia, quia te iuuet lecturum [illegible] or, præsentibus innexui. Vale frater, [illegible] bus lectioribus præseruare stud[illegible] nos, si tamē ex alto permissum [illegible] in [illegible] ideamus. Parmæ Iunij xx. recomm[illegible] o me domino meo, domino Thea[illegible] meorum. Item domino Archidiacono Leodensi. similiter domino [illegible] o [illegible] & domino Senescallo [illegible] propè sunt, dominum Guidon[illegible] septem, [illegible] lum, & [illegible] nem saluto. Hei mihi [illegible] ynardum amplius more solito non saluto, [illegible] saluto eum sicut possum, & pro eo tantus peccator, indesineter oro, quatenus cuius co[illegible] pus mei [illegible] dendi desiderio, in pernitiem & in mortem incidit, anima saltem euadat de ma[illegible] [illegible] pforū, liberāte & saluāte liberatore, & saluatore nostro DOMINO IESV CHRI-ST[illegible] qui [illegible] peccata mea multa & grauia, me[illegible] in amici corpore uulnerati tàm gra[illegible] [illegible]. Bened[illegible] sit tamen in sæcula nomen eius. Vale iterum & semper mei [illegible] res[illegible] ribe quæso [illegible] nuis. & si uales. Hęc ita et ut facilè perpendi potest, scripsi in[illegible] [illegible] as & tumultus animi uarios, & cum multa festinantia, licet nuncius aliquis non a[illegible] et, sed adesit fortè, dum non sperabitur, uel me absente, qui perferat, ego enim quotidie per[illegible] nostra discurro, non tàm rei familiaris c[illegible] a, quæ mihi nulla est, quam amoic so li[illegible] inis, ut si quomodo fierit possit, meipsum obliuiscar, & languores meos. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA LOBARDO DE SCIRICO, S. Epist. VIII.

Vitam quam degimus describit.

QVid mihi, de hac uita quam degimus uideatur, interrogas? Neque [illegible] multæ enim & uariæ de hac ipsa opiniones hominum sunt, meam bre[illegible] accipe. Videtur mihi uita hæc dura quędam area laborum, pal[illegible] ra [illegible] criminum, scœna fallaciarum, labyrinthus errorum, ci[illegible] ulatorum ludus, desertum horribile, limosa palus, senticulosa regio, u[illegible] hispida, mons præruptus, c[illegible] tes [illegible] habitatio ferarum, terra infœlix, camp[illegible] lapidosu[illegible] uepricosum nemus, pra[illegible] bidum, plenumque serpentibus, florens hortus ac sterilis, fons curarum, fluuius [illegible] y[illegible] rum, mare m[illegible] eriarum, quies anxia, labor inefficax, conatus irritus, [illegible] ap[illegible] re[illegible] us inf[illegible] um, dulce uirus, degener merus, inconsulta securitas, ua[illegible] es, ficta fa[illegible] ulosa, fal a lætitia, uerus dolor, risus inconditus, fletus inutilis, inane [illegible] pinum, c[illegible] sordo, tumultuosa confusio, trepidatio turbulenta, sollicitudo perpetua, [illegible] ne[illegible] a, inops copia, dītes ino[illegible] a, imbecilla potentia, tremulæ uires, [illegible] mo[illegible] e mina ægritudo, pul[illegible] hra deformitas, honor inglorius, infam[illegible] [illegible] ambi[illegible] s, ima el[illegible] io, excellentia fictilis, humilis altitudo, fusca claritas, ig[illegible] [illegible] s sacculus, uas rimosum, puteus inexplebilis, cupiditas infinita, d[illegible] um de[illegible] ium, luxus hydropicus, sitis insatiabilis, acidum fastidium, famelica nausea, uentosa [illegible] eritas, querula semper aduersitas, uitor transitorius, flos caducus, amœnit[illegible] s [illegible] u [illegible] mœstum gaudium, amara dulcedo, uoluntas aculeosa, stulta sapie[illegible] [illegible] domus, breue d[illegible] fœdus [illegible] gube[illegible] aculo nau[illegible] [illegible] crus, [illegible] ine freno [illegible] sine duce [illegible] lubricum, tecta fo[illegible] [illegible] lens lima, [illegible] nax [illegible] m op[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] entes, tribu[illegible] [illegible] nes, [illegible] empestates, proce[illegible] pelagus, [illegible] ortus, [illegible] ana[illegible] [illegible] ane na[illegible] gium, o[illegible] a scelerum, [illegible] m, camin[illegible] uteus o[illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] suetudin[illegible] cantor [illegible] la, mund[illegible] unci, [illegible] sus, pœnite[illegible] [illegible] nda[illegible] [illegible] uri hian[illegible] [illegible] tæ [illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible] olub[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] inexo[illegible] ax [illegible] uutur, exsu[illegible] ir, laudata

laudata fraus, honoratum dedecus, irrisa [illegible] contempta [illegible] nugæ feriæ, ingeniosa dementia, loquax torp[illegible] celata ignora[illegible] la, querelarum susp[illegible]a, conten[illegible]num strepitus, [illegible] odium, amor ext[illegible] murum ciuitas atque laruar[illegible] monum re[illegible]num, [illegible] tus (sic enim Principem mundi [illegible] Veritas [illegible] uita dæmon mendax [illegible] spirans mors, segnis incuriositas [illegible] cura, apparen[illegible] appetitus, operosus uermium apparat[illegible] uent[illegible] um [illegible]rnus, & uiuoru[illegible] exequiæ, longum funus, pompo[illegible]itas, [illegible]ri[illegible]sa militia, periculosa te[illegible] [illegible]teria, miseranda fœlicitas. E[illegible]e, qualis mihi hæc uidetur, quæ [illegible] mult[illegible] tissima, ac gratissima uita est, nec dum tamen conceptum o[illegible]nem meæ mentis ex[illegible] ior enim est, multo miserior, quàm à me, seu quocunque hominum d[illegible] possit. S[illegible] in[illegible]enio, ex his paucis, totum reor anim[illegible], loquentis introspicis, [illegible] tot[illegible] bonum, quod ad bonam & æternam ui[illegible]am, nisi dexter trames deseratur, uita est. V[illegible] ter colles Euganeos III. Calend. Decemb.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. EPISTOLARVM AD VIROS QVOSDAM, EX VETERIBUS illustriores, Liber.

FRAN. PETRARCHA M. T. CICERONI. S. Epist. I.

EPISTOLAS tuas, diu multumque perquisitas atque ubi minimè rebar inuentas, auidissimè perlegi, audiui multa te d[illegible] tem, multa deplorantem, mu[illegible]ta uariantem M. Tul. & q[illegible] [illegible]dem qualis præceptor alijs fuisses noueram, n[illegible]c tandem [illegible] tu esses agnoui. Vnum hoc uicissim e ue[illegible]a charitate [illegible] iam consilium, sed lamen[illegible]um audi, ubicunque es, quod [illegible] sterorum [illegible] nominis amantissimus, uix sine la[illegible]rym[illegible] fund[illegible] O inqu[illegible] semper & anxie, uel ut uerba tua recogno[illegible] præceps & [illegible]mitose senex, quid tibi tot contentionibus [illegible] sum nihil profuturis simultatibus uoluisti? Vbi & æta[illegible] ses[illegible] ion[illegible]rtunæ tuæ conueniens ocium reliquisti? Quis te falsus gloriæ splendor senē, ad[illegible]lescentium bellis implicuit, & per omnes iactatum casus, ad indignā Philosopho mo[illegible]m rapuit? Heu & fraterni immemor, & tuorum tot salubrium præceptorum ceu nocturnus uia[illegible] lumen in tenebris gestans, ostendisti secuturis callem, in quo ipse satis miserabi[illegible] er la[illegible] omitto Dionysium: omitto fratrem tuum ac nepotem: omitto si p[illegible]cet ipsum [illegible]tiam [illegible]bellam, quos nunc laudibus ad cœlum effers, nunc repentinis maledict[illegible] tas. Fu[illegible] hæc tolerabilia for[illegible]is, Iul. quoque Cæsarem, præteru eho, cuius spectata cle[illegible] [illegible] ipsa es, latescentibus portus erat. Magnum præterea Pompeium sileo, cum quo [illegible]e quodam familiarita[illegible], quidlibet posse uidebare. Sed quis te furor in Antoniu[illegible] im[illegible]egit? Amo[illegible] credo Reip[illegible] quā funditus iam corruisse fatebaris. Quod si [illegible]ura fides, si libertas te trah[illegible]t, quod q[illegible] de ta[illegible] u[illegible] libet opina[illegible] q[illegible] tibi tàm f[illegible]miliare[illegible] A[illegible] gu[illegible] id enim Bruto [illegible] respo[illegible]. Siquidem [illegible] (inquit) Octaui[illegible] ce[illegible] amicit[illegible]m [illegible]e[illegible]ris. Hoc r[illegible] lix, [illegible]tr[illegible] Cice[illegible] lau[illegible] ce[illegible]es, qu[illegible] tibi ne [illegible] lcfac[illegible] alefacient[illegible] leo u[illegible] amice [illegible] erro[illegible] ac m[illegible] la[illegible] artibus [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ce[illegible] om[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ipse [illegible] [illegible] pud [illegible]

ad dexteram Athesis, [illegible] m T[illegible]salpinæ Italiæ. XVI. Calend. Quintiles, [illegible] ei[illegible]s, quem [illegible]on no[illegible]eras. M.[illegible]C. XL.

[illegible] PETRARCH[illegible] S.

S[illegible] epistola, [illegible]m enim [illegible] dicere, quod ait familiaris [illegible]dua, O[illegible] sequium amicos, ueritas od[illegible] parit. Accipe quod offensum animu[illegible] parte mulceat, ne semper odiosa [illegible] ueritas, quoniam ueris reprehensionibus [illegible]ur, ueris laudibus delectamur. [illegible] quidem Cicero, quod pace tua di[illegible] ut Philosophus scripsisti, [illegible]m ego tuam carp[illegible] non ingenium, aut [illegible] quippe qui illud miror, hanc stupeo. Neq; tamen in uita tua, quicquã præter con[illegible]am requiro, & [illegible]fessione Philosophicæ debitum quietis studium, & à ciuilibus bel[illegible] iam Extincta [illegible]as, ac sepulta iam & complorata Respub. uide ut ciuiliter te[illegible] [illegible] tu cum Epicuro multis in locis, sed expressiùs in lib. de Finibus: Agebas enim ubi[illegible] bei, u[illegible] tam probas, rides ingenium, ego nihil in te rideo, uitæ tamen compatior ut dixi, ingenio gratulor, eloquio'ue. O Romani eloquij summe parens, nec solus ego, sed omnes tibi gratias agimus, quicunq; Latinæ linguæ floribus ornamur, tuis enim prata de fontibus ir[illegible]us, tuo ducatu dire[illegible]os, tuis suffragijs adiutos, tuo nos [illegible]omine illu[illegible]tos, ingenue [illegible] tuis denicq; (ut [illegible] dicam) auspicijs, ad hanc quant[illegible]cunq; est scribendi faculta[illegible] ac propositum peruenisse. Accessit & alter [illegible]cæ uiæ dux, ita enim necessitas posceba[illegible] ut esset, & quem solutis, & quem frenãtibus gr[illegible]ibus præeuntem sequeremur, quem loquentem, quem canentem miraremur, quoni[illegible] bona uenia amborum, neuter ad utrunq; satis erat, ille tuis æquoribus, tu illius impar angustijs. Nõ ego primus hoc dicerem fortasse, quamuis planè sentirem, dixit hoc ante me, magnus quidem uir Anneus Seneca Cordubensis, cui te, ut idem ipse conqueritur, non ætas quidem, sed bellorum ciuilium fu[illegible] eripuit. Videre te potuit, sed non uidit, magnus tamen operum tuorum, atq; [illegible] alte[illegible] laudator, hęc affirmat, quicunq; quemq; suis eloquentiæ finibus circunscr[illegible] Verùm expectatione te torqueo, quis nam dux ille sit quæris, nosti hominẽ, si modò [illegible]inis [illegible]. Virgilius Maro est, Mantuanus ciuis, de quo egregiè uaticinatus es. C[illegible] e[illegible]tum legimus, iuuenile quoddam eius opusculũ, miratus, quæsiuisses actorem, [illegible] iuuenem iam senior uidisses, delectatus es, & de inexhausto eloquentiæ tuæ fonte, [illegible] propria quidem laude permixtum: ueruntamen præclarum, ac magnificum illi testimonium reddidisti. Dixisti enim,

Magna spes altera Romæ:

Qu[illegible]um ex ore tuo auditũ, adeò sibi placuit, inseditq; memoriæ, ut illud [illegible] an[illegible] [illegible]e pridem rebus humanis exempto, diuino operi suo, eisdem penitùs ue[illegible] insereret, quod opus si uidere licuisset, lætatus esses, de primæ flore, tàm certum te euentu[illegible] fructus præsa[illegible]ium concepisse. Nec non & latiùs gratulatus Mu[illegible] quod insolentibus Græcis, uel re[illegible]quisset ambiguam, uel certam uictoriam abstulissent, utriusq; enim sent[illegible] [illegible] ex libris animum tuum noui, quem nosce mihi hon aliter, quàm [illegible] [illegible]m uideor, ultimæ assertorem futurum, utq; in oratoria dedisti, sic in Poe[illegible] palàm [illegible]daturum, atque ut Aeneidi cederet. Illas iussurum [illegible]sse, non dubito, quod iam ab i[illegible] Virgiliani laboris, Propertius asseuerare non timuit. Vbi enim præcij operis fu[illegible]menta contemplatus est.

Cedite Romani scri[illegible], cedite Graij.
Nescio quid ma[illegible] Iliade:

[illegible]ro Latino duce [illegible]æ, magnæ [illegible]mæ spe altera. Nũc ad te [illegible]d [illegible]d de ingeni[illegible] audi[illegible] [illegible]as audire d[illegible] tuis, [illegible]s [illegible] fortuna, quàm se[illegible] o [illegible]us [illegible] E[illegible] e[illegible]ara [illegible]æ ne dicam perleg[illegible] nec en[illegible]us, fa[illegible] ce[illegible] [illegible] atque i[illegible]ens, & sono[illegible] nomen, [illegible] er[illegible] [illegible] hc ciu[illegible] [illegible] mos [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] o [illegible] [illegible] dul[illegible] [illegible] ia pro[illegible] [illegible]uis [illegible] um [illegible] a[illegible]: [illegible] or [illegible] a Reip. [illegible]is, de [illegible] ola[illegible] [illegible], q[illegible] ultimo,

ultimo, magis mihi spes dubia, qu[illegible]m desperati [illegible] elli[illegible]m est, ut urbis R[illegible] Romanæ Reipub. statum audire uelis, quæ patriæ [illegible], quæ [illegible] ad [illegible] summa perue[illegible] quib[illegible]us, quantoq[illegible] [illegible] & Ganges, Hyberus, Nilus, & Tha[illegible] limites nos[illegible] unt? An uerò qui[illegible]am sut [illegible]

Imperium Oceano f[illegible] qui [illegible]ret [illegible]

V[illegible] amicus ille tuus Mantuanus ait, hęc [illegible]s simi[illegible]a cupidissime auditur[illegible] [illegible] quod eni[illegible] pietas tua suggerit, & error erga p[illegible]am, usq; in [illegible] per[illegible] [illegible], [illegible] tacere melius fuerit. Crede e[illegible] mihi Cicero, [illegible] quo in statu res no[illegible]æ [illegible] a[illegible] exci[illegible]ent tibi lachrymæ, quamlibet uel cœli, uel Hærebi partem tenes. Aeternum V[illegible] Apud su[illegible]eros ad sinistrã Rhodani ripam, in Transalpina Gallia, eod[illegible] anno x[illegible] Ca[illegible]e[illegible] la[illegible]ij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA ANNEO SENECÆ,

Reprehensoria uitæ & laudatoria ingenij.

PEtitam à tanto uiro, impetratamq; ueniam uelim, si quid asperius dixero, quàm [illegible] professionis tuæ reuerentiam deceat, aut requiem sepul[illegible]hri. Qu[illegible]m me M. Ciceroni, quem Latinæ eloquentiæ lumen, ac fontem, te[illegible]e, dixerim nõ pepe[illegible] legerit, si te reliquis [illegible]idem uera lo[illegible]uens, non peperce[illegible], indignationis su[illegible]m[illegible]e riam non babebit, iuuat uobis[illegible]loqui, Viri illustres, qualium miram [illegible] nostra penuriã. Inter omnes quidem c[illegible]ra nomina, tuum nomen annumerand[illegible]c[illegible]e, nõ sum nescius, idq; si aliunde nescirem [illegible]no quo[illegible]ã, & externo teste cognoui. Plutarchus si[illegible] Græcus homo, & Traiani p[illegible]pis magi[illegible]er, suos claros uiros, nostris c[illegible]re[illegible] cum Platoni & Aristoteli (quorum primum diuinum, secundum dæmonium [illegible]cant) M. Varronem, Homero autẽ Virgilium, Demo[illegible]eni M. Tulliũ obieci[illegible]et, ausus [illegible] ad [illegible]ostremũ, & ducum controuersiã mouere, nec eum, tanti saltem discipuli ueneratio con[illegible]o sanè, duorum ingenia prorsus [illegible], nõ erubuit confiteri, quod qu[illegible]t bi ex æ[illegible]o, in moralibus præceptis obijceret non haberet. Laus ing[illegible]ns, ex ore præsertim hominis a[illegible]imoli, & qui nostro Iul. Cæsari, suum Alexandrũ Macedonẽ compar[illegible]ed nes[illegible]o, quomodo sicut corporũ, sic animorũ egregias formas, aliqua sæpè grauis i[illegible] [illegible]æua[illegible]iantis insequitur, siue quod omniũ parens, perfectionẽ mortalibus inuidet [illegible] g[illegible], quò ad illã propius uidetur ace[illegible]c) siue quod inter multa decora, deformitas om[illegible]is apparet, & quod in obscura facie, fac[illegible]ne tuus esset, in præclara cicatrix fœda est, tanta lux in rebus ambiguis, ex contrariorũ uicinitate suboritur. Tu uerô uenerande uir, & [illegible] incompa[illegible]ilis præceptor, errorẽ uitæ tuæ, si non molestũ est, mecum recognosce. [illegible] om[illegible] sæcu[illegible] crudelissimũ principem incidisti, & trãquillus nauta, pretiosis mercibus on[illegible] ad infamem, & procellosum scopulum appulisti. Cur autem illic hæsisti, quæso te? An u[illegible] in te[illegible]estate magisterium a[illegible]probates? Sed hoc nemo nisi amens eligit, neq; re enim u[illegible] fortis [illegible] e[illegible] c prud[illegible]tis est, op[illegible]are periculum, quinetiã si libera prudentię relinquatur electio, [illegible]io[illegible] per erit fortitudo: nihil enim accidet, aduersus quod auxilium im[illegible]lorandu[illegible] [illegible]ode[illegible] potius suis utens partibus, & lætitiam frenabit, & uotiua moderabitur. Sed quoniã en[illegible]erabiles casus eue[illegible], & multa fert uita hominũ, quibus cõsil[illegible]a nostra u[illegible] [illegible], d[illegible]rco uirtus iuncta opponitur fortunæ, non quidem secundùm electionem, ut dixi, sed secund[illegible]m necessi[illegible]tis ineuitabiles, ac ferreas leges: at ego nunquid sanus fati uide[illegible], [illegible]utiùs [illegible]m magistro [illegible]tutum, de uirtute disputem? [illegible]t probare nitar, id cu[illegible]ntra[illegible]ij probatio [illegible] pos[illegible]ib[illegible]lis [illegible]cum uel te iudice, uel q[illegible]et, qui inter uitæ h[illegible] fluctus medioc[illegible] [illegible]auigare didicerit, non fu[illegible] [illegible]õsilium Syrtibus inhærere. Quod si [illegible]em, ex d[illegible] c[illegible]taba[illegible] hoc ipsum summæ laudis erat, em[illegible]e, & in portum ali[illegible]em [illegible]a pu[illegible]ere [illegible]ende[illegible]em [illegible]er ce[illegible]bu[illegible] uidebas, nec timebas [illegible]ec tàm an[illegible]tis rei e[illegible]m p[illegible] qu[illegible]uod moriendi miserrimum g[illegible]s est in [illegible]ere p[illegible]ras, mo[illegible]em [illegible]u quolibe[illegible] gloria cari[illegible]. V[illegible] ra[illegible]s [illegible] ma[illegible]d [illegible]ller po[illegible]pe[illegible]e [illegible] [illegible]om[illegible]en[illegible] [illegible] Quid[illegible]um [illegible] [illegible]cum [illegible]no c[illegible] L[illegible]e uo[illegible] [illegible]ue[illegible]es.

[illegible]

[illegible] proclamabis, solu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] uel ut sic laqueum, libertatis [illegible] [illegible] ereret. Re[illegible] ueteribus histori[illegible] [illegible] praetermissa, ne[illegible] [illegible] ad te mihi sermo est, pu[illegible] [illegible] ueritas [illegible] [illegible]mum habe[illegible] [illegible] is uiris agens [illegible] [illegible], Suetonium Tranquill[illegible] [illegible] Ne[illegible] [illegible] Oratorum, quo scil[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] curare [illegible] [illegible] mineriarum tuarum [illegible], [illegible] tate, nec d[illegible] uanitate, profe[illegible] [illegible] riam, ut rae senex, n[illegible] molester, ne rursus dicam pueriliter c[illegible] [illegible] tis uere magisterio acc[illegible] as, fuerit uel iudicij, uel [illegible] quo [illegible] ex[illegible] tionem errorum studio[illegible] [illegible], & [illegible] nostr[illegible] [illegible] mu[illegible] [illegible] rum, profecto iudicij tui [illegible] n[illegible] potes a[illegible] [illegible] m, quod optaueras in [illegible] [illegible] pergo. Ha miser, post quam [illegible] admirat[illegible] tui, uaesanum iuuenem, [illegible] [illegible] nulla libertatis, aut comeatus oc[illegible] [illegible] unquam [illegible] mus [illegible] [illegible] quod sponte [illegible] & [illegible] falum [illegible] ne [illegible] [illegible] singulari [illegible] rumperet [illegible] ignora[illegible] [illegible] ragoe[illegible] genus [illegible] ate ut [illegible] ere, ut ait Flaso? Hanc tu, q[illegible] daciter, quam uenenose, quam ac[illegible] [illegible] fetis notum est. Non quod [illegible] [illegible] nullam uel ingenij, uel sermo[illegible] [illegible] ephandis actibus aequ[illegible] posse, [illegible] ius, si modo hominis nomine di[illegible] [illegible] V[illegible] amen [illegible] te decere[illegible] ere, de [illegible] ratore subie[illegible] um, de dom[illegible] fa[illegible] [illegible] em, d[illegible] ipsi [illegible] praeceptorem[illegible] [illegible] remo de il[illegible], cui tam multa blandiri, ne dic[illegible] an[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] eras. Relege l[illegible] bros, quos ad eum ipsum de Clementia, reuolue quē ad [illegible] de consolatione dictasti: caetera denique tuarum u[illegible] [illegible] arum mon[illegible] a perc[illegible] re, [illegible] odo uel libros, uel librorum memoriam Laethei gurgitis unda non ob[illegible] [illegible] udeb[illegible] [illegible] laudati discipuli. Qua enim fronte, de tali talia scripsisse potueris, ignoro, cete [illegible] [illegible] re non te lego. Sed hic rursus occurres, [illegible] adolescentiam prin[illegible] [illegible], atque [illegible] [illegible] spei melioris praeferentem obijcies, errore[illegible] [illegible]um, re[illegible] [illegible]rum e[illegible] [illegible] e, [illegible] tabere: quasi uero, haec nobis ignota sint, ue[illegible] [illegible] te con[illegible] ra, quam si ex[illegible] [illegible] paucula personati principatus o[illegible] uscula, uel simul[illegible] pietatis oculas o[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] iudicium tibi tali utrum, tali aetate, tanta [illegible] ac doctri[illegible] a. Q[illegible] d enim or[illegible] uit ex [illegible] actis, quae ab historicis, u[illegible] [illegible] is utar) p[illegible] m n[illegible] re[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] partim non mediocri laude, memoratur, pr[illegible] [illegible] licet, qu[illegible] m [illegible] rot[illegible] m in pr[illegible] [illegible] a demergeret. An aurigandi potius, an cytharae[illegible] ndi studium? Q[illegible] u[illegible] t[illegible] se[illegible] tum [illegible] e, [illegible] imus, ut secretius primum coram seruis, ac plebe sordida, deinde etiam in p[illegible] o, [illegible] uniuerso [illegible] lo spectante princeps auriga decurrer[illegible] & qua[illegible] men al[illegible] [illegible] d [illegible] cytharam adoraret, egregius cytharista. Quibus [illegible] em [illegible] [illegible] n contentus ingenijs, Achaiam petijt, & Graecorum Musicorum a[illegible] [illegible], solos [illegible] cos studijs suis dignos asseruit. Ridiculum m[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] an [illegible] men eet [illegible] magni sim[illegible] & religiosi princip[illegible] [illegible] abuisti, q[illegible] d [illegible] [illegible] las inhumani oris exuuias, in Capitolio consecrauit[illegible] certe [illegible] tui [illegible] aetate, qua historici adhuc eum inter homines numerant, tu eum inter deos [illegible] laudato dignis praeco[illegible] cooatis inferere, nisi forte il[illegible] d maio[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] q[illegible] ristianos genus h[illegible] m, reuera sanctum, & in[illegible] um u[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] uetonio referenti, [illegible] tionis nouae [illegible] [illegible] supplicijs affecit [illegible] tor atque hostis cru[illegible] simus. E[illegible] [illegible] de te ista no[illegible] suspicor, [illegible] ma[illegible] an mi[illegible] m [illegible] nam [illegible] [illegible] mis & u[illegible] [illegible] immane, nec [illegible] [illegible] aurem no nega[illegible] latam [illegible] le[illegible] q[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] ne [illegible] ellexeris [illegible] nem ut c[illegible] [illegible] ere [illegible] pa[illegible] [illegible] apud [illegible] [illegible] on [illegible] anno [illegible]

[illegible] O [illegible]

O [illegible] uel me [illegible] ætas [illegible] uel [illegible] me [illegible] pro [illegible] non [illegible] re u [illegible] atia [illegible] amæ [illegible] a p [illegible]. [illegible] libris tuis [illegible] & quaten [illegible] du [illegible] de [illegible] Romanarum [illegible] ros [illegible] te n [illegible] m [illegible] quant [illegible] udio quan [illegible] ex [illegible] bus supe [illegible] in illis exerc [illegible] cri cum indignatione animi, adue [illegible] mo [illegible] no [illegible] or [illegible] us nihil in [illegible] est, nisi aurum & argentum, at [illegible] uoluptas, q [illegible] bonis habe [illegible] unt, mult [illegible] cum latiu [illegible] m [illegible] tæ pecu [illegible] is, sed immobilis est, & insensibilis elementi, quam [illegible] alias. Nunc tibi potius tempus est, ut gratias agam, [illegible] o [illegible] aton, quod oblitum sæpe præsentium malorum, tecum me [illegible] c [illegible], ut inter legendum saltem cum Cornelijs, Scipionibus, A [illegible] anis, Læ [illegible], F [illegible], Metellis, Brutis, Decijs, Catonibus, Regulis, Cursoribus, Torquatis, Val [illegible], Cor [illegible] Imatoribus, Claudijs, Marcellis, Neronibus, Aem [illegible], Attilijs, Q [illegible] intijs, [illegible] ijs, Fab [illegible] e Camillis, & [illegible] n cum his extremis furibus, inter quos aduers [illegible] dere nat [illegible] dear ætatem agere: tu uelim de antiquioribus Pol [illegible] ium, [illegible] Q. Claudium, [illegible] ntiatem, reliquosque quorum glori [illegible] endor tuus ob [illegible] cit. De nouis uerò [illegible] se [illegible] dum Veronensem, uicinum tuum [illegible] æmulum quondam tuum Crispum Sa [illegible] a- lutes quibus nuncia, nihilo fœlic [illegible] rum [illegible] s fuisse quàm tuas. Aete num [illegible] e- tum gestarum memoriæ consulto [illegible] ime. Apud [illegible] cros, in ea parte Italiæ, & [illegible] qua ego nunc habito, & tu olim natus ac sepultus es, in uestibulo Iustinæ [illegible] sum sepulchri tui lapidem VIII. Cal. Martias. Anno ab ortu eius, quem si paulo [illegible] diutius, cernere potuisses. M. CCC. L.

FRAN. PETRARCHA M. VARRONI, S.

VT te amem ac uenerer, tua me singularis [illegible] us, & industria, tuum [illegible] nomen, cogit. Sunt quidem, quos licet ex [illegible] ctos, superstitibus tam [illegible] ac monitis amamus, qui scilicet cæteris conspectu, & odore grauiter o [illegible] bus, ipsi doctrinis in [illegible] uunt, exemplisque delectent, quique licet hinc ab [illegible] co- mu [illegible] em locum, ut ait, Plautus in Casina, tamen absentes prosunt præsentibus. Tu [illegible] aut modicum prodes, non tua qui [illegible] sed omnia corrumpentis æui culpa, æras no [illegible] os tuos perdidit, quæ autem unius nummorum custodię studiosa, quis usquam in [illegible] æ [illegible] u ste [illegible] nus? Tu cognitione rerum supra fidem, & sine exemplo deditus, non ideò ta [illegible] a- [illegible] æ uitæ [illegible] m declinasti utroque calle conspicuus, & illis summis uiris Magno Pom- pe [illegible] c Iul [illegible] o Cæsari m [illegible] tuo charus. Itaque sub altero militasti, ad alterum scripsisti [illegible] os [illegible] es, [illegible] que [illegible] æ refertissimos, inter bellorum & publicorum negocio [illegible] di- [illegible] simas curas. Magna est laus, non ingenij modò, sed propositi, corpore atque anim [illegible] fe- [illegible], & uelle, non ætati tuæ tantùm, sed omnibus sæculis pr [illegible] e. Ii e [illegible] idem t [illegible] dio [illegible] rat libri digni non sunt habiti, qui per manus nostras ad posteros peruen [illegible] [illegible] rem [illegible] m no [illegible] ra u [illegible] auia, nemo tàm parcus pater usquam fuit, cuius non [illegible] m p [illegible] moniam, breui tempore luxuriosus filius posset euertere. Quid nunc [illegible] di- dit [illegible] s cr [illegible] m [illegible] em? Quot librorum tuorum, totidem famæ nostrę sunt iacula, tac [illegible] c [illegible] est e [illegible] uo [illegible] c [illegible] tra [illegible] ne recr [illegible] esc [illegible] uulnus, & [illegible] dolor, damni m [illegible] ex- [illegible] mc [illegible] s [illegible] æ uis, u [illegible] t [illegible] en sepultis temporibus, & cum de [illegible] ne [illegible] [illegible] d [illegible] rum tamen omnium [illegible] ensu, doctissim [illegible] Varro [illegible], quod sine [illegible] [illegible] e [illegible] M. Cicero [illegible] a n [illegible] a [illegible] rmà [illegible] m [illegible] af- fi [illegible] p [illegible] da [illegible] o [illegible] ngente ocu [illegible] s, uidea [illegible] e- rum [illegible] e [illegible] f [illegible] m [illegible] um [illegible] idisse. Quod Cicero [illegible] tatis a [illegible] scribunt, al [illegible] a [illegible] m [illegible] a [illegible] ex [illegible] igne [illegible] us uir san- mus

... o Augustinus, ... Afer, eloquio Romanus, cum quo utinam de ... deliberare po... semper theologus futurus, qui eã, ... rupt... anxie ... Vt uero rerum tuarum ni... s de te ita scriptum ... m multa, ut aliquid tibi scribere uacas... multa scripsisse, qu... m... enquam legere potuisse credamus. N... tant, uel ad modum lacerae uorum ... rum reliquiae, licet diuturnarum & hu... ex quibus son... habes, puerum me uidisse m... ne torquear, summis (ut aiunt) labris gustatae dulcedinis hos alicubi ... co... multos iam per annos, me fatigat aura, quoniam longa quidem, ac ... est ... oriosius in uita. Hæc h... nus. Tu uero solare animum, & ... tum, ex conscientia percipiens, mortalia periisse non doleas. Sciebas ... eres, mortali enim ingenio, nihil e... citur immortale. Quid autem refert, an sta... centum annorum millia pereat? Quod aliquando perire necesse est, est quidem ... udio fragrantium cohors, haud quaquam fortunatior laborum, cuius ex... amur nemo ... par fuerit, tame... utcunque sortem tuam æquanimius ferre de... c aliquos ... merare delectat, quoniam clarorum nominum, uel sola com... cis est. Sunt igitur hi M. Cato ... us, P. Nigidius, Antoninus Gnipho, ... is, Ateius Capito, C. Bassus Vera... pontificalis, Octauianus Herennius ... Furius Albinus, Seueru... Sulpitius ... acius Verus, C. Flaccus, Pompeius ... Hemina, Fabius Pictor, Stat... us, multique alij, quos nominare lon... est ... somnes meis uerbis tuo ore salutes. V... m Iul. & Augustum Cæsares, quan... Idio summissimos, atque doctissimos sciam, uerecundius tamen fuerit, nostris impe... ribus salutandos linquere, si tamen salutare illos audent, quorum studio ac uirtute fundatum imperium euerterunt. Aeternum uale, uir clarissime, apud superos, capite orbis Roma, quæ tua fuit, mea patria facta est. Cal. Octobris, anno ab ortu eius, quæ utinam nouis... M. CCC. XLIII.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ V. C. IN EPISTOLARVM SINE TITVLO, LIBRVM.

Præfatio.

VM semper odiosa fuerit, nunc capitalis est ueritas, crescentibus nempe ... minum, ... ueri odium, & regnum blanditijs, acmendacio datum est, ... dixisse, ... dum etiam & scripsisse memini, sed dicendum sæpius, scriben... est. Non ante fletus desinet quàm dolor. Ea me pridem cogitatio induxit, ut Bucolicum carmen, poëmatis genus ambiguo scriberem, quod paucis intellectum, plures forsitan delectaret, est enim nonnullis, corruptus adeò gustus ingenij, ut eos notus sapor, quamuis idem suauissimus offendat, ignota omnia, licet asperiora permulceant ... difficultas rerum, sæpè ... fragilibus humeris grata est. Idem me hodie ref... r h... eris, pauca quidem, sed quo ueriora, eò mal... ora concludam, bonis uer... stolas scilicet aliquot, diuersis ex causis, u... temporibus, ad amico... ideo conieci, ne ut era... spar... m ep... rum cor... us aspergeren... m facerent. Et ut qui has ... rat, qui no... id ... uis autem eradendas, abijcien... p... terem unam, ... ope... ris ... tate conueniete. Qua in re & ... ficut in ... fto... quo... sic ... ob... te qua ... m ... ris, ... ec ... oque quibus hæc ... eram ... aur noxæ ... per ... mo ... um ... tan... ance ... ntaro ... m ... er pro ... teto, ne ... uam ... n ... ie ... studio, quæsitum odium, non uere... meritis partam inuidiam, inter titulos numera... uedum abiero, bona fide tacuerit. Postmodum ut libet sæuiant, irascantur, tonent, fulminentque

KK quid

quid ad me? Certè si Satyricis placet, uiuenti de mo [illegible] m [illegible] uiui. Illic enim potest [illegible] er [illegible] e, qui u [illegible], h [illegible] n [illegible] ritas, sit pestifera, sit funest [illegible] ru n [illegible] cta transgressus, omnes mortalium m [illegible] sp mi [illegible] q [illegible] so habeant illud Plauti Oratoris el [illegible] A [illegible] m [illegible] em [illegible] la, uas luctari Sin in hunc, seu alio [illegible] me [illegible] gnatio, uel eorum obiecit indignitas, non mecum sibi fore nouerint, sed cum ueri [illegible] iudice, mundo teste.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. EPISTOLARVM SINE TITVLO, LIBER.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO, S. [illegible] I.

Seculi fallaciam, portum salutis ostendit.

QVid agis bone [illegible]? Quid agis pater optime? Quid agis oro [illegible] Quid co [illegible]? Quem rebus exitum, quem præ [illegible] n [illegible] f a [illegible] finem speras? [illegible] portum'ne tenebimus, an in medijs tempestatibus obruemur? Aequorei sæuis cymba tantis impar est flu [illegible] bu [illegible] mius carbasa uentus impleuit, & carina grauissimo ta ce [illegible] mitur, remos agunt inexperti, claui autem rector, ut uides [illegible] nauticæ præcepta despiciens, terram amat, quod ingens nauigantibus solet esse periculum, idem & sereno nimium fidit, demens, & stellas uagas intuens, stabilem Arcton, fidam puppibus ducem spernit. Hæc inter, uino madidus, atro grauis, ac sopo [illegible] ore perfusus, iam nutitat, iam dormitat, iam somno præceps, atque (utinam solus) ruit. [illegible]m pallorem cadentis aspeximus, iam naufragium miserũ murmur audiuimus, iam fatiscens [illegible]us crepuit, sparsa iam pelago fluitant a[illegible]amenta. O utinam si Pater excelsus, amisso fluitantem errare magistro sentiens, ipse etiam ratem suam, nocturnis in undis regat, nec eme [illegible] sinat, quam tanto pretio redemit ab hostibus. Alioquin ualdè metuendum est, ne [illegible] e [illegible] ctu, inter pyratas & scopulos pereamus. Huc nos gubernatoris nostri perduxit insci [illegible] mitius loquor, imò uerò cæcitas, & hoc ipsum excusabile. Loquendum est igitur prop [illegible] & uera rebus reddenda uocabula, fecit hoc furor & rabies, & turpis inertia, & procellosi lit[illegible]ris feruidus appetitus, & rationis imperium fortunæ traditum, & hortatu fœdæ cupiditatis pondus infamiæ susceptum. Heu quantò felicius, patrio terram sulcasset aratro, quam fcalmum piscatorium ascendisset, quid dicam, scio equidem, quod uniuersi offensæ, pa[illegible]laris uindicta non sufficit. Sed quid amplius fiat. Ille igitur uadit pro meritis accepturu[illegible] nibus e[illegible] a maritimis, ille digitis omnium ostensus, omnium salibus aspersus, omnium [illegible]udibrium, iocusque mensarum. Postremò omnibus hoc mare sulcantibus in æternum fa[illegible]la. De nobis autem quid putas. Certè si ad clauum similis nauclerus accesserit, salus nos ipsa, si uelit saluare uix poterit, una nobis in tantis terroribus spes salutis tale nusquam esse [illegible]ortentum. Tu uerò circumspici, [illegible] qua est ad enatandum tabula, quam complex[illegible] n sicc[illegible]m euadamus. Si consilium meum poscis, in rure tuo, si liceat optime manebimus, ibi [illegible]lentium optatum, & portus mihi quietissimus uidetur, hic animum intende, & Vale.

FRA. PETRA[illegible]HA P[illegible]INC[illegible] R[illegible]MA[illegible]O, S. Epist. II.

[illegible]estatem lesam dolet.

QVi[illegible] c h[illegible] a [illegible] au[illegible] cle [illegible], seu quid o[illegible]no [illegible] sperare [illegible] ex- [illegible] æ n[illegible] xpe [illegible] [illegible] nte, [illegible] red [illegible] am [illegible] [illegible] e [illegible] bue at [illegible] psul [illegible] g a [illegible] [illegible] pu[illegible] immeritum, donec urr[illegible] frange[illegible] allidere, ipsas quoque [illegible], quæ marmoreos animos mollire potuissent, disceptas effundere. En hospitalitas, en charitas,

[illegible] captus, tortus, [illegible] & ciuitat[illegible] [illegible]ressu prohibitus, nuncius tuus, [illegible] bet[illegible]us, ac [illegible]ulne[illegible]re[illegible]s, ad [illegible] uertice cruentato redijt. O' [illegible] appellat, d[illegible] te ut qu[illegible]am [illegible] tores uocant, [illegible] a [illegible] eris, præcep[illegible] [illegible] colæ nihil undis, & alueo [illegible] impetu in quod[illegible] [illegible] udenter elati O' irrue [illegible] [illegible]es. O non tua [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]um [illegible] or[illegible]a O [illegible] [illegible]nia, [illegible] Tyberim re[illegible] [illegible] na [illegible] aus? [illegible] [illegible] si quid coniectori[illegible] us hdei est [illegible] s amari [illegible] cruentiam pro[illegible] [illegible] dominam Romam colis, sic tui, sic il[illegible] propr[illegible] [illegible]tutis, [illegible] summi im[illegible] [illegible] Ve[illegible] infælix, si illa cœperit e[illegible]pergis[illegible], imo ue[illegible] exo[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]s, ac damna prospexer[illegible] [illegible] enim [illegible] [illegible] sed iller, & somnia præterni temporis, sub [illegible]entio tepesit. & q[illegible] [illegible] Expectato paululum, & uidebis magnalia in orbe terrarum, [illegible] certe mirabere, [illegible] [illegible]um impossibilia iudicasses. An quid [illegible] an ubi [illegible] an cu[illegible] [illegible]nores. An [illegible] nomen nescis, unde descendat? Quis'nam furor hic? Quæ'nam ista dementia? [illegible] [illegible] tem omnium [illegible] repsit obliuio. Sicci'ne pro[illegible]nciarum dom[illegible] [illegible]aris. Sopita [illegible] tu mortua credid[illegible], ac uelut morte dominæ libertati red[illegible] [illegible] uam te putasti. N[illegible] libertatem ipsa[illegible] [illegible]itijs approbares, esse aliquid po[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]pi[illegible]nos aliquando te uoti comp[illegible], deliberando fecim[illegible], tempus e[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] bus resipiscas. Multorum nem[illegible] [illegible]entia, non in p[illegible] rijs uiribus [illegible] [illegible] debilitare fundata est. Verum hæc aduer[illegible] conualescente, corruat opo[illegible] unc [illegible] o quid fueris intelliges, cum quid adhuc sit Ro[illegible] cognoueris, cui[illegible] modo [illegible] [illegible] putans non esse qui uindicet: falleris ineptis, insanis, est qui uindicet in c[illegible]o [illegible] [illegible] uindicet in terris amicus Dei, quem tu nescis, sunt uires, quas ne suspicari quidem potes. Ha misera, sed experiere ilicò ut spero, tu[illegible] nobis uim nostram, iniuriæ reddidere, [illegible] primum dolere cœperimus, magno tractu, & ad sanitatem, & robur acce[illegible]imu[illegible] Tu uerò res nostras misereare, Viri[illegible]is, erige surgentem patriam, & genti[illegible] incred[illegible] q[illegible]d n[illegible] etiam Roma possit ost[illegible]de. De reliqua enim Italia, cui dub[illegible] [illegible], quin [illegible] [illegible] pot[illegible] possit, nec uires, nec opes, nec animos deforc, sed consensum. Q[illegible] unus [illegible] [illegible], illu dentibus nomine Italico, tenore præsentis ep[illegible], propinquā stra[illegible]em. pernitiem[illegible] denuncio. Tu[illegible]uam) quem tantę re[illegible] ducem fata[illegible] [illegible]unt, perge q[illegible]a cœp[illegible]i, nil [illegible] formidaueris, nubeculæ istæ sole radiante dissilien, uu[illegible]eculariū astutię, leonis impetum non ferent, in [illegible] gressus ex gloriosè, i fortiter, i constanter ad reliqua, ostende superbiæ quan[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] tate sit inferior, auaritię quātum largitate pauperior, fallaciæ quām stulta sit adie[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] uoluptati quām turpis admota temperantiæ ac decori. Agnosce tandem fucus [illegible] poc[illegible]sis, quām nihil sit, ubi uera uirtus affulserit. Eia, age, rump[illegible] oras, & ranam tumore ri[illegible]diculo [illegible] m[illegible]lem solidi bouis imitantem protere, frange, cōculca. [illegible]on loquor ut incitem, nec im[illegible]ul[illegible]ore, nec lenitore indiges, & calcar, & frenum in potestate habes, sed dolore [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]re non potui. Dolor loquendo auctus, querelā auxit, & ui[illegible] sermo [illegible] [illegible] alime ntū præbuit, & indignatio sermoni, quis enim tr[illegible]qu[illegible]llus hæc uideat, [illegible]latum ius gentium, spreta humanitatis fœdera, in nuncij tui persona. O' immemor honestatis tra[illegible] [illegible]us inter barbaros hostes fuisset nuncius tuus, quàm inter eos, quos & reba[illegible] Lari[illegible]s, & beneuolos merebaris. [illegible]uolant histonas, si modò quicquam præter, quibus i[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] spe[illegible]re queant, inquirant, & mihi respondeant, quæ barbaries legatos u[illegible] [illegible] quam? N[illegible] perrarò nulla præsertim causa incruentem? Tentauit hoc quondam in [illegible] [illegible], fallax, & in[illegible]da Carth[illegible]nensium [illegible]lebs [illegible] prohibita uis est ma[illegible] [illegible]uum [illegible] [illegible] Hanc uim, quæso, quis prob[illegible]uit [illegible] Durior fe[illegible], im[illegible] [illegible] ar[illegible]uit, uel reprehendit? Quanto tu[illegible] nun[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] & leg[illegible] u[illegible] nostris fusis? Quanto intactior iste[illegible] [illegible]iam, c[illegible] [illegible] Mario [illegible] huc uenit, re[illegible] Romanam Eccl[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ert neu[illegible]o. ris [illegible] hostis dolor, tantum p[illegible] [illegible] puer tuus nemor[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] non est uera magnitudo, nec uerum robur posse nocere ad enim nimis atque infirmis

 simis

[illegible]mis animantibus datum est, ma[illegible]do uera est [illegible] runt nocere noc[illegible]m, [illegible] q[illegible]hic mag[illegible] mo uero quid n[illegible] mi[illegible] m[illegible]s est [illegible] q[illegible]ec[illegible]tum ma[illegible]a pe[illegible]m[illegible], [illegible] est. [illegible]c mod[illegible]ne Vir[illegible]es & [illegible]s an[illegible]unt, [illegible] qu[illegible]d aranea po[illegible], nocuerunt [illegible] quod e[illegible] hac imm[illegible] bi po[illegible]ere uolueru[illegible]ec tibi ut tibi [illegible] libertatis ac iustitiæ defensori. Te c[illegible] propter il[illegible]as o[illegible], illas autem propter se, ut quas iniusto, [illegible] contrarias nor[illegible]. [illegible] ad magnitudinem animi tu[illegible] red[illegible]s, horum t[illegible] p[illegible]m simul [illegible]de[illegible]is & contemnes, acria quidem i[illegible]a & acuta, sed p[illegible]ua [illegible] b[illegible]. H[illegible] cum uniuersitate transibunt, & serui tui ultio latebit, [illegible]b Rei[illegible] Va[illegible], & perfice quod cœpisti.

FRAN. PETRARCHA P[illegible] ROMANO S. Epist. III.

Romam Italiæ conti[illegible] an utile?

LAeue est quod nunc animum premit [illegible]terer dum tame[illegible]e neglect[illegible]m obsit, plus enim, quàm pro qua[illegible]tate [illegible]m excitat, & p[illegible]m lice[illegible] [illegible]sex materiam [illegible]ert. Olet nempe [illegible]s a[illegible]tum, profundi, [illegible]iustiq; o[illegible]a [illegible]sum est, ita tibi usum iri cert[illegible]m, & si latiu[illegible] innotescat, totius Pop[illegible] [illegible] Italorū animis, incussurum [illegible]simæ indignationis a[illegible]leos, spero, exc[illegible] g[illegible]aue[illegible]nem torporis, quo nunc priscu[illegible] generosæ indolis [illegible]gor tepet, c[illegible]i ui uel [illegible] [illegible]m orbis celsit, nunc pudor, ultim[illegible] hominum insultant, non inutile opus Re[illegible] [illegible]cess[illegible]it ut opto, breuis scintilla, magnum mouit incendium, uerbum unum, multa[illegible] g[illegible]arum rerum fuit indicium, sed iam res ipsa tractanda est, nec tàm magis exaggeranda [illegible] monibus, qu[illegible]m indignatione legentium. Nuper equidem inter q[illegible]osdam, ex his qui [illegible] dentur sapientes, alijs forte non ita, dubitatum, & in quæsti[illegible]is formam propos[illegible]rum [illegible] Expediret ne terrarum orbi, urbem Romam, & Italiam esse [illegible]nanimes atque pa[illegible]as [illegible] quamuis illa rerum dubitatio, satis puerilis & inepta sit, tamen disputandi studi[illegible] u[illegible] poterat excusari, nisi multis argumentis ultrò, citroq; iactatis, is qui omniū sapient[illegible]mus habebatur, cum plausu & fauore o[illegible]um: nullatenus expedire, uenenata diffinitione [illegible] mas[illegible]t. Quod tu, quæso, uir eloquen[illegible]sime, cùm primum ut soles, in publico perora[illegible]is [illegible] p[illegible]lo Romano meis uerbis indica, ut intelligat, quæ sunt horum procerum, de nos[illegible]a [illegible] t[illegible]er quas, & [illegible]nihil nocent, animos tamen suos, uentosa loquacitate detegunt, dum q[illegible]d de [illegible]o[illegible]is cupi[illegible]nt, tàm uehementer cūpiunt, ut dissimulare non possint, & uoti[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]uum, ac ho[illegible]e propositum tuum, in rationis locum transferre contendunt, cæ[illegible] [illegible]pissima. Sed ip[illegible] qu[illegible]dē, in e[illegible]oribus suis morientur. Nos in manibus Dei sumus fortu[illegible]am [illegible]n quam ipsi uolunt, sed quam ille no[illegible]is præparauerit habituri. Non tamen l[illegible]s [illegible] ment[illegible] [illegible]ersui, contristassem fortass[illegible] al[illegible]quos, neque enim aut ho[illegible]stum, aut mih[illegible] [illegible]le, in t[illegible]m impia loquacitate; silentium fuisset, cæterum ut res ad me perlata est, indi[illegible] grauiter [illegible] tunc inter nostros [illegible]ontra[illegible]ium di[illegible]ui, & nūc, & apud te libertatis nostræ [illegible] cip[illegible]m, [illegible]uantulumcunq; auctoritate diffinio. Teq; ante alios & Romanum po[illegible]u[illegible] u[illegible]uersa[illegible]talliam, ut quod e[illegible]o uerb[illegible]s asse[illegible]o, rebus approberis, per omnes cœlicolas [illegible] pl[illegible]x oro, [illegible] ut in statu prospero di[illegible]uiuas, & Remp. fortiter liberatam, fœliciter re[illegible]as opto.

FRA[illegible]. PET[illegible]ARCHA [illegible]O ROMANO S. Epist. IIII.

Libertatem [illegible]em a[illegible]rem, ut tueatur, & inn[illegible]xium defendat, hortatur.

APud te [illegible]idem [illegible] e[illegible]orbisq; terrarum Popule meus, ap[illegible]d t[illegible] c[illegible] [illegible]is, r[illegible] ma[illegible]atia [illegible]and[illegible] e[illegible]eritte [illegible]mos, [illegible]u[illegible]so, obtestorq; u[illegible]s V[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ia c[illegible]a[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible] m[illegible]ec [illegible]lum magna, sed maxima, [illegible] [illegible] re[illegible]te [illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] expect[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]eimax[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] uester n[illegible] [illegible]en[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] au[illegible] de[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] orbis terrar[illegible] & [illegible] magistros, [illegible] facultas, [illegible]cip[illegible] non.

non indignus hæc perpeti, qui [illegible] fuisq;, ut ita [illegible], manibus plantatam, & [illegible] [illegible] Romæ in [illegible] flore destitit. At mini me di[illegible] [illegible] les, & [illegible] exempt[illegible] non m[illegible] [illegible] sed multa quoq; [illegible] laude uirtutis [illegible] quorum [illegible] Ne enim causam ignoret [illegible] illustres, q[illegible] & re[illegible] nec c[illegible] [illegible] er opprimatur, rem nescio an [illegible] am, sed [illegible] mirabile, [illegible] dignum a[illegible]. Non ille quidem neglectæ, sed [illegible] ertatis ar[illegible] ur. Nec de[illegible] d [illegible] reus est. Illud sibi summũ, & cruci[illegible] expiandum [illegible] [illegible] Romanum imperium, nunc etiam Romæ & [illegible] P. R. esse. [illegible] [illegible] truculentam inuidiam, O maleuolentiam inauditam. [illegible] nunc insal[illegible] [illegible] orrupte rerum arbiter CHRISTE, quid agis? Vbi sunt oculi tui, qu[illegible] [illegible] arum nebulas serenare solitus es? Cur illos aduertis? Cur n[illegible] ne, [illegible] dirimis sceleratam? Et si non meremur, aspice in nos, & miserere no[illegible] inimicos nostros, nec minus tuos, quoniam multiplicati sunt, & odio iniq[illegible] oderun[illegible] nec [illegible] te. Discerne quæsumus, inter partes, omni ex parte dissimiles. Denique de [illegible] tuo [illegible] m nostrum prodeat, ocul[illegible] tui [illegible] nt æquitatem. Certe si iugo Rom[illegible] no[illegible] [illegible] iustissimum, atq; suauissimum [illegible] aliqua gens, imo uero gens omnis, [illegible] [illegible] colla subducere, nihil est quod indig[illegible] emur, aut miremur. Est enim an[illegible] [illegible] atis in[illegible] itus appetitus, sæpè etiam [illegible] sultus ac præceps, & [illegible] pe dum [illegible] [illegible] pudor uetat, qui bene subessent male p[illegible] dent, sic omnia miscentur, atque [illegible] [illegible] nde nonnunquam in loco digni imperij [illegible] indignum, & in loco [illegible] [illegible] iustum [illegible] uidemus. Quod nisi ita e[illegible], meliori loco essent res huma[illegible] [illegible] ic incolumi capite, mundus integrior, id si mihi non creditur, experien[illegible] cre[illegible] [illegible] do unquam tanta pax tanta tranquillitas, tanta iustitia, tantus uirtutis honor, tanta bo[illegible] præmia, tanta malis supplicia, tam bene consultum rebus, quàm postquàm [illegible] [illegible] orbis habuit, caput[illegible] ipsum Roma fuit? Quo potissimũ tempore, amator pacis ac [illegible] na[illegible] Deus ex uirgine, terrasq; uisitare dignatus est. Singula quidem singulis corporib. [illegible] [illegible] capite, & orbis uniuersus, cui à Poëta magni corporis nomẽ ascribitur, uno tempor[illegible] capite debet esse cõtentus. Monstruosum est enim omne animal biceps, quantò magis [illegible] [illegible] endum, & immane prodigium est, animal mille capitum diuersorum, seseq; mordentium, [illegible] cemq; pugnantium? Quod si capita plura sint, [illegible] tamen, quod cuncta compescat, atq; omnib. præsit, esse debere non ambigitur, ut totius corporis pax inconcussa perman[illegible] Certè quod experimentis innumeris, & doctissimorum hominum auctoritate deprehen[illegible] [illegible] & in cœlo, & in terra, optima semper fuit unitas principatus. Id sanè supremum ca[illegible] [illegible] se Deus omnipotens, nõ aliud esse quàm Romam, multiplicibus declarau[illegible] [illegible] cijs, quam belli, pacisq; gl[illegible] ia, quamq; mirabilem sine exemplo uirtutis, tanta præeminen[illegible] tia di[illegible] am fecit, quæ quamuis ita sint, adhuc tamen si humaniore animi, malo suo quo[illegible] tidie [illegible] udentis, aliqua gens, ut dixi, damnosam & ambiguam libertatem, quàm tuta[illegible] & sa[illegible] lutare publicæ ma[illegible] [illegible] mallet amplecti, posset insolentiæ, uel [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ud uerò, quis ino[illegible] sis auribus accipiat, inter homines doctos quæri. An Romanum [illegible] rium Romæ sit? Ergo apud Parthos, Persasq; & Medos, Parthorum, Persarum, & Medorum regna con[illegible] cent, Romanum imperium uagum erit? Quis hanc indig[illegible] [illegible] machus ferat? Quis non potius euomat, penitusq; reijciat, si imperium Romanum Ro[illegible] non est, ubi quæso est? Nempè si alibi est, iam Romanorum imperium non est, sed eor[illegible] [illegible] es quos il[illegible] d uolubilis fortuna deposuit. Et si enim sæpè Romani Imperatores [illegible] [illegible] tate Reip. in orientis, aut occidentis extremo, sæpè sub Borea, uel Au[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] rent, Romanum tamen interim imperium Romæ erat, & de Rom[illegible] impe[illegible] [illegible] o uel pr[illegible] o, uel supplicio digni essent, Roma [illegible] ebat. De Capito[illegible] pet[illegible] [illegible] randus, quis ple[illegible] d[illegible] s, quis Vrbem p[illegible] s ouans, q[illegible] [illegible] quinent post Iul. [illegible] tyrannidem seu d[illegible] ere malumus M[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] nquam iam [illegible] concil[illegible] adhuc tame[illegible] P. Q. [illegible] en [illegible] m est, & [illegible] uel denegata licentia, [illegible] [illegible] Im[illegible] ratoi [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ate imper[illegible] ecred[illegible] du[illegible] est Mato, ubi [illegible]

[illegible] p[illegible] abest.

Neq; enim h[illegible]c dicens, cent[illegible] mi le annor[illegible] m[illegible]rtalem illis [illegible] o[illegible] de[illegible]at. [illegible] m[illegible] x b[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] is au[illegible] g[illegible] unt, d[illegible] ne opu[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] ro ab Au[illegible] o rep[illegible]ehe[illegible] m[illegible] non iniu[illegible]e, sed [illegible] dem mox [illegible] im[illegible] [illegible] aloqu[illegible] e[illegible] e[illegible] o[illegible] is l[illegible] e[illegible] ere[illegible] cal

R[illegible] exc[illegible] M[illegible] ia c[illegible]
M[illegible] ta, Romanos[illegible] n[illegible] ducet.

[illegible] gini perpet[illegible] m adijciens[illegible]:

H[illegible] nec met[illegible] s rerum[illegible] tempora pono
I[illegible] p[illegible] ium sine fine dedi.

[illegible] non immeritò quidem notat Augu[illegible]nus. Quomodo enim im[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] nihil unq[illegible] iam dedit, aut dare potuit, nisi quòd homo sceleratus, [illegible] mortal[illegible] fa[illegible] [illegible] tatis opinione, non ornatus, sed oneratus & o[illegible]pressus? Præterea aute[illegible] qu[illegible]s imperium Romanum ded[illegible]t, (quod non de[illegible]e ce[illegible]tu[illegible]m est, ni[illegible] omnipotētem De[illegible]m, cuius in cœlo, & in terra imperium unum est, [illegible] de imperia cuncta descendunt) u[illegible] tamen hoc imperium sit quærit Augustinus: in ter[illegible] cœlo. Et utiq; inquit in te[illegible] e[illegible] et in cœlo, cœlum & terra transient, tran[illegible]e[illegible] ipse fecit D[illegible]s, quantò cit[illegible]n [illegible] it Romulus? Hæc Augustinus in Vir[illegible]m. Et certè perspicuum e[illegible], regna[illegible] [illegible]icquid usquam clarum, aut magnific[illegible]m oculis nostris apparet, & [illegible] antè non ruerin[illegible] [illegible]tem ruitura esse, dum cœlum & terra mouebuntur: Illo concutiente qui creauit, [illegible] [illegible]m, nouamq; terram fa[illegible]t, non mentiturus, ut Iuppiter, c[illegible]m ipse sit ue[illegible] [illegible]us [illegible] illud regnum, principio carens, & fine cariturum, de quo scriptum e[illegible]: Et re[illegible] ei[illegible] non erit finis, quòd licet fortè Virgilius ignoraret, cui Deus ingenium excell[illegible]ns, e[illegible] q[illegible]mq; pr[illegible]stiterat, uerum hæc à sapientibus abscondita, & par[illegible]is reuelanda [illegible] rat, i[illegible]ud certe non ignorabat, peritura esse omnia regna, quæ in[illegible] abu[illegible]ssent. I[illegible] igitur cautela usus est, siquidem ubi immortalitatem Rom[illegible]o po[illegible]icebatur imperio, n[illegible] ipse loquebatur ex persona propria, sed Iouem loquentem inducebat, ut mendacis D[illegible], mendax oraculum esset & falsa promissio. Ipse autem ad gratiam P. R. alie[illegible]o me[illegible] cio utebatur, at alibi, quando ex persona sua loqui uoluit, ueritatem ipsam idem P[illegible] non tacuit:

At enim res Romanæ, perituraq; regna.

Quis nō clarè uideat, inter imperi[illegible]ne fine, perituraq; regna, quid intersit? Sed h[illegible] gi[illegible]s, ibi Iuppiter loquebatur, hic homo ingeniosus, ibi falsus Deus, alijs quidem ue[illegible] sed hac planè sententia Virgilium accusat, & excusat Augustinus, secundum quam in[illegible] go quæ dixi, & quæ dicam. Certè Romanus erat, ille qui scripsit. Omnia orta occid[illegible] aucta senescunt. Senescent ergo hæc omnia, si durent, & si cuiusq; rei [illegible]nis est senect[illegible]a, utique omnia senescent, nisi iam fortè senuerint, quando & quæ stant, cuncta occi[illegible]en[illegible] & occasum si non præuenerit, saltem comitabitur senectus. Ita nulla est exceptio, seu d[illegible]e[illegible] seu non durent, orta omnia, aut serius, aut ocyus tandem occident, & senescent. V[illegible] m[illegible] continuo, rotam suam instabilis fortuna, & de gente in gentem uolubi[illegible]ia regna[illegible] [illegible]. Faciet illa cum uolet reg[illegible] ex seruis, seruos ex regibus, & in urbem Romam, & in[illegible] bem Romanum, suam ineluctabilem potentiam exercebit. Quam præcipuè in uos V[illegible] optimi multis fortè n[illegible]erantibus, nullo penitùs succurrente, d[illegible]ù misc[illegible]ab[illegible]libus modis ex[illegible] [illegible]t & exe[illegible]cet. Scio, d[illegible]leo q; & plus quam credi possit indignor, quid amplius fac[illegible]am n[illegible]n ha[illegible]eo. Nec me angit, quod fortuna iure suo utitur, ut in reliquis, sic in uobis, atque ut se[illegible]e- rum humanaru[illegible] lanè dominam probet, ipsum rerum caput attingere non ueretur [illegible]o [illegible]le[illegible]a[illegible]ab[illegible]les mores n[illegible], quarundam uero indomitarum gen[illegible]m in[illegible]ne[illegible]a[illegible] riam [illegible] uatum nunc Romano trita iugo co[illegible]a lasciuiunt, ita pudor & [illegible] x[illegible]a[illegible] la iam [illegible] cæte[illegible] multa [illegible] gr[illegible]a [illegible]leam) in quæst[illegible]nem uenit. An Romanum [illegible]e- [illegible] R[illegible]mæ [illegible] uero u[illegible] n[illegible] h[illegible]a [illegible]a e[illegible], po[illegible]nt re[illegible]a [illegible]a c[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]tia sunt au[illegible] o rutila [illegible]e [illegible], poterunt c[illegible]pidi [illegible] s pa[illegible] n[illegible] e[illegible]m, ua[illegible]is pa[illegible]tor in[illegible]ere n[illegible]n de[illegible]ra [illegible]o fortunæ [illegible] pe[illegible]m potest [illegible] d[illegible]s, ut [illegible] s, [illegible]c e[illegible] am [illegible], ru[illegible]a[illegible] er[illegible] m[illegible]na e[illegible] p[illegible]e[illegible] po[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] mæ [illegible] en[illegible] c[illegible]le [illegible] e[illegible] m [illegible] m[illegible] ab[illegible] ma[illegible]e, [illegible] a[illegible] c[illegible]

unde in discrimen capitis adducitur, adsit autem, se id [illegible] rum consilio sapientum dixisse [illegible] mentitur, & defen[illegible] quam, aduocat[illegible] sibi dari flagitat. Negatur, & nisi [illegible] a, uesterq; fauor occurrerit, actum est, [illegible] cens, in defen[illegible]q; damna[illegible] [illegible] pars magna compat[illegible] nemo fere est [illegible] misercatur, præter eos, [illegible] p[illegible]um erat misereri, & parcere e[illegible]ribus non [illegible] dere uirtutibus. Iurisconsulti [illegible] [illegible] tiam non desunt, qui iure ciuili asserant ha[illegible] [illegible] m senten[illegible] m probari clar[illegible] [illegible] t qui ex historijs, se m[illegible] a & ual[illegible] aturos dic[illegible] t, ad eiusdem senten[illegible] mo[illegible] liberā uocem liceat emittere. N[illegible] mē nemo [illegible] qui mutire audeat, p[illegible] n angulis, in tenebris, in timore. Ego ipse, qui uobis hæc scribo & fortè pro ue[illegible] u[illegible] mori, si mea mors collatura aliquid Reip. uideatur, n[illegible]nc taceo, [illegible]q; his [illegible] p[illegible] meum nomen adijcio, stylum ipsum sufficere arbit[illegible], hoc a[illegible] iecto, ci[illegible] um e[illegible] e, qui loquitur. quòd si tuto in loco, apud æquum i[illegible]icem, & n[illegible] ad cr[illegible] n[illegible] ium res agatur, spero ueritate animum illustrante, & linguam, seu calamum d[illegible] [illegible], posse aliquid dicere, quo [illegible] e[illegible] arius appareat, Imperium Romanum, q[illegible] qu[illegible] æ i[illegible]iuria at[illegible] itum, oppre[illegible] diù, & qua[illegible] quam uarie ab Hispanis, A[illegible], Græc[illegible] al[illegible]s, Teutonis occupatum, a[illegible] tamen quantulumcunq; est, Romæ e[illegible] non al[illegible] mansurum, & si nihil prorsus ex tanta urbe, prǽter nudum saxum Cap[illegible] p[illegible] in etiam tunc, quando nondum externis manibus agebamur, tantumq; R[illegible] [illegible] mperitabant, non penes eos, sed penes Capitolij arcem, ac Pop[illegible] Romanu[illegible] om[illegible] imperij fuisse, si uerum est, quod malæ fi[illegible] possessor, ullo tempore non præ[illegible] [illegible] In hoc autem rerum statu, dum dies trahitur, qu[illegible] fortè desuper datum est, ut q[illegible] [illegible] ec sperare quidem auderetis, tanta res in lucem ueniat, unum quod ad uestram, & Romanī nom[illegible] dignitatem spectare uisum est, dissimulare non potui, cogente me ad cal[illegible] [illegible] de illa, qua nos [illegible]rbemq; uest.am, inter omnes singulari quodam amore, ac uenera[illegible] ne complector. Claritatem igitur uestram hortor, atq; obsecro, ne ciuem uestrum in ex[illegible] [illegible] is positum deseratis, sed [illegible] trum esse monstretis, solennibus eum nuncijs reposce[illegible] tes; [illegible] enim uobis imperij titulu[illegible] nitantur eripere, nondum t[illegible] men eò uesaniæ sunt e[illegible] ut negare audeant, uos in uestros ciues ius habere. Certe si quid homo iste peccau[illegible] Romæ pec[illegible] auit, nec dubitari potest, de commissis Romæ peccatis, uestrum esse iudicium, nisi [illegible] bis fundatoribus legum atq; cultoribus, & qui iura [illegible] entibus tradidistis, eripitur ius commune. Vbi enim iustius delicta castiges, quàm ubi co[illegible] missa sunt: Vbi scilicet & lo[illegible] us ipse memoriam criminis renouans, sceleratis pars non parua supplicij, & scelerum spectatores, p[illegible]e spectaculum, aut soletur, aut terreat. Quòd si fortè Trib. uester, quoniam multi, quin p[illegible] us boni omnes ita sentiunt, nō supplicio, sed præmio dignus est, ubi nam melius, q[illegible] d me[illegible] r accipiet, quam ubi fecit propter quod talia meretur: Nusquam di[illegible] nius præm[illegible] um uir [illegible] o[illegible] tis exoluitur, quàm ubi fortiter gessit, ut qui actum uiderint, ad imitandum præmio ac[illegible] en dantur. Fidenter itaque reposcite Ciuem uestrum, nihil nouum, nihil iniustum po[illegible] sc[illegible], potiusq; delinquitis [illegible] tacetis. Quod si communis iure patriæ, ubi nunc captus e[illegible] [illegible] uendus assentur, quanto uerius communis patria Roma est, ubi il[illegible]e natus, edu[illegible] atusq; est, ubi quicquid id est unde accusatur, admisit, qui contrà nihil hic uel laude, uel uituperio dignum fecit, si uerò contra morem maiorum, cum fortuna ceciderunt animi, adeoq; de[illegible] ne ta[illegible] m est, ut iustitiam poscere temeritas uideatur, his quorum patribus, nihil oli[illegible] d[illegible] e u[illegible] um est, at saltem quòd ab omni, quæ legibus uiuat barbarie posci potest, poscite, ut [illegible] iu[illegible] uestro audientia publica, & defensionis legitimæ non negetur copia. Neúe qui in luce fecit om[illegible] ia [illegible] mò qui quantum per hominem fieri poterat, lucem mūdo reddidit [illegible] in tene[illegible] ris [illegible] e[illegible]. Ostendite uos denique causam ac fortunam non negli[illegible] ere C[illegible] u[illegible], e[illegible] te[illegible] r[illegible], prohibete nephas, protegite innocentem, reum uel nocentem [illegible] di[illegible] ate, a[illegible] altem, ne [illegible] ro cuiusquam libidine iudicetur occurrite. Ferte quàm potestis, & quàm de[illegible] s [illegible] b. uel si id nomen euanuit, Ciui uestro, multa de Rep. benemerito, atq; illud [illegible] [illegible] d quæ[illegible] onem magnam atq; [illegible] tilem mu[illegible] n[illegible], [illegible] s sopitam, ac sepultam sæc[illegible]; [illegible] quæ una ad reformationem status pub[illegible], atque ad aurei sæculi [illegible] m uia e[illegible] [illegible] uir[illegible] neque contempseritis salutem eius qui pro uestra salute [illegible] sese m[illegible] e p[illegible] [illegible] obiecit inuidiæ, [illegible] p[illegible] situm atque animum co[illegible] itate, & me[illegible] [illegible] at[illegible] s uestræ fuerat [illegible] m repe[illegible] u[illegible] s uiri[illegible] atq; [illegible] ere qu[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] ma[illegible] nt[illegible] m, sed Italia omnis erecta est [illegible] nome[illegible] Ital[illegible] [illegible] ata ac detersa Romana gloria, quantus [illegible] um metus ac dolor quan-

tum gau[illegible]m, qua[illegible] populorum ex[illegible] q[illegible]m immutat[illegible] [illegible]am fa[illegible] m d[illegible] habitus an[illegible] [illegible]am [illegible]m re[illegible]. [illegible] non amp[illegible], frena [illegible] tenuit [illegible] origine mundi, ma[illegible] tatum rear, & si successisset ut cœperat, diuinum potius quam humanum opus [illegible] tur. Et profecto, qui[illegible] ab homi[illegible] agitur, di[illegible]um opus est. Hu[illegible] stræ gloriæ, non am[illegible] prop[illegible] n[illegible] labor haud dubius d[illegible] tu fortuna culpanda e[illegible] quis autem [illegible] por ferire [illegible] principio interuenit [illegible] tati atque imbecillitati uestram dare, & dum licet uindicate Ciuem uestr[illegible] Græ[illegible] Macedon[illegible], Sic[illegible] à Carthaginensibus, Campanos a Sam[illegible] sorum [illegible], non sine [illegible] uestro per[illegible] uindicastis. Extenua[illegible] stræ, at nunquam plus animorum patribus uestris fuit, quam dum Romana pa[illegible] ues ui[illegible]m u[illegible]it. Imminuta uestra potentia est non [illegible], sed mihi credite, [illegible] sini sanguinis gutta si perest, [illegible] parua uo[illegible] iesta[illegible] neque me[illegible] au[illegible] dete aliquid, adiuro uos memoriam rerum [illegible]um, per maio[illegible]m c[illegible]eres, ac g[illegible] per nomen imperij, per misericordiam IESV CHRISTI, qui dilig[illegible] proximum, [illegible] [illegible]t a[illegible]ictis. Audete, oro, aliquid, præsertim cuius & honesta petitio, & inh[illegible] [illegible]pe[illegible]lent[illegible] est, & si non [illegible]ter illius salutem, at propter uestrum decus. A[illegible] quid, si multi esse aliqui[illegible]l mi[illegible]us Romanũ est, quàm timor. Prædico autem uobis [illegible] etis, si uos ip[illegible]os cõtemn[illegible]s, mu[illegible] uos quoque cõtemnent, metuet nullus, sin spe[illegible] de cœp[illegible], longè, lateque metue[illegible]ni, quòd cum sæpè olim, tum nuper a[illegible]paruit, [illegible]o Remp. g[illegible]bernante, de quo loqu[illegible]. Aperite tantùm unanimiter ora uestra, sc[illegible]t m[illegible]d[illegible], unam esse uocem P. R. nemo [illegible]quam illam inuidebit, aut spernet, nemo nõ uenera[illegible]itur, a[illegible] timeb[illegible]t. Reposcite modò captiuum hunc, uel iustitiam poscite, alterum non negabitur. [illegible] qui parua quondam legatione, regem Aegyptiam, sub obsidione Syriaca liberastis, nunc ci[illegible]uem uestrum, ab indignis carceribus liberate, & ualete.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO, S. Epist. IIII.

Quod in Gall[illegible] moram trahere cogatur, dolet.

GEminus mihi Parnassus, alter in Italia est, alter in Gallijs, qualis qualis exu[illegible] late Pyeridum duplex domus: In Ausonio Helicone fœlicior fui:

dum fata, Deusque sinebant:

ut apud Maronem illa miserabilis amans ait, si tamen amans miserabilis, & n[illegible] dicitis[illegible], ac const[illegible]ntissima mulier fuit Dido, nunc me Gallicus orbis habet, & occi[illegible]e[illegible] lis B[illegible]by[illegible]on, qua nihil informi[illegible]s sol uidet, & ferox Rhodanus æstuanti Cocyto, uel ta[illegible]a- teo simillimus Acheronti, ubi piscatorum inops quondam regnat hæreditas, mirum in[illegible]o dum oblita principij, stupor est memorare illos, hos cernere auro onustos, & purpura, [illegible] perbos principum, ac gentium spolijs uidere pro inuersis ratibus, luxuriosa palatia, & [illegible] nibus clausos montes, pro retib[illegible] p[illegible]ruis, quibus olim in æstu Galilæo, uict[illegible] [illegible]x[illegible] quærebatur, quibus in lagno Genezareth tota nocte laborantes, nihil cœperant. Mane autem facto, capta est in nomine IESV ingens piscium multitudo, audite nunc mendaces linguas, spectare mem[illegible]s uerò uacu[illegible]s, & pendentes plumbul[illegible] uersas in retia, quib[illegible]s in [illegible]c eadem, sed in o[illegible]cribus Belial, credula Christianorum turba concl[illegible], ut m[illegible]x [illegible]ami[illegible] exuta, curarum flammis, & de[illegible]latorijs carbonibus exuatur, auari uentris exp[illegible] tura [illegible]o[illegible]em Cern[illegible]e pro[illegible] ancta solitudine, frequentiam scelcratam, & circumfus[illegible]sa[illegible]es fate[illegible]m pe[illegible], pro sobrijs uol[illegible]ptuosa conuiuia, pro peregrinationibus p[illegible]oc[illegible] [illegible]ium [illegible]m, [illegible]œ[illegible]u[illegible]n, pro nudis pe[illegible]ibus Apostolorum ni[illegible]eos, fur[illegible]m u[illegible]r[illegible]co- [illegible]edes auro instratos, auro tectos, aurum mand[illegible]te[illegible], auro denique propediem, ni[illegible] do- nus seruilem [illegible]m co[illegible]ceat calciand[illegible] Q[illegible] multa. Persarum aut Parth[illegible]um [illegible] [illegible]porte[illegible] fa[illegible]a[illegible], [illegible]ere nephas sit. O[illegible]rsuti, [illegible] [illegible] ab [illegible]um [illegible] quibus s[illegible] [illegible]m e[illegible]m[illegible]o a[illegible]m[illegible]æc. His [illegible] nunc in lo[illegible]is misera[illegible] mi[illegible] [illegible]d[illegible] fe[illegible]c[illegible]ert[illegible]op[illegible]n non meren[illegible]e[illegible]c[illegible] [illegible]u[illegible]t p[illegible])ad[illegible] [illegible]sum, ut iam [illegible] morbo animi, [illegible]

[illegible] es, ac [illegible] possim. Itaq; [illegible], quæ in animo efferat, dicere [illegible] tunc stomachus [illegible], nil ex me hodie placidum speres. Non potest ex [illegible] riuus erumpere. Natura fert, ut exulcerati pectoris in festa suspitia, [illegible] sint acria.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO S. Epist. V.

Malignitatem temporum suorum deflet.

S[illegible] spationes licuisset, nunquam aliàs tam iusta scribendi simul & indignan[illegible] flendi, materia data esset, quid uis dicam? Piget incœpisse, sed & desine[illegible]dem pudet, itaque quamuis aduerso sydere, postquàm tamen (ut aiunt) boues [illegible] fugum misi, hæc mihi breuis papyrus exaranda est:

Omne in præcipiti uitium stetit, inquit Satyricus,

O simplex, ætatem nostram certè non uideras, nunc in præcipiti uitia substiterunt, ut ia[illegible] [illegible] ruina transiri ulteriùs non possit, intempestiue igitur alienā querelam, in [illegible] [illegible]nstulisti. Quicquid historicorum labor, quicquid tragœdiarum gemitus, in no[illegible] [illegible] notitiam, minus fuit, quàm quod oculis uidemus. Quòd apud illos cothu[illegible] [illegible] scelus erat, apud nos iam ueniale peccatum est. Iratus est mundo Deus, ne [illegible] patientiam potius taniam mito. Temporibus illis iocabatur fortuna, nunc sæ[illegible] [illegible] precor, redde Domitianum, apertior quidem persecutio, sed leuior erit [illegible]or. Liceat pretio modici sanguinis mercari cœlum, & ad gloriam martyrio peruen[illegible] latenti tabe consumimur, non uita præripitur, sed uirtus, nec benè uiuere sinimur, nec hon[illegible] ste mori. Sentio, redijt ab inferis Iulianus, eoq; funestior, quod nouum nomen a[illegible] [illegible]mum eruat antiquum, & hostile propositum amicitiæ uelo tegit; signa nostra sequen[illegible] tes prodimur, nostrisq; [illegible] auspicijs imus in pernitiem, & nisi se CHRISTVS iterum uin[illegible] dicet, actum est. Heu, nimi[illegible] lecte mihi, quid putas, quid æstimas, quid censes, quid m[illegible] animi suspicaris? Mir[illegible] contra naturam meam croceus sum, siquidem to[illegible] ef[illegible] fuso felle sum cholera, non autem metus, non reuerentia, non amor, nō ueritati indicta su[illegible] p[illegible]cia, præmia mendacio impediunt apertè loqui quæ sentio, sed occupatio, sedita, sed d[illegible]lor animi, sed luctus, hostes ingenij. Ego utinam stylus par materiæ, rebusq; meis expl[illegible] ociosæ uitæ spatium detur, profectò impetus, ardorq; non deerunt. Non fabulas agam, [illegible] fabulis sint hæc similiora quàm ueto, dicam monstra, quæ uidi, quæ audiuisti, quibus [illegible] ctos oculos atq; aures habeo. Non simplex insania, non unus furens Hercules, non [illegible] Thyestis cœna, non unus monstruosus fœtus, concubitusq;, non una discordia inter [illegible] [illegible]res, non unus innocentis osor ac mactator coniugis, matrisq;, non una profu[illegible] rentis impietas ac libido. Deniq; non unum Ilion euersum, non unus iniqui patris [illegible] [illegible]ptus Hippolytus, sed totus orbis euersus ac lacer, quæ ab alijs undiq; studio con[illegible] [illegible]r, hic passim in unum occursant. Putas'ne Tragico carmini deesse subiectum? Cæteri singulorum fortunas ac singula scelera cecinere, mihi inaudita portenta, quorum nul[illegible] [illegible] numerus, mihi totius humani generis cantanda, seu potius deflenda calamitas, seru[illegible] [illegible]a, ludi[illegible]catio & mors: uerissima quoq; texetur historia, sed flebilis & horren[illegible] [illegible]tei libri ab annalibus dissentient, nulla inter Polybium & Claudium, & Lucinium, [illegible] Valerium Antiatem, nulla inter Salustium & Liuium, nulla inter Herodotum & [illegible]ucydi[illegible]dem lis erit: Vero omnia consonant (inquit) Aristoteles. Ego scribam, ueritas dictabi[illegible] [illegible]manum genus omne testabitur, iudex erit posteritas, nisi fortè tuis malis opp[illegible] [illegible] intendere non potes. Tibi interim amice, si te noui, ex his paucis, omnia non m[illegible] [illegible] sed quæ meditor clara sunt, nec Tragœdia tibi alia, nec historia opus est. Vale & te [illegible] [illegible]o, quod hinc abes.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO, S. Epist. VI.

Calamitatem temporum deplorat, Deumq; pro uindicta orat.

D[illegible]m [illegible] grau[illegible]imumq; sermonem re[illegible] q[illegible]em m[illegible] ante re[illegible] [illegible] templi fores, nudiustertius [illegible], con[illegible] acriter & ita [illegible] ut [illegible] penetralibus emissum pu[illegible], & Deum m[illegible] uideat a[illegible] disse [illegible] pr[illegible]ferte[illegible] c[illegible] ac r[illegible] Reip: [illegible], adeoq; profunde digitos e[illegible] qui tu in uulnera [illegible] di[illegible]e uisu[illegible] ras ut

 quotiens

quotiens uerborum tuorum [illegible] memoria [illegible] carum redit [illegible] animum, mœrore oculos re[illegible], & cor meum [illegible] quebat [illegible] dum meminit, dum cogitat [illegible] prouidet refo[illegible] in lacrymas [illegible] sed uiriles, se[illegible] masculas [illegible] dec[illegible] aliquid a[illegible] patrocinium erupturas. [illegible] igit[illegible] tecum sum, sæpe subit desp[illegible] sæpe spes, sæpe autem inter utramque [illegible] mecum dico: O [illegible] quam, o si in die[illegible] us me [illegible] o si tam [illegible] operis [illegible] sim particeps. D[illegible] crebrò ad eum, quem in d[illegible] crucifixum habeo, [illegible] ce, atque oculis humentibus exclamo, [illegible] bone, & nimium mansuete, quid [illegible] ge, quare obdormis: exurge & ne repellas in finem, quare faciem tuam auer[illegible] inopiæ nostræ, & tribulationis nostræ, protector noster aspice Deus [illegible] quid [illegible] unde, quæue sub clypeo tui nominis ab hostibus tuis fiunt, uide & uindica. Si m[illegible] te, priusquam mortiferi uis ueneni uitalia membra corripiat, & extremis malor[illegible] mur molibus. Quid agis in te sperantium salus? Quid saluator cogitas, quid hæres, quam diù oculos auertis, quamdiu nostris non tangeris miserijs, quamdiu nullum tantis l[illegible] modum pones? an mala nostra non uides, quem nec cœli ambitus, nec abyssi pro[illegible] fallit, nec stillæ Oceani, nec syluarum folia, nec arenæ maris, nec stellarum num[illegible] nec animantium multitudo, nec herbarum uarietas? An odio tibi sumus, quos usque adeo amare consueueras, ut nostri amore uictus, cœli regnator Deus, in terram descenderes, atque homo moriturus ascenderes in crucem? An fortè uides & diligis, sed retrahit impotentia succurrendi. At si non es omnipotens, quid speramus? An terret uis hostium tuorum? Sed nondum puto seculi nostri superbia, fecit homines Deo pares. An potiùs misericordia iudicium frenat? Sed uide iudex infallibilis, uide ne dum paucis parcis, perdas innumeros, & pietas sceleratis exhibita sit crudelitas bonis, innoxijsque pernities. Sed quid loquor homuncio, quis ego sum, qui tecum litigem? Tibi nos ac nostra committimus, de nobis tu uideris qui creasti, memor imbecillitatem nostram, diutiùs sub tan[illegible] ærumnarum cumulo non posse subsistere. Itaque fer opem opportunam, dum adhuc q[illegible] quam reliqui est, ne [illegible] perire permiseris, suscitare habeas, quos saluare potueris. Adesto [illegible] es nostra, & quod quotidie iteramus: In adiutorium nostrum intende ac festina, & uel tot mundi mala, uel mundum ipsum finias, precamur.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO, S. Epist. VII.

De inamœno occiduæ Babylonis statu.

Si quicquid animus meus fert, de huius occiduæ Babylonis statu, cuius fato seu [illegible] rius peccato meo, inuitus totiens ciuis fio, uelim stylo committere, uereor Pater, ne & dolorem meum lamentis exaggerem, & sanctissimas curas tuas, occupationesque pulcherrimas, intempestiuis, & inutilibus querimonijs interpellem. In summa scito, non modò hunc, sed ne Ciceronianum quidem calamum rebus parem. Quicquid de Assyria, uel Aegyptia Babylone, quicquid de quatuor Labyrinthis, quicquid den[illegible]que de Auerni limine, deque Tartareis syluis, sulphureisque paludibus legisti, huic tartaro admotum, fabula est. Hic turrificus simul atque terrificus Nemroth, hic pharetra Semiramis, hic inexorabilis Minos, hic Rhadamantus, hic Cerberus uniuersa consumens, hic Tauro supposita Pasiphae, mixtumque genus (quòd Maro ait) prolesque biformis Minotaurus inest, Veneris monimenta nefandæ, hic postremo quicquid confusum, quicquid atrum, quicquid hor[illegible] usquam est, aut fingitur, aspicias o semper uirtutibus tuis fœlix, nunc absentia etiam fœlicior tua. Putas'ne ciuitatem hanc esse quàm uidisti? Longè alia est, longeque dissimilis. Fuit illa equidem omnium pessima, eaque tempestate fœdissima, hæc uerò, non iam [illegible] sed laruarum, ac lemurum domus est, & ut breuiter dicam, scelerum atque dedecorum omnium sentina, atque ille uiuentium infernus, tanto ante Dauidico ore notatus, quàm [illegible] datus, aut cognitus. Ah quotiens redit ad memoriam illa tua penitùs paterna uox, & [illegible] admonitio, dum digressum paranti diceres: Quò abis? Quid mo[illegible]? Q[illegible] memorem trahit ambitio? nescis quid petis? quid relinquis? an sci[illegible] ad[illegible] ignum te la[illegible] rem ua[illegible] Vnde, [illegible] so, acrior quid agas? quò properes? [illegible] bene mihi n[illegible] es [illegible] curis laqueo expertus [illegible] no[illegible] poteris cum uoces. Hæc & his [illegible] resp[illegible] derem [illegible]

era,

[illegible] me charitate uictu[illegible] as ad m[illegible] erti. Dicebam hæc nec [illegible] [illegible] commo[illegible] [illegible] eat inc[illegible]um. [illegible] probati conf[illegible] [illegible] beo, [illegible] ctenus no[illegible] non pa[illegible] ed parebo me[illegible]us, si un[illegible] [illegible], quod CHRISTO dext[illegible] desp[illegible]ero, & quod summ[illegible] [illegible] r. Hæc tibi Pater, ne an[illegible] [illegible]tem p[illegible] [illegible] pe enim & inde [illegible], uelle quod mox nolit.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AM[ICO, S. Epist. VII.]

De generibus persecutio[num], qu[as] nolentes, aut uolentes pat[i]mur.

P[ersecu]tionum duo sunt genera, hoc nolentes patimur, hoc uolentes, [illegible] inuenerit, & profecto persecutiones innumer[æ] sunt, quas [illegible] [illegible] tamen ad uolentam, ac uoluntariam restringu[n]tur. P[illegible] [illegible]m nolentes exilium, paupertatem rapinas, morbos, carcerem, seruitutem, igno[illegible] [illegible]ncula, supplicia, secures, gladios & mortem. Volentes uitiorū iugo premimur, [illegible] metu, uel turpi segnitie, uel infami patiētia, uel uilis lucri spe, ui[illegible] [illegible] imperio paremus. Exempla pos[illegible] quibus quid uelim uides, & [illegible] [illegible]em primum multis, hoc mihi nouissimum grauius uidetur, ubi scilicet [illegible] in[illegible]a est, & est sine commiseratione calamitas. Hoc persecutionis fasce, [illegible] [illegible] pirat Italia tum demum finem habitu[ra] miseriæ, cum unum uelle cœperit. [illegible] [illegible] conditio, sed nequaquàm impossibilis. Vnum dico, non studijs, sed studio [illegible] tædio[que] seruitij indigni. Pròh superi, domīnari solebamus opt[i]mis, heu [illegible] [illegible] nc seruimus pessimis. Dura sors, intolleranda mutatio. Sed o sem[per] [illegible] [illegible]m demens, & uxsana barbaries, reginam rides Italiam, omnibus utinam, idem a[m]imus, [illegible] maiore, affectu autem non minore, quàm mihi est, citò quidem explosis [illegible] [illegible] ad feria. [illegible] hoc tamen omnipotens Deus uiderit, si nondum exosus ad imum [illegible] uident fortuna, si quid [illegible]una, si quid humanis ius habet in rebus. [illegible] effun- dere uerum iubes, & qu[illegible]m expromere, rident labijs, corde gemunt, lud[u]nt exterius, [illegible]us tremunt, & nos enim & seipsos norunt, contemptum pro odio, & pro formidine simit [illegible]es. Quorsum hæc interroges? Scribo, non quia audire expedit, sed quia mihi non expe dit tacere. Graue enim onus & molestum est, quod nusquam fidentius, quam in tuis auri- bus depono, hæc tibi raptum Hierosolymitanus exul, inter & super flumina Babylonis indi- gnan[illegible] ipsi. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO, S. Epist. VIII.

De tertia Babylonia, & quinto Labyrintho in Gallia.

SVbscriptiones epistolarum mearum miraris, nec immerito, non nisi geminam enim Babylonam cum legeris, alteram apud Assyrios olim, ubi clarum Semiramis nomē habet, alteram apud Aegyptios nostra ætate florentem, quæ Cambysem habet au[c]torem, cuius nunc Babylonis in auditum tibi nomen ingeritur tecum uolui, non quod nescias, quosdam ex nostris Romam, quasi alteram Babylonem propter propo[sitio]nem im[p]eriorum, & climatum statuisse, quàm quia me almam, sanctam & reginam urbem uocitare solitum tenes, huius nouissimæ Babylonis, tibi nunc etiam stupor manet. Desine i[a]m mirari. & sua Babylon huic terrarum tractui est, ubi enim quæso dignius, quàm in occi dentali plaga ciuitas confusionis existeret? A' quibus quidem condita incertum, sed [illegible] [illegible] habitata nouissimē: certè ab his, à quibus iure optimo nomen hoc possidet. [illegible] [illegible] rede, Nemroth potens in terra, & robustus uenator, contra domi[num] ac s[illegible] [illegible] cœlum petens, hic pharetrata Semiramis, hic orientali quo[que] [illegible] & [illegible] regum primo ceruicibus actus, postremò defectus opidis, & pastus cæde [illegible] [illegible] principio, redactus ad miserrimam egestatem. Non ego te ad Poetas, neq[ue] [illegible] [illegible] pus est, non te ad Historicos mittam, consule Catholicos tractatores, sed [illegible] [illegible]um, super eo Psalmo qui sic incipit, ut epistolarum ad te m[e]arum a[illegible] [illegible]ne, inuenies, quid sibi Babylonicum nomen [uel]it, quod cum legeris, dices non [illegible] quam [illegible] Nilo. Ne[que] uerò mirabetis [illegible] in mentem [illegible]um [illegible] indig[illegible] Valentia [illegible] hor[illegible]m [illegible]ne dum de Rhodano loqueretur, atque ut hac admirat[ione] succe[s]sa, [illegible] alium

aliam conuellam, de quinq; L[illegible] pote[illegible] eti[illegible] a[illegible] ud cæt[illegible] non niſi de qu[illegible] tor me[illegible] c[illegible] A[illegible]p[illegible] us, Lemn[illegible] us, Cret[illegible] cus & in[illegible] a Cu[illegible]s, [illegible] d[illegible] cu[illegible] inextricabil[illegible]ſsimum ac peſsimum.[illegible] ue q[illegible] rat, ſiue q[illegible] a no[illegible] [illegible]s apud me ment[illegible]o cre[illegible] e[illegible] quâ[illegible] c a[illegible] noſcere[illegible] [illegible]c[illegible] arcer horrendus, non tene[illegible] do[illegible] e[illegible] to[illegible] fata[illegible]s urna[illegible] umani[illegible] cne[illegible] miſcens? Deniq; n[illegible] imperioſus [illegible]s, non Minotaurus uorax, non damnatæ [illegible] nimenta defuerint? Sed remedia, [illegible] or, ſed ch[illegible] as, ſed promiſſor[illegible] [illegible], ſed [illegible]la perplexum iter tac[illegible]ta ope[illegible]gnantia [illegible] Ariad[illegible]a, ſe[illegible] [illegible]æd[illegible]s, [illegible] in auro eſt, auro placatur rex ferus, auro immane monſtrum uincitur, au[illegible] texitur, auro durum limen oſtenditur, auro uectes, & ſaxa frang[illegible]n[illegible] au[illegible]o [illegible] [illegible], auro cœlum pandit[illegible]r, quid multa? Auro CHRISTVS uend[illegible].

[illegible]RAN. PET[illegible]ARCHA AMICO, S. Epi[illegible]. [illegible]

Veritatem ſcribere, metu ſe uictum non audere.

VNde nunc ordiar, an uerò non ordiar, in dubio eſt, & poëticum il[illegible]d ide[illegible] dem occurſat

Eloquar an ſileam?

Loquar tandem, ne fortè de ſilentio ſuſpiceris, aut per deſidiam negli[illegible] a[illegible] in[illegible]lentiam contemni, ſed quid primum, aut quid penitùs loquar, ſeu potiùs quid n[illegible]n [illegible] q[illegible]r, tam diuerſa certatim & me urgent, & ſe inuicem præmunt, impediuntq; con[illegible] u[illegible]u[illegible] Non uac[illegible] omnibus obſequi, infinita ſunt enim, & ſi uacet, minimè tu[illegible]um e[illegible]t[illegible] Ita[illegible] licet occupationibus, nulliſq; curis obſidear, quarum tamen pondus ac numerũ n[illegible] ig[illegible]ras, uel ſolus calamum timor excuſat. Siquidem extra uirtutis re[illegible]m, imbecillis ſem[illegible], & n[illegible]da ueritas, atq; omnis præſidij inops fuit. Quid euentu[illegible]m[illegible]es, ubi extincta p[illegible] ſus & ſepulta pridem uirtus eſt? Ibi profectò ſummum crim[illegible] eſt [illegible]itas, & ſola ſuf[illegible]ciens ad quærenda multorum odia, cum unius hominis amor, [illegible]s obſequijs ſit quærendus. Multis inſeruiat neceſſe eſt, qui multis charus eſſe uult. At qui omnibus odioſus, m[illegible]nus negotij habet. Non arma capiat, non hoſtem feriat, oportet, lingua liberior pro gladi[illegible] eſt, uerax ſermo pro uulnere. Quid ni autem id accidat, ubi nemo eſt, cui uerum uerbum ab[illegible]q; graui conuitio dici poſsit? Vbi nulla pietas, nulla charitas, nulla fides habitat. Vbi tumo[illegible], liuor, luxus, auaritia cum artibus ſuis regnant: ubi peſsimus quiſq; prouehitur, & m[illegible]s prædo, ad cœlum tollitur, iuſtus pauper opprimitur, ubi ſimplicitas amentiæ, malitia ſ[illegible]ntiæ nomen habet: ubi Deus ſpernitur, adoratur nummus, calcantur leges, irridentu[illegible] uſq; adeò, ut iam ferè nullus qui irrideri poſsit appareat. O' mores hominum, O' ſecu[illegible]m noſtrum, O triſtem & miſerum exilij mei locum, & o fœlices oculos tuos, qui [illegible]a non[illegible] dent, iucundiſsimus labor tuus, & inuidioſa pauperies, ſi huic obſcœnæ, ac marc[illegible] dæ q[illegible]ieti, & his malè collectis, & malè fundendis diuitijs, conferantur. Vetus uerbum eſt: Ce[illegible] denarius in cloacam. Cuius intellectum, qui non habet, huc ueniat, uerbum hoc in[illegible]s ſingulorum, cum mille alijs æquè famoſis titulis ſcriptum leget. Vnum ego libenter, [illegible]uic ſcelerum uniuerſali diluuio eximere, & meretur: fateor, ſed ridiculũ uiſum eſt, tàm ſo[illegible]am & tam latam regulam unius nominis exceptione, conuellere. Nullus hinc igitur N[illegible] nullus Deucalion enatabit, ac ne Pyrrham putes fœlic[illegible]ùs nauigaſſe prorſus ſcito, nul[illegible] emergere, ciuitatem ſimul obſcœniſsimarum uoluptatum fluctus inuoluit, atq; incredibilis q[illegible]dam muliebrium criminum procella, pudicitiæq; fœdiſsimũ ſine exceptione n[illegible]ufra[illegible] Hæc [illegible]auca de mul[illegible]is auſa ueritas, uicto metu, ex quibus, & quæ ſilentio præm[illegible]r [illegible]. [illegible] tamen hinc, aut ex quibuſdam peſtiferis animantibus, aut herbis ſalutare tibi a[illegible]d, [illegible]m[illegible]i ope conflari poſſe confidis, ſcribere illico. Ne differas. Omni enim ſtudio ſe[illegible] [illegible]c[illegible]byri[illegible]tbi h[illegible]ius limen at[illegible]gere iamq; ni fallor, qu[illegible]d u[illegible]um h[illegible]nc ſper[illegible]ri[illegible] [illegible]ntemptus filium teneo.[illegible] quid optas, oro, interim fiet, pro uiribus, & [illegible]ra[illegible] [illegible]c[illegible]m tantis in tenebris, quid tibi, aut etiam quid mihi præter fugam exp[illegible], [illegible] O[illegible] ar[illegible]bi ſ[illegible]tem diſcip[illegible]lus[illegible]us, qui u[illegible]m te[illegible]um e[illegible]er[illegible] ni[illegible] f[illegible] ſa[illegible]s mo[illegible] eſ[illegible]t ab[illegible]nnis t[illegible]eri[illegible]cat, hoc [illegible]ndum ſpecus h[illegible] uer[illegible] tartareum [illegible] rem [illegible]n[illegible]nd[illegible] errorem capi poſsit ubi e[illegible] pro[illegible] in[illegible]ans neſ[illegible]o, an[illegible] meo[illegible], an mei[illegible] ſed certe nondum admiſsis, [illegible]a ætate pia[illegible]c[illegible]ptus ſ[illegible] & n[illegible]

atque iterum, & iterum in laqueos re... Ad postremum, sponte mea ... iam senior captiuus, praeter meipsum ... quem acc... neque manum meam, neque anulum, neque locum, neque tempus a... ... gentis agnosc...

IRA... PETRARCHA ... Epist. X.

Afflictionem patriae & calamitatem deplorat.

V... populo tuo CHRISTE IESV, ue populo tuo CHRISTE, pater e nos misericordiarum fons, nostras tecum flere miserias, ... amantium mos est, eo ... ius ... queri, qu... feruentius amamus. ... est de ... o ... mortales uermes lamentari, querelam nostram placatus admitte, & ... supplices, non accusatores, sed supplices tui querimur ante aeternitatis tuae ... astusi querimur unde & ut querulos, ... audias, ... mus. Nec longo ... one, imo nec uer... us est, uide ... m antequam in linguam, sed ante etiam, qu... m in animam ... ant. Statutum ... tui, non modo tu qui omnia conspicis, sed unde grauiter dolemus, atque ... hostes etiam nostri uident, & insultantes dicunt. Deus dereliquit eum, ... comprehendite eos, quia non est qui eripiat, Deus ergo ne elonges ... in auxilium nostrum respice, & respice ut non uideas tantum, sed ut miserearis ... omnem feras, respice res nostras afflictas, & in extremo positas, & quoniam ... enarrabilem misericordiam tuam, hoc inducti pr... ut uascula ... ea, ... a, ad ... aeternum figulum discepremus, certe si tu nos in honorem creasti, in contumeliam uertis, quamuis id iuste facias, multo tamen, quam soles acrius ulc... paternis ab aliis uerti, ualde nostris in malis patientior solito factus es, si uero non ... ualde praeter solitum factus es ne... gens tuorum. At si nos odisti, ubi est amor ... pro nobis uoluntariam traxit ad mortem? Quod si forte nobiscum ludis, unde hic ludus tuus, aequo durior sit, nosque nimis inualidi, ad tam grauia tolerandum, tu enim es uictor Leo de tribu Iuda, nos autem oues pascuae tuae sumus. Vide quam impar est ludus leo... morte ... definis, nos ludendo conficies ac mactabis. Sin iratus es ... iram tuam ... meriti non negamus. Sed ubi est illud quod de te nobis dictum Prophetae, ... credidimus. Cum iratus fueris, misericordiae recordaberis? Recordare Domine recordare misericordiae tuae, criminum que nostrorum obliuiscere, hoc nobis expedit, hoc te decet ... omne su... plicium, imo certe peccatis nostris nullum supplicium par ... quae digne, iuste que nos punias, & scimus quia iustus es ualde, ... misericordia, unde non sine causa Propheta idem tuus, antequam te iustum diceret, misericordem ... fleratorem dixit: Exortum est (inquit) in tenebris lumen rectis, misericors & miserator ... Vix tandem ait & iustus. Idem alio loco cum dixisset: Misericors Dominus ... haec paria, confestim addidit: Et Deus noster miseretur. Iram in medio ... misericordiae obices adhibuit, iram que circumdedit, ne misericordia ... ergo miser... IESV CHRISTI, noli quaesumus ista confundere, ... et contumaces in seruos irae tuae frena laxare, cuius impetum intra misericordiam ... intra iam misericordiam includere, sed nostrarum immemor offensarum mi... ... Nunquid in aeternum pro... Domine, aut in finem misericordiam tuam abscindes a ... generatione? Aut obliuisceris misereri Deus, aut continebis in ira ... dia tua? Ecce Domine prophetica interrogatio illud sonat, ne miseri ... a ... d potius e conuerso, ubi non fortuito uerba fictauit, sed consult... ... quod dicebam, iram unam, misericordias plures esse. Has ergo mi... nunc ... nobis, qui salui facis sperantes in te a resistentibus dextere t... ... pupillam oculi, & qui ingratissimum tibi semper populum ... aperto que mari rubro ad propria reduxisti, nobis quoque ... populum tuum, li... ingrati ... certe tuo nomine ... m ... coeperunt nos, & saluos nos ... Domine ... dias Domini, & confiteantur tibi miser... quia pauperes facti sumus nimis, ... Deus ... propter meritum nostrum, sed propter gloriam nominis tui, libera nos, ... propitius esto

esto peccatis nostris, non qui[illegible]mus, sed p[illegible]er nomen tu[illegible] ne forti[illegible] certe dicunt in gentibus, ubi [illegible] Deus eorum? Vb[illegible] enim sunt [illegible] c[illegible]di[illegible] misericordiæ Domini, quas in æternum cantabimu[illegible] de qu[illegible] in ætern[illegible] speramus. Aut quid est Domine quod nunc agis. Cont[illegible] portas ære[illegible]s nostræ [illegible] tatis, & uectes ferreos con[illegible]e[illegible], [illegible] humiliatos in compedi[illegible]us pe[illegible]es no[illegible]os mendicitate & ferro, [illegible]te[illegible] x alto su[illegible]nem tuam, rex æterne so[illegible]uisti, c[illegible] uincula, ex eadem massa te pa[illegible] antur. Contr[illegible]uisti laqueu[illegible] a[illegible]uum [illegible] dem canabis laqueus nobis alte[illegible]itur? Eri[illegible] nos iugo gra[illegible] & pessim[illegible] no, quid nobis ex eodem stipite iu[illegible] impor[illegible]le reimpo[illegible]is? Reimposi[illegible] stro in dorso trib[illegible]tionem, & homines [illegible]per ca[illegible]ta no[illegible]a, atque utinam [illegible] bell[illegible]as famelicas & immit[illegible]. Oramu[illegible] flentes: ne t[illegible]adas besti[illegible] an[illegible]as con[illegible] animas pauperum tuorum [illegible]e o[illegible]liui[illegible]c[illegible] [illegible]nem. Repulisti nos, [illegible] x st[illegible]s es, miserere nobis. Commouisti terr[illegible] & conturbasti ea[illegible], sana contri[illegible]es e[illegible]s, [illegible] grauiterque commora est. O[illegible]endisti populo tuo du[illegible]a, igne nos exam[illegible]ti e[illegible] tur argentum, transiuimus per ignem & aquam, reduc no[illegible] refrigerium. N[illegible] stra iu[illegible]issima expectatione confundere, sperauimus enim in te [illegible] q[illegible]d m[illegible] nostri maris, in quo fœliciter senex ille piscatus, tan[illegible]em perit [illegible]tr[illegible]a [illegible]c[illegible] mitigares tu, qui potestati ci[illegible]s dominaris, quodque superbum h[illegible]res, & in [illegible] ruæ deponeres i[illegible] i[illegible]ni[illegible]os tuos, de quibus lupos, de pis[illegible]a[illegible]us pyratas, de[illegible]a[illegible] [illegible]iores, nunc uerò superbia eorum, qui te oderunt ascendi[illegible] semper. Hacten[illegible] [illegible] autem Pater [illegible]quem in primis dolorum meorum participem habeo, noli fo[illegible] c[illegible]ere, sed donec i[illegible]la, quod modò facturam [illegible]perabamus mel[illegible]rem in partem [illegible] rotam uoluit, [illegible]tere ut uiuas, & ualeas, ut hinc postmod[illegible]m nostro tempore di[illegible]ed[illegible] meliore[illegible] umorem ad fœlices animas perferamus.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO, S. Epi[illegible]I.

Ecclesiæ Catholicæ oppreßionem luget.

VT uides eunt res, imò uerò non eunt, sed retrahuntur, nihil est præsidij in u[illegible] Iustitia perijt, libertas abijt, æquitas uicta est, libido regnat, sæuit auariti[illegible] se[illegible] inuidia, omne genus hominum suos patitur tyrannos. Ad laudes ore & anim[illegible] canendas Deo geniti, totam uitam in contentionibus & æmulationibus agim[illegible]s, insignis illa IESV CHRISTI aula, illa olim arx diuini cultus eximia, nunc iandem pe[illegible] nostris id agentibus cœlesti auxilio destituta, immanium spelunca latronum fact[illegible] e[illegible] uno quidem fonte descendit origo mali, accedunt fontes alij minores, ex quibus [illegible]s omnimodæ miseriæ flumen exæstuat? Quo necesse e[illegible] propediem pereamus, supre[illegible] malorum obruamur fluctibus, ac nisi humanæ perfidiæ diuina pietas occurrerit, triste [illegible] fragium patiatur Ecclesia. Quàm uerò diuersi mores, quàm aduersa ædificantium & e[illegible] tentium mens, prouideat domui suæ, Deus omnipotens: ego enim nihil habeo, quod [illegible]m mul[illegible]is contrà nitentibus præstare possim, præter commiserationem matri debitam, & [illegible] placitam, ut uides fugam, quàm oculos meos tàm mœsto liberem spectaculo. Video [illegible] dem eminùs, sed prohibere non uales, cominus uidere renuo, artificium hoc senum & infame, quo Ecclesiasticus iste Dionysius, nostras uexat ac spoliat Syrac[illegible]sas. Video qua[illegible]e uirum mentita Semiramis, frontem tegit, ingenioque oculos præstringit astantium, & inc[illegible] stis polluta complexibus, uiros calcat. Video quibus artibus, noster hic Pericles se tuetur, ut quæ reddi nequit, non cogatur reddere rationem, & hic suum habent Alcibiadem [illegible] mo uelocius iniquis consilijs acquiescit. Turbat igitur omnia, miscetque de indust[illegible]ia [illegible] putas ob c[illegible]usam, nisi ut circulatorum more, uel perplexo loro, uel confuso uu[illegible]e[illegible]e [illegible] tius fallat. E[illegible] fraus propria sub umbraculo turbatæ Reip. delitescat? Er[illegible]e quidem, p[illegible]a litate propositi, artibus utitur non nouis. Nam & in fruticoso gaudet anceps, p[illegible] turbido, fur in tenebris: nobis autem pro inertia nostra, quid possim optare m[illegible] rius, quàm ut nostri similes semper simus, coram adultero u[illegible]gili, nare stertentes ad calicem. Nescio fateor, an il[illegible]us impudentia, an patientia nostra sit turpior.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO, S. Epist. XII.

Quod in Gallijs habitare desideret, dissuadet.

Diu di[illegible]li expectans & materiam, & nuncium, utrumque simul affuit, quamuis uices tu semper honestorum actuum prælargus, ego & [illegible] ingenij inops, scripturæ utique non auarus, horum alterum deesse non possit. Adest ecce nuncius, ultra quam optari idoneus, nihil tibi deuotius, nil mihi familiarius, adest scribendi materia. Pe[illegible] re[illegible]atio[illegible] tuæ tumor longè difficilis, inamœnæ, qui mihi iam pridem calamum sugg[illegible] re[illegible]at [illegible] quia incertus eram, ubi'nam terrarum esses inueniendus, neque enim aut ipse [illegible] pe[illegible] ad[illegible], longas te moras apud inferos exactutum, sponte tua, aut omnino susp[illegible] poteram [illegible] uc al ter quàm coactum cuiuspiam magnæ necessitatis imperio perrex[illegible] itaque tuum [illegible]acitus excusabam iter, quod illa iussisset, quæ adamãtinum sæpe R[illegible] m q[illegible] q[illegible] Pont[illegible] cumque ceruicibus iugum imponit. Nunc quia incolumen [illegible] ere[illegible] [illegible] deo [illegible] aritate illa, quam mihi peperit tua dignatio, fides mea, libet ex te q[illegible] e, [illegible] u[illegible] o o[illegible] o, cum pessimis loci[illegible] quid tibi cum Babylone? Fortissimos Romanorum, legimus u[illegible]are solitos Campaniæ Baias, apricum licet, & salubrem locum, ubi ut exiguum honestatis, [illegible] tem uoluptatis, & lætitiæ multum erat, adeò rebus o[illegible]bus n[illegible]ectis, [illegible] studio u[illegible]is intenti erant, si hoc ita est, quis non Rhodanum uitet? Quis oro, non fugiat Babylonem, & uitiorum simul omnium, & laboris ac totius miseria mœstum domum? [illegible] q[illegible]o quidem aliquid nosse debes. Visa loquor non audita, fato meo pessimo, in cas[illegible] p[illegible] euectus, cui usque ad hanc ætatem, indignati equidem, sed fortunæ compedibus, n[illegible] fe[illegible] quibus uicto, magnæ illic partes ætatis in gemitibus abierunt. Noui expertus, ut nulla ibi pietas, nulla charitas, nulla fides, nulla Dei reuerentia, nullus timor, nihil sancti, nihil iusti, nihil æqui, nihil pensi, nihil denique uel humani. Amor, pudor, decor, cando[illegible] de exulant. De ueritate quidem sileo, nam quis usquam uero locus, ubi omnia mendacijs plena sunt, aër, terra, domus, turres, uici, atria, plateæ, porticus, uestibula, aulæ, thalami, tectorum laquearia, murorum rimulæ, diuersoria ædium, penetralia templorum, iudicum subsellia, pon[illegible]cum sedes? Ad postremum ora hominũ, nutus, gestus, uoces, frontes anim[illegible]? Q[illegible]d nisi? An mentior, an uero de mendacijs uerum loquor? Si illic fuisti, & nullo tuo maiore n[illegible] gotio distractus, in nephariam illam scelerum scœnam, acumen ingenij, atque oculos int[illegible] disti, alium iudicem non optabo, quàm scilicet omnia ibi uirtute, uero[illegible] sint uacua, ple[illegible] criminibus, plena fallacijs, plena fucis, plena blanditijs, plena pessimis artibus, ambition[illegible]s, [illegible]itiæ, superbiæ, liuoris. Vidisti fictè & inaniter fieri omnia, non tantùm hominibus, sed D[illegible] oiasti subdolos risus, corda flebilia, serena supercilia, nubiles mentes, molles manus, a[illegible] asperrimos, angelicas uoces, dæmoniacas intentiones, suaues cantus, ferrea pectora, & uerba prædulcia pulmone amaro, & sicco ore cadentia, summisque labijs uix expressa, in quibus planè Dauidicum illud impletur: Molliti enim sunt sermones eorum, super oleum & ip[illegible] sunt iacula. Neque uerò impunitum modò apud eos, sed gloriosum etiam est mentiri, ceu maioris sit ingenij qui fefellit, maioris status quem increpare audeat nemo. Nolo hunc ar[illegible]iculum scrupulosiùs exequi, ne forsan urgente materia, stylus eat quò non expe[illegible] d[illegible]. Res est insuper mundo nota, neque probationis omninò. Neque sermonis egens. Vnum [illegible] bre[illegible]e, & ad re[illegible]iqua perdiscenda satis efficax inseram, cui ego ipse, qui loquor interfui: D[illegible]o [illegible]m[illegible]e conscriptis Patribus, in quibus orbis terræ, & ostium Domus Dei, uel [illegible] ca[illegible]ine uoluitur, à palatio Pont. Max. densa stipati famulorum acie, descendebant, turb[illegible] [illegible]ens expectantium, quibus ante omnes illa infœlix, & Deo odiosa ciuitas plena est, [illegible]re surdũ illud, & prædurum limen obsiderant, qui ducibus suis uilis, in qu[illegible]us spem [illegible] nt, circumstrepere cœperunt, & pro se quisque anxiè percontari, quæ fortuna, q[illegible] é s[illegible]m rerum apud Pontificem status esset. Tunc unus patrum, nihil motus in re subita, [illegible] iam pridem talibus assueuisset, nihil aut uerecundia tactus, aut misericordia mise[illegible] ru[illegible] r spes uani[illegible]imas anima, uitam, fortunasque suas, & tempus omne perdentium, in[illegible] gn[illegible] mendaciorum opifex, multa mẽtiri orsus, & fingere quid cuique spe reliquum, quid [illegible] [illegible] llius postula[illegible]a Pontifex respondisset, singula constanti impudentia, & in n[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]fec[illegible]s est Q[illegible]b[illegible]s a[illegible] [illegible] omnes, & hic quidem ut fit lætior, ille subtri[illegible] [illegible]m ab[illegible]nt. Alter autem Pa[illegible], & naturæ nobilioris, & uerecund[illegible]is animi, [illegible] ex[illegible] ordine uir bonu[illegible] esse potui[illegible]t, in collegam iocans, nil[illegible] ne[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]det his simplicibus uiris illudere, & pro arbitrio fin[illegible]ere responsa Pont[illegible] [illegible], non modò hodie, sed multis iã dieb. proximis uiders nequimus? [illegible] hoc ille [illegible]

Pate:

Pater & egregius ueterator, ut erat fronte meretricia, & attonita subridens, Imò uerò te (inquit) pudeat, iam ingenio tardo, lore, ut curiæ artes addiscere, tanto iam tempore nequeas. Quo dicto in stuporem ego, cæteri autem risum resoluti omnes, & responsum nebulonis filius multis laudibus efferentes, uirum [illegible] prędicarunt, qui [illegible] tin didicisset ac fallere. Verum ego nimis latæ materiæ campum, nec epistolæ, [illegible] ingressus sum, itaque habena iam contraham. Ad te uerò pater optime stylum uertens, oro, obsecro, obtestor, adiuro te per [illegible] m, si tibi charus es, si [illegible] quando tibi posthac in cor ueniat hinc ire, unde nemo unquam exempl[illegible] simi autem innumerabiles redierc. Adde quod nemo inde unquam n[illegible] nisi eo forte lætius, quod euaserat, & infaustum limē fusco calle repeterat. Ad [illegible] tua omnia cupidè, semper in optimam ad fœlicissimam partem [illegible] hanc iam necessariam, breuem, unicam, nō modò nihil nocituram [illegible] futuram spero. Quid enim aliud, ut seria fabulosis aspergam, [illegible] Achilles Homericus, dum ut impenetrabilis ferro fiat, fertur ad inferos, & tartareis undis [illegible] ut uitiorum fluctibus tantis exercita, cōtrarij sui odio, solida tua uirtus indurueri[illegible] contraxerit, contraque omnem humanarum cuspidem passionum, iam prorsus [illegible] facta sit? Placet, laudo, approbo, modò ne redeas. Senecæ uerbum est, non tantum corpori, sed etiam moribus salubrem locum eligere debemus. Ille autem unde te dehortor, & [illegible] pestilens & animo nec omninò te dignus est, non conueniunt mores: sit igitur inter uos diuortium sempiternum, eant illuc, qui artes illas discere cupiunt, quarum [illegible] sunt innumeri professores, tu domi mane, inque tuo proposito, & tua sede consiste, quam tibi clarissimam [illegible] dedit, cùm clariorem, etiam mereare. Sin ut est, animus honesti motus appetens, quoniam quod eruditissimis quibusdam placitum uiris scio, unum hoc nobis cœlestis originis argumentum est, ut motu perpetuo delectemur, loco te si mouere uolueris, ad nos ueni, uide Romam, uide Mediolanum, uide Venetias, uide [illegible], uide Pata[illegible] tuum, uide Bononiam, ubi honestis in studijs egisti adolescentiam, & integritatem patriam Italicis artibus adornasti. Postremò quidlibet uide, Indos quoque, modò ne uideas Babylonem, neque descendas in infernum uiuens.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO, S. Epist. XIII.

Dissuadet Galliarum habitationem.

O Quàm consona sensibus meis consilia tua sunt, breuiter dici nequit, est sanè [illegible] optima rerum ac pessima, minimè difficilis electio, itaque toto animo, & quod me hortaris fugio, & quòd hortaris amplector, quodque aiunt pedibus in sententiam tuam eo, unde non diuellar, nisi insignis forte, aliqua rerum incidens mutatio uehementer urgeret, quam profectò, neque hic metuo, neque istinc spero. Vbi si qui olim uidebantur esse, uel fuerant uirtutis amici, aut certè iampridem obierunt, aut abierunt, scelerum schola iam, uirtutis & bonorum hostes esse didicerunt, corruptique & abominabiles facti sunt in studijs suis. Non est qui faciat bonum, non est usque ad unum. De his loquor, quibus ut benefici esse possent liberalior fortuna dederat, ut contrario delectari, fontes & [illegible] esse mallent, insita dedit iniquitas, & peccandi auida, & dæmoniacis instigata suggestibus, neque per insolentiam aliquando cœlestibus oraculis acquiescens. Tu uerò meus hortator, quid de te statuis (quanquàm quid statuisse profuerit) nusquàm minus cogitata respondeant. Vnus enim in terris est locus, ubi nullus consilio locus est, ubi omnia temerè, ferruntoque uoluuntur, interque omnes miserias loci illius, quarum non est numerus, illud insigne ludibrium est, quod cuncta uiscis atque uncis, & laqueis plena sunt, ut dum euasisse uideare, tum te arctiùs implicitum, uinctumque reperias. Nulla ibi præterea lux, nullus dux, nullus index anfractuum, sed caligo undique, & ubique confusio, ne parum uera, sit Babylon ac perplexitas rerum mira, utque Lucani uerbo utar:

Nox ingens scelerum:

Tenebrosa (inquam) & æterna nox, expers syderum, & aurorę nescia, tum profunda & iugis [illegible] opacitas, perennes angustię, infinitus labor, immortale fastidium, neque uiolentior [illegible] gurges, aut Circi flatus, ac Boreę, quàm impetus & mutabilitas [illegible] rum, non populum, sed rotatum uento puluerem putes, neque magis ciuitatis infand[illegible], quam ciues ipsos, fœdos ac lubricos fateare. Vna prorsus est hominum, ac locorum facies obscœna,

obscœna [illegible] formis, un[illegible] non aliter quàm Aegyptum & Pharaoni infudit quas iratum Deum [illegible] em in eos iram indignationis suæ, iram & indignationem, [illegible] missionem per angelos malos. Denique nulli omnium gentium magis [illegible] Dauid [illegible] ationem. Fiat tanquam puluis ante faciem uenti & angelus Domini coar[illegible] ns [illegible] uix eorum tenebræ, & lubricum, & angelus Domini persequens eos. Hincergo [illegible] us e[illegible]piat, quis emerget?

FRAN. PETRARCHA AM[ICO] S. Epi[st]. XIIII.

Quod ex Gallijs in Italiam redierit amico congratulatur.

O Si noscres, quanto me gau[dio] [illegible] pleuit abitus, imò quidem reditus tuus, n[e]q[ue] ire in patriam redire est) omnino nihil de te gratius [illegible] dire poteram. Cætera [illegible] tunc futura erant, hoc uere proprium tuum [illegible] tibi animum [illegible] ter tan[illegible] pes tot curarum uncos, tot aduersa con[illegible] obsce[illegible] mam sentinam [illegible] omnium sponte desereres, & illos meracissimo sangui[illegible] ne impin[illegible] atos, & in Do[illegible] [illegible] urantes, non hominum, sed uolupratum, & pecuniæ piscatores, simul illam ter[illegible] [illegible] miruram, sed uenendam, atque illud sacrosanctissimum mundi caput, impexa [illegible] [illegible] um, tandem consilio saniore reuiseres. Fecisti optimè [illegible] cundum [illegible] [illegible] almæ Vrbi tanti ciuis aspectum eripere uoluisti, nec in faustum illud [illegible] [illegible] amplius tua præsentia iudicasti.

Quod meius, nequid Lybiæ ubi regna nocerent:

N[illegible] quàm lętè audio, te illius irremeabilis labyrinthi fœdis, an mœstis ambag[ibus] [illegible] qu[illegible] si quid apud te fidei mereor, in eosdem laqueos, sic se rebus haben[illegible] [illegible], & si in his quies, si delectatio, si libertas, si uita, si gloria chara est, ne [illegible] ideò mi[illegible] [illegible] tiæ, & fortibus tuis fidas, semel locutus est Dominus, & de te, [illegible] mnibus [illegible] qui fuerunt, eruntúe mortalibus, imò statuit edicto, omnis cesset [illegible] tio, dic [illegible] man[i]bus tuis sortes meæ. Et semel arreptum iter ne destituas, durum licet, arduum [illegible] lem, his ne[illegible] rio ad fœlicem portum, neque tibi pessimorum hominum [illegible] uor obstiterit. Tabescent illi malis proprijs, & inter malè partas opes more Tantaleo sitientes, auidique æquanimem te, in omni statu, & ferè diuinis utentem muneribus mirabuntur [illegible] que [illegible] ntelligat, fortunam, nullum penitùs inconstantem, & generosum animum ius habet[illegible] Proinde multis in tenebris, hos breues anxios, & inglorios dies agent, unus uitæ & nom[illegible] num finis erit, furijs illos ultricibus, & diris suorum scelerum aculeis laniados linque. Ip[illegible] & omnes bonos, & spoliatum atque oppressum orbem suis manibus, suis euectibus uindica[illegible] [illegible] nt. Si quid tieri præsagij usquam est, propè est Deus ultionū Dominus liberè agat, & re[illegible] [illegible] at abundanter facientibus superbiam. Sua est enim ultio, & ipse retribuet, ut labatur [illegible] [illegible] um, iuxta est dies perditionis, & adesse festinant tempora. Redit in animum, quòd [illegible] [illegible] n[o]stro, qui ex eo numero, si dici posset, pessimorum optimus fuit, & cui tu sanguine, [illegible] fami[liar]itate, obsequio iunctus eram, ante multos annos occurrit, ut dicerem, in[illegible] [illegible] fati die [illegible] quo superbia eorum fatigata, iam Dei patientia atque hominum de[illegible] [illegible] ac [illegible] ret. Cumque ille (cuius ut nostri ipse iracundæ mentis fuit) proteruiæ, mixto [illegible] mihi [illegible] ytesiæ cæcitatem, quam uaticinium optasset, obiecisset illud Euangelic[illegible] Sim[illegible] ro rogaui pro te, ut non deficiat fides tua, & ego nō fidei defectu, sed euersorū f[illegible] d[illegible] ruina, quæ utique fidei esset augmentum, loqui me ioco liberiùs subiungerem. Ille iam se[illegible] [illegible] in me uersus: Tace (inquit) & [illegible] uerum est, non simus auctores, sed ecce iam ex illo quot [illegible] unt dies? Credo si uiueret, ut re[illegible] tacem illi me diceret, iam ad extrema peruentū, [illegible] Romano & humano generi satis [illegible] um est. Satis diu uirtus, & ueritas fuere [illegible] ntem [illegible] satis barbar[illegible] ra regnauit indignitas. Omnia & si nolint, suum locum reperiũt, & [illegible] & longæui ludibrij finis adest, quem cum uidero, satis uixero.

FRAN. PETRAR[C]HA AMICO, S. Epist. XV.

Calamitatem Vrbis Romæ deplorat.

Q V[o] te cunque conuerteris, idem es, & pariter me delectas, uniformi enim amoris [illegible] dulcedine, sed multiplici & uaria uerborum tuorum consolatione reficior, [illegible] [illegible] oriente, siue occidente, & desertis montibus: quoniam licet Deus iu[illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible] [hu]nc humiliet, hunc exaltet, tamen te mihi semper humilem, semper altum, semper amabilem, & ab omni parte suauiter spirantem, dulce curarum mearum re[illegible] [illegible] uat. [E]pistolæ quidem illi, uerissimis, grauissimisque sententijs exundanti, ubi [illegible] [illegible] diæ tuæ fons, è terra arida ac squallenti, & omnis boni uacua, terra (ut Prophe-

tæ [illegible] utar) deserta, [illegible] & inaquosa, oculos me[illegible] at [illegible] a[illegible] p[illegible] te mira[illegible], [illegible] re [illegible] inge[illegible] [illegible] g[illegible] quid pri[illegible] tu [illegible] deam, non ha[illegible], [illegible] toleraram [illegible] q[illegible] florent [illegible] ima o[illegible] m[illegible] ab [illegible] [illegible], nunc repe[illegible] [illegible] ul[illegible]m, ad extrem[illegible] t[illegible]m, at[illegible] m[illegible] in [illegible] rerum mutatio[illegible] [illegible] d gratulari, q[illegible] d tu[illegible] tuum, u[illegible] p[illegible] bu[illegible] uel per[illegible] [illegible] uero [illegible] pa[illegible] ingenio, [illegible] mani nihil [illegible] cognitum esse d[illegible] [illegible] er[illegible] ter[illegible] s si[illegible] ari[illegible] teras cred[illegible] re his, [illegible] ut dici sole[illegible]) [illegible] e [illegible] tu uero nec[illegible] ue[illegible] as opini[illegible] de[illegible] neq; cuiquam pot[illegible] m [illegible] pe[illegible] entiæ fidem dabis. Ecc[illegible] uides, iam mani[illegible] pa[illegible] a- [illegible] issim[illegible] feruens, æstuans, obs[illegible] na, t[illegible] quam nec C[illegible] p[illegible] a Niliacum, n[illegible] uetustior regia Semir[illegible] midis Baby[illegible] n æquet A[illegible] [illegible] phra[illegible] Rho[illegible] uincit nempe qui tartarea flumina, C[illegible] tum ui[illegible] A- cheron[illegible]em, qu[illegible] perfidiæ & d[illegible], quic[illegible] and inclementiæ, superbiæ[illegible] d impudicitiæ, [illegible] atq; libidinis audiuisti, aut legisti, qu[illegible]uid deniq; impie[illegible] rum [illegible] essimo[illegible] om[illegible] [illegible]n habet, aut habuit orbis terræ, to[illegible]m isti[illegible] cumula[illegible] [illegible] q; [illegible] Nam de auaritia, deq; ambitione superuac[illegible] [illegible] gro[illegible] possidet, unde orbem totum popul[illegible]tur a[illegible] [illegible] am habitar[illegible] compertum est. De quibus omnibus ad te [illegible] dum non c[illegible] [illegible] ū [illegible] bere meditabar, ne in rebus, scilicet à pri[illegible]a mihi ætate no[illegible] amicum [illegible] em, [illegible] enim [illegible]m, me bi[illegible] c[illegible]rabiliter & miserabiliter inuiscato, eu[illegible]dem tu [illegible]s, u[illegible] uelut [illegible] cœno, imò quidem uelut in igne, aurum amicitiam primum tuam long[illegible] auro chari[illegible] re[illegible], tunc tamen & inexperti[illegible] rerum ætas & iudicij minor ui[illegible] & n[illegible] æ[illegible] e breuita[illegible] o[illegible] tabant, insuper & exilio in peius infinita mutatio facta erat R[illegible] & æt[illegible]te[illegible]m, [illegible] iuditio pleniore, & mora non ad sufficientiam mod[illegible], uel fatic[illegible] fa[illegible] a[illegible] ium prolixa, ut qui optima rerum probe noueras, [illegible] imis non [illegible]s, qui [illegible]tem semper amaueras, ad uehementius amandum, qu[illegible] cac[illegible]mum [illegible] tiorum odio animum excitares. Et si CHRISTVM colis, quod semper religiosissimè fecisti, conspecta hostium eius impietas, manum pietati, & [illegible] dei tuę calcar adijceret. Vides enim populum, non modò CHRISTI aduersarium, sed quòd est grauius sub CHRISTI uexillo rebellantem CHRISTO, militantem Sathanæ, & CHRISTI sanguine tumi[illegible]um, a[illegible] lasciuientem & dicentem: Labia nostra à nobis sunt, quis noster Dominus est? [illegible] populum duricordem & impium, superbum, famelicum, sitientem, hianti rostro acutis den[illegible]s, pro curuis ung[illegible], pedibus lubricis, pectore saxeo, corde chalybeo, plumbea uolun[illegible] uoce melliflua, popu[illegible]m cui non modò propriè conuenire dixeris Euangelicum illu[illegible] propheticum: Populus hic me labijs honorat, cor autem eorum longè est à me. Sed ill[illegible] tiam Iudæ Ischariotis, qui Dominum suum prodens, & exosculās, aiebat: Aue Rabb[illegible] r- dgorum qui indutum purpura, coronatum spinis, percutientes & conspuentes il[illegible]lusione [illegible] mar[illegible]ssima, flexis poplitibus adorabant, & salutabant, Aue rex Iudæorum, quem nequ[illegible] re[illegible]m di[illegible]nis, aut humanis honoribus, sed iure rerum mortis ac blasphemum, cont[illegible]s di[illegible]n[illegible]m, atq; [illegible]plicijs in humano iuditio destinarant. Quid enim, qu[illegible]d oro, al[illegible]d a[illegible]d g[illegible]ur, hos inter [illegible]HRIST[illegible] hostes, & nost[illegible] temporis Pha[illegible]seos? Non ne et[illegible]m CHRISTVM ipsum, cuius nomen die, ac nocte al[illegible]imis laudibus attollu[illegible]t, quem pu[illegible]ura atq; auro uel[illegible]unt, quem gem[illegible]s onerant, quem salutant & adorant cernui, eundem [illegible] mu[illegible]t, uendunt, nundinantur, eundem quasi uelatis oculis nō uisurum, & impiarum opum uepribus coronant, & impurissimi oris spuris inquinant, & [illegible] sibilis insectantu[illegible] & uenenatorū actuū cuspide feriunt, & quantum in eis est illusum, nudū, inopē, flag[illegible]lat[illegible] rum atq; iterum in Caluariam trahunt, ac nefandis assensibus, cruci rursus affigun[illegible] dor o dolor, ô indi[illegible]nit[illegible]s, talium hodie, ut dicitur Roma est, patientibus, quo[illegible] stare, tanto illam fa[illegible] sibi uendicant, u[illegible] quam suam uolunt, aspicere ded[illegible]n[illegible], [illegible] qua olim orbe toto tantus fluxit cruor, tot clari duces, tot exercit[illegible]s ceciderint, e[illegible] sci[illegible] quot indi[illegible] & infames rustici nutu regunt, & [illegible] aptum, ue[illegible] ab ho[illegible]m [illegible] adictore [illegible] lacerant. O inconsulte Princeps ac prodige, ne[illegible]tebas [illegible] [illegible] ret imperium, quod tam facile dispergeres. Solent studia ad[illegible] ente[illegible] a pat[illegible] q[illegible] a[illegible] di[illegible]er[illegible] [illegible]empè ignari, unde uel qualiter parta [illegible]nt, si[illegible]ui[illegible]em in[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]a[illegible]num prodigalitati ac l[illegible] scitiæ frenum p[illegible] At tu sen[illegible]s, [illegible] uideri n[illegible] delectabat. De pr[illegible] no l[illegible]rer[illegible] t[illegible] don[illegible] [illegible]temq; [illegible]ator acceperas success[illegible]us in[illegible]gram re[illegible]. Nesc[illegible]

potueris

[illegible] fe[illegible] ut [illegible] tunc humiles, nunc [illegible] a[illegible] nus, heu l[illegible] [illegible] us [illegible] p[illegible] ruere[illegible] et. De [illegible] quo [illegible] c[illegible] s quid [illegible] bi [illegible] mod[illegible], seruorum [illegible] domin[illegible] P[illegible] m [illegible] cam [illegible] as det[illegible] certe [illegible] lit, [illegible] neq; [illegible] ced[illegible] as, mu[illegible] tori, quam eueis[illegible] mi[illegible] [illegible] CHRISTE, qui [illegible] im[illegible] te[illegible] , & [illegible] ux sur[illegible] m, & qu[illegible] sunt precario posside[illegible] ui hanc meam [illegible] axim[illegible] em quem [illegible] [illegible] audis, exaudi [illegible] uælumu[illegible] sta est. S[illegible] m [illegible] c [illegible] aspex[illegible] de meo, non exaudiet D[illegible] s. Apud [illegible] RISTE [illegible] ap[illegible] eps opinio, se[illegible] ndum q[illegible] tè quod p[illegible] e gr[illegible] d impo[illegible] abil[illegible] quod n[illegible] um duro & [illegible] fa[illegible] at [illegible] tà nobis ad literam [illegible] ud [illegible] A [illegible] p[illegible] no[illegible] & qui oderunt nos [illegible] ban[illegible] nos [illegible] ru[illegible] unt quæ sequu[illegible] ur nobis hoc [illegible] num ad que [illegible] am, & [illegible] nam si [illegible] ur, olim Domini gen[illegible] um, quid nunc aliud facti [illegible] mus nisi [illegible] es [illegible] um [illegible] n[illegible] oues aut lactis essem[illegible] s, cicarum sumus. Rodimur uolente [illegible] ti[illegible] his qui si nolle cepérimus, oues corã leonibus uidebuntur, [illegible] b[illegible] od diutissimè ui[illegible] sunt. Nunc noster torpor, hanc [illegible] nauiæ pr[illegible] a n[illegible] [illegible] strain impiè prorsus & deuorant, & oderu[illegible], & quod uehemen[illegible] [illegible] c[illegible] a [illegible] esp[illegible] ciu[illegible] t, intus timent, contem[illegible] tu[illegible] fugitur, metu[illegible] est. Mil[illegible] f[illegible] is [illegible] g[illegible] me[illegible], unum utriusq; simul inseram, [illegible] uod lice[illegible] ltum p[illegible] u[illegible] mod[illegible] ylone, sed longiùs n[illegible] ceretur. Eo tempore, quo [illegible] le Pont[illegible] qui[illegible] p[illegible] m Italiam, atq; inprimis hanc urbem Mediolane[illegible] um euertend[illegible] m, facerde[illegible] is m[illegible] e[illegible] peditione delegerat, & sic in utramque Christianam, Ch[illegible] n Pat[illegible] p[illegible] dio [illegible] uiebat, quasi non Italia hæc, sed Syria, uel Aegyptus, non [illegible] anum, sed [illegible] is [illegible] et a[illegible] phis. Cùm ad hoc sanctum, piumq; opus, unum [illegible] sacr[illegible] patr[illegible] m c[illegible] ut[illegible] dixerunt, suum (& secundùm famam similitudo in[illegible] ens mo[illegible] umq; fer[illegible] abat [illegible] n Apostolicum, sed prædonis in morem, neq; lig[illegible] is ui[illegible] t[illegible] im ac m[illegible] r[illegible] le[illegible] g[illegible] is castrorum & miris instructum legionibus, in has terras, qua[illegible] alte[illegible] P[illegible] sed Hannibalem destinasset, in quo bello Deus omnipotens suo m[illegible] r[illegible] uit [illegible] umil[illegible] bus, ac palam pro iustitia decer[illegible] a[illegible] it. Fuit unus ex eodem illo [illegible] u[illegible] n nos inexplebilis odij, infinitæq; superbiæ, cui [illegible] ego tunc [illegible] tacite [illegible] ra[illegible] antum poterat ætas inualida animum execrabat. Is pontifici an[illegible] c m[illegible] cl[illegible] d[illegible] im in secretarium ingressus: cum rumoribus consternatum atq; anxi[illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] t enim belli impetus præter spem huius Vrbis, in limine, quæ tunc quidem mu[illegible] n[illegible] it quod op[illegible] mum muri genus est, & militia insigni & ducibus armat[illegible] is[illegible] [illegible] pe[illegible] m obsessores suos fuderant obsessi, iam captiuorum turbis carceres [illegible] edun[illegible] d[illegible] m cæsorum [illegible] tescebant arua uisceribus. In hoc ergo rerum sta[illegible] u[illegible] um [illegible] ito m[illegible] n cerneret, [illegible] ami[illegible] iaritate intima fretus, sic a[illegible] greditur. Miror (inquit [illegible] ater S[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] quid est, quod acutissimus in cæteris, in eo un[illegible], quod est summum nobi[illegible] ac p[illegible] [illegible] m uides? Ad hæc Pontifex grauibus pressum caput extulit [illegible] perge [illegible] Q[illegible] re[illegible]? Tunc ille consultor egre[illegible] ius: Scio (ait) te nihil tam [illegible] ptare, q[illegible] Italiæ uast[illegible] [illegible] ui[illegible] p[illegible] consilia expendimus, in hoc Ecclesiæ th[illegible] auros, iam penè omnes [illegible] [illegible] ext[illegible] cabilem rem ag[illegible] ressi, nisi alia tentetur uia. Ecce nunc ille tantus be[illegible] lo[illegible] ap[illegible] [illegible] m uir tun[illegible] pis, in ipsis Mediolani portis obtunditur qu[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] c[illegible] nost[illegible] um similem asserebant, re ipsa superior om[illegible] [illegible] lam [illegible] ceremu[illegible] go una [illegible] lica ciuitate uincimur. Sed si uelis, [illegible] Q[illegible] æ nam (inquit) Pontifex dic ocyus? Hoc enim molior, hoc cupi[illegible] h[illegible] c e[illegible] n[illegible] u[illegible] sim corpus & animã paciscer. Ille a[illegible] em: Potes (inquit) [illegible] m[illegible] ia, & [illegible] [illegible] um [illegible] rur non igitur, & Papatum, & imperium urbi Romę, & [illegible] aliæ eri[illegible] is. [illegible] il[illegible] [illegible] im p[illegible] triam nostram, hoc est, in Va[illegible] oniam transfers? Non m[illegible] s ei[illegible] bor, d[illegible] armis est opus, quibus longè impares sumus, uerbo de hos[illegible] ibu[illegible] triu[illegible] p[illegible] rnaueris nouis insi[illegible] nibus, ad nos translato rerum a[illegible] ice, & [illegible] em[illegible] [illegible] rbaue[illegible] s. Hic erectus Pontifex, ex ira risu oborto. [illegible] efel[illegible] me [illegible] ndum, t[illegible] d[illegible] rare cognoue[illegible] m, an ignoras insci[illegible], hac ui[illegible] q[illegible] am statu[illegible] [illegible] me & qui mihi su[illegible] e[illegible] p[illegible] opos Catu[illegible] e[illegible] Imp[illegible] [illegible] is fuerit Va[illegible] niæ præ[illegible] m. [illegible] um uer[illegible] qu[illegible] Romæ præ[illegible] dem [illegible] n[illegible] Papam, sin temporaliter Imperatorem ore? Sic Italum nomen dum euert[illegible] putas

 attollis,

[illegible] antiquam restitu[illegible] m. N[illegible] dat[illegible] d[illegible] f[illegible] & in l[illegible] quod ipsum, quam [illegible] est. [illegible] us, uel mu[illegible] uolu[illegible] us e[illegible] m[illegible] R[illegible] [illegible] o uerò [illegible] a [illegible] in [illegible] quamuis in no[illegible] tamen at[illegible] tudo cuius è [illegible] fundamenta [illegible] ta [illegible] ex [illegible] mal[illegible] tali [illegible] gaudendu[illegible] h[illegible], q[illegible] an a[illegible] ta sit, i[illegible] tibi n[illegible] h[illegible] ota autem ex in[illegible] dis[illegible] as [illegible] gnarus ueterum præsen[illegible] [illegible] dubus a[illegible], quibus pr[illegible] simus atque odio, & [illegible] uero. [illegible] quis etiam [illegible] ex [illegible] is metu a[illegible] crec[illegible] qua[illegible] ptu[illegible] numero est, q[illegible] a[illegible] suus, to[illegible] m[illegible] x[illegible] natiuum depo[illegible] orem, [illegible] plurium naturam, & exter[illegible] s mores [illegible]. [illegible] nihil est reliqui, [illegible] C H R [illegible] S T V M precari, Insequ ereptam [illegible] dat[illegible], qu[illegible] m n[illegible] niteat simul, & [illegible] humanum genus. Hi etenim tales sint, qu[illegible] les [illegible] uerò quales dicere [illegible] queo, [illegible] ad extrema dedecorum atque nequitiæ, quæ ut c[illegible] steterat prolapsa res est, ex quo sancta & potens tunc Romana, nunc A[illegible] [illegible] sydera & digito cœlum uoluit, ubi & Iudas si triginta illos su[illegible] s [illegible] is attulerit admittetur, & pauper à limine C H R I S T V S arcel[illegible] d [illegible] Christianus nemo est qui nesciat, nemo qui non doleat, nemo [illegible] a dum alius [illegible] lium expectat, malorum impu[illegible] as, quantum uides creuit [illegible] cipio m[illegible] abile ma[illegible] fuerat, iam temp[illegible] tuit. Cœperat enim, [illegible] teor [illegible] m ætat[illegible] n[illegible] am, ut a[illegible] auis accepimus fœdum hoc ulcus inflari, [illegible] quod mol[illegible] d[illegible] te[illegible], intemperans morbum auxit exiguum. Itaque iam hæc pest[illegible] ad [illegible] tum spe[illegible] ta[illegible] sanies in n[illegible] strum tempus erupit flebile, nisi unum t[illegible] ntis [illegible] s solatij genu[illegible] Dicam uero tibi nunc, quod interdum dixi ei, qui solus è cunctis [illegible] nt, ill[illegible] greg[illegible] simo, melioribus pascuis dignus erat, ingenti cum assensu eius, licet ipse dicto [illegible] morum respectu [illegible] quàm status atque originis tangeretur. Siquidem enim, quoniam [illegible] h[illegible] m res oportet esse mortales, duo hæc mundi luminaria extingui, duosque gladios ret[illegible] d[illegible] creti necessitas cogebat, quamuis utrunque, præcipueque alterum, occasui exempt[illegible] m[illegible] sis cœlestibus speraremus, nec desperandum sit, omnia hæc cum funditus tuen[illegible] re[illegible] tura al[illegible], si tamen hæc tam grauis rerum eminentium ruina, nostro sæculo imped[illegible] bit Gaud[illegible] o, here[illegible] e quod cum in manibus nostris lux, & uigor suus his manserit, in alie[illegible] hæc [illegible] mutatio facta est, t[illegible] ntrecq cu[illegible] pæ partem habet illa horrida & immitis: partem [illegible] mollis, & eneruata barbaries. Quibus ille auditis, libertate mea nihil offensus, Grau[illegible] te[illegible] quit, [illegible] libere, & aliorum fortasse auribus importunè, meis certè fidentissimè, & ut te d[illegible] e uerissimè locutus es. Neu me forsan ueri in[illegible] cium, aut diuersæ sententiæ arbitreris, duos [illegible] mentes nostros, plus attriuisse Ecclesiam paucis annis, quam septem Gregorij uestri, m[illegible] se[illegible] ulis restaurare possent: nec ego dubito, nec dubitare aliquem existimo. Ille quid[illegible] m [illegible] trans, nos autem zelo d[illegible] mus tuæ C H R I [illegible] T E I E S V iam satis euecti sumus, ne[illegible] [illegible] sub sole fœd[illegible] or rerum tra[illegible] es [illegible] lo potuerat occurrere, itaque redeundum est. A[illegible] nc er g[illegible] populum, amice l[illegible] is, tu[illegible] n[illegible] bi quietem inuidentibus, an doctrinam ingerent[illegible] s [illegible] [illegible] per[illegible] atione dicam exilio, ubi magis quàm iucunda, quo effectum est, ut & [illegible] g[illegible], & mihi conceptum scribendi negotium abstuleris. Iam profectò, nec mihi nec al[illegible] e n[illegible] quid sit Babylon Rhodani, qualiterue sit exulibus Sion inter flumina B[illegible] b[illegible] l[illegible] is d[illegible] us a[illegible] ò magnifice tua mecum nuper egit epistola, ut illius sentinæ abdita su[illegible] s scrutatus, omnes eius Labyrinthi latebras penitus inspexisse uideare, multo tædio m[illegible] reo[illegible] angoribus, huius ueri notitiam comparasti. Illud tibi pergratum, mihi inu[illegible] fuit solamen, quod inter tantas uitiorum tenebras, quatuor magnis illis quidem [illegible] eo[illegible] dem lucidissimis te syderibus usum scribis, quos nescio, an auorum crimen [illegible] o[illegible] mos, inte[illegible] rimosque hominũ noui, an quæ fallacissima uitę spes, an q[illegible] [illegible] sia, [illegible] stis [illegible] ne[illegible] essi[illegible] a[illegible], [illegible] detineat, quare permitte, quæso ut quod in animo est, [illegible] l in[illegible] m[illegible] o [illegible] mone ex[illegible] quasi inq[illegible] tam, in cloaca solis rad[illegible] os, & loci simul obscœnit[illegible] atem, omnem suo lumine nudantes, & circunfusis sordibus inaccessos.

E [illegible] hæres [illegible] [illegible]ctans raperis, hoc potius reor, [illegible] ardens ingenium, mens [illegible] n[illegible]m est quàm uirtus, [illegible] habet op[illegible] [illegible]itat [illegible]a succumbunt. [illegible] tra[illegible] te detinet [illegible] bonum [illegible] om[illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible]es, ha[illegible]s, [illegible] Sed in te[illegible] [illegible]ternis, & [illegible] HRI[illegible] [illegible]ter. V[illegible]tas ibi dementia est [illegible] [illegible] peccandi licentia magnanim[illegible], & liberta[illegible] [illegible]o plus scelerum, eo plus gloriæ, bonum nomen [illegible] [illegible]abes quantum in [illegible] pauci, sicut illius sacræ [illegible] [illegible] hodie, quàm in illorum frontibus hominum [illegible] [illegible]is, nullum æquet ingenium. Cæterum prima omni[illegible] [illegible] limen illud introijt conicistim suus esse desijt, iam nec quies [illegible] [illegible] rotatur, & inefficaci labore confirmendus atter[illegible]ur. Pauc[illegible] à lege, ut Hierusalem diligant, atque oderint Babylonem. H[illegible] [illegible] tuis de rebus actum crederem, tàm tenaci, profundoque limo [illegible] interim non uolunta[illegible], aut iudicio, necessitati imputo [illegible] [illegible]is, & moras quas uehementer odi, libenter excuso, quod si qu[illegible] in [illegible] culpa fuit, in mora ipsa, utique iam non culpa, sed supplicium, & pro[illegible] culpæ, [illegible] niam m[illegible] multa sæpe in carcere didicerũt, quid te uetat, in uincul[illegible] discere, ali[illegible] [illegible]o perpet[illegible] doctior? Quædam nullo modo melius quam contrario discũt, [illegible] Ma[illegible] cas artes docet, si quando parum ueri capax mens, dis[illegible] uisa er[illegible] [illegible] proponete, quæ dum refugit animus, ad ueriora confugiat. Tu quoque [illegible] [illegible] semper & honestati operam dare, quarum altera ad illius aspectum [illegible] [illegible]am, de quo ait Psalmista: Quærite faciem eius semper. Alterius ea facies est, q[illegible] [illegible]ner[illegible]ur, ut ait Plato, miris animum amoribus inflammaret, ne[illegible] [illegible] est, quod animo cernitur, siquid tibi nunc etiam ad utriu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] illud um in aduersa reflectito, arrige aure, fige ocul[illegible] [illegible]udin[illegible] Dei noscere, cerne quanta est hostium eius obscœnitas. Non [illegible] [illegible]ge quæreret, Babylone habitant, omnis uicus his uermibus scatet. [illegible] [illegible] atis agnoscere, contemplare quanta est fœditas uitiorum, quorum omnium [illegible]lar in oculis est tibi. Quocunque respexeris, uidebis cuius odio simul [illegible] [illegible]eri queas. Tu autem gaude, contrario saltem magistra uirtutum: gaude (inquam) [illegible]d utilis, inuenta gloriæ, bonorũ hostis & malorum hospes, atque asylum pessima [illegible]lon, feris, Rhodani ripis imposita famosa dicã an infamis meretrix fornicata cum [illegible] ræ. Illa e[illegible]idem ipsa es, quam in spiritu sacer uidit Euangelista. Illa cadem [illegible] [illegible] super aquas multas, siue ad littora tribus cincta flu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]arum [illegible] ba m[illegible]rtalium, quibus lasciuiens, ac secura insides, op[illegible] [illegible] idem qui uidit exposuit. Populi & gentes, & linguæ, a[illegible] [illegible]as meretrix sedes, recognosce habitum. Mulier circundata purpur[illegible], & [illegible] [illegible]ro, et lapide pretioso & margaritis, habens poculum aureum in manu sua [illegible] [illegible]one, & immunditia fornicationis eius. Noscis ne teipsam Babylon. N[illegible] [illegible]em facit, quod in illius fronte scriptum erat Babylon magna, tu uero Babylon par[illegible] [illegible]ua utique murorum ambitu, sed uitijs & ambitu animorum, & infinita cupidine, cu[illegible] [illegible]alorum omnium, non magna modò sed maxima, sed immensa es. Et certè qu[illegible] [illegible]um conuenit, non alij Babylon, mater fornicationum, & abominationum [illegible] [illegible] partuum pessimorum quando quicquid u[illegible] terrarum a[illegible] [illegible]um ex te prodit, & cum semper parias, semper t[illegible]ens, [illegible] [illegible] dissimu[illegible]as, audi reliqua. E[illegible] [illegible]m de sanguine sanctorum, & de sanguine martyrum IESV. Quid [illegible] [illegible] iam ostende an omninò potes, te hanc ebriam ne[illegible]. V[illegible] [illegible] Apostoli uisio sit oportet, qui si te in spiritu uidens miratus est, admiratione

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ma[illegible]a, qua[illegible] a no[illegible] admirat[illegible] pe[illegible] qu[illegible] spe[illegible] [illegible] quolem f[illegible] nib[illegible], d[illegible] [illegible] bus [illegible] us [illegible] ma[illegible] & facta c[illegible] hal[illegible] es[illegible] ant [illegible] [illegible] æ [illegible] m[illegible] r. Vre[illegible] [illegible] im dæmon[illegible] m [illegible] m[illegible] im code[illegible] de [illegible] p [illegible] & ne[illegible] [illegible] acc[illegible] ru[illegible] ta [illegible] [illegible] S[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] eus, [illegible] & q[illegible] [illegible] tuam ru[illegible]næ no[illegible] m, & [illegible] al[illegible] onicæ pr[illegible] [illegible] meus non me[illegible] [illegible] demum [illegible] hære[illegible] te[illegible] m [illegible] m [illegible] resi speciem, n[illegible] m, spiritus sancti [illegible] me[illegible] [illegible]. Taceo [illegible] matr[illegible] d[illegible] ab Apostolo d[illegible] est. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] icum thalamis proxonætas. Taceo crudelitat[illegible] [illegible] tam insolentiam, at[illegible] e illos uan[illegible] flatibus tens[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] sensibil[illegible] ucre pro orbis terrarum orbis tan[illegible] u [illegible] e pati pot[illegible], quorum omnium mœsta nimi[illegible] [illegible] lat[illegible] odiosa [illegible] no[illegible]. Quis, oro, [illegible] m non iras[illegible] tur & ri[illegible] [illegible], coma c[illegible] [illegible] rogis amplissimis, adeoq; l[illegible] entibus animis, ut n[illegible] tur qua[illegible] d a[illegible] Mato:

Frigidus in Venerem senior!

Tam calidi, tamq; præcipites in Venerem senes sunt, tanta eos [illegible] atis, & [illegible] pit obliuio, [illegible] libidines inardescunt, sic in omne ruunt dede[illegible] [illegible] in cruce CHRISTI [illegible], sed in comme[illegible] onibus, & [illegible] us, [illegible] [illegible] ur in cubilibus, impudicitijs, sic fugientem manu ret[illegible] hunt, inue[illegible] am [illegible] n[illegible] m senectutis ultimæ lucrum putant, ea facere, quæ iuuenes n[illegible] auderent. [illegible] h[illegible] s neruos tribuit. Hinc Bacchus indomitus, hinc orientalium uis bacchan[illegible] m. [illegible] & Campani palmites, ò dulces arundines, & Indicæ nigrantes arbustulæ, ad hone[illegible] tia[illegible] & utilitates hominum creatæ, in quos usus, & quanta animarum perniciem, cla[illegible] ue[illegible] [illegible]. Spectat hæc Sathan ridens, atq; in pari tripudio delectatus, interq; dec[illegible] s ac p[illegible] as arbiter sedens, stupet plus illos agere, quàm se hortari, ac ne qui[illegible] rebus t[illegible] rep[illegible] e interim, & seniles lumbos stimulis incitat, & cœtum pere[illegible] n[illegible] is [illegible] cie[illegible] e fœda pas[illegible] m o[illegible] im[illegible] incendia, m[illegible] upra, raptu[illegible], [illegible], a[illegible] P[illegible] is lasciuiæ ludi sunt. Mitto raptarum uiros, ne mutire au[illegible] [illegible] l[illegible] us [illegible] ed[illegible] ibus patrijs exturbatos, quæq; contumeliarum grauissima est & u[illegible] iu[illegible] es, & externo semine grauidas rursus ac[illegible] ipere, & post partum reddere, ad altern[illegible] [illegible] tatem abuientium coactos. Quæ omnia nõ unus ego, sed uulgus nouit, & [illegible] [illegible] ne idipsum taceat iam maior est indignatio quam metus, & minacem [illegible] b[illegible] dinem [illegible] lor. Hæc, inquam, uniuersa prætereo. Malo quidem te hodie, ad risum quàm ad iracund[illegible] p[illegible] re ita enim quæ [illegible] ci[illegible] it, in se flectitur, & in dominum su[illegible] s[illegible] uit. Fu[illegible] f[illegible] m, ex e[illegible] nume[illegible] us, cunctis annalibus implendis idoneus, h[illegible] d[illegible] h[illegible] at, uel [illegible] qu[illegible] d[illegible] no[illegible] s, atque ol[illegible] us hirco est, [illegible] seu [illegible] ures me[illegible], [illegible] l[illegible] res [illegible] do[illegible] mire [illegible] non audebat nil apud eum tris[illegible] s, n[illegible] miseri[illegible] s c[illegible], n[illegible] s qu[illegible] nuptias celebrabat & creber uagi[illegible] amplexibus spon[illegible] s erat cum [illegible] uacuum, & ætas plena esset, septuagesimum pridem annum excesserat, [illegible] dente superstite. [illegible] at illi puellarum auceps unus ex multis, domini su[illegible] bi[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] r, cuiu[illegible] ret[illegible] & laquei, omnes uic[illegible] mnium, & præsertim pauperum [illegible] om[illegible] [illegible] h[illegible] pec[illegible] as [illegible] c[illegible] cula, huc an[illegible] huc postremò blanditias, h[illegible] c [illegible] [illegible] e [illegible] rum & [illegible] æcu[illegible] fle[illegible] a muliebres anim[illegible], c[illegible] at, [illegible] can[illegible]. Nam [illegible] reuera cãtor erat, sed q[illegible] uocem ab a[illegible] [illegible] N[illegible] ram [illegible] om[illegible] m uulgi [illegible] mon[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ieni[illegible] re s[illegible] s diceret [illegible]. Mule[illegible] c[illegible] h[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] e[illegible] u[illegible] ticis, m[illegible] llam uir[illegible] un[illegible] la, an meretri[illegible] d[illegible] exc[illegible] gradum, & magnarum opum, sed nec formæ, [illegible]

b[illegible] in an[illegible] duceres. Quid m[illegible] Acquiescit, & uelut Psyche illa Lu-[illegible] hon[illegible] da, [illegible] um fuit. Recomperta, impa-[illegible] & [illegible] s exosulans, atque inermiore cō-[illegible] commare nosses [illegible] o malo percita, & olente senio, [illegible] deterita, exclamat. A[illegible] nem prælatum non ad [illegible] & d[illegible] epitum sacerdotem [illegible] m fieri. Vis [illegible] ma-[illegible] d post deinde gemitibu[illegible] m, neque [illegible] um reliquiæ spiri-[illegible] ni pat[illegible] tram se à iam turpi [illegible] certum flectat ille au-[illegible] & m[illegible] au scabra, & ore hispido, [illegible] us & [illegible] m[illegible] labatur obstare, atque inc[illegible] cæte[illegible] sus adeò, ut a ne[illegible] Sed cum [illegible] s, [illegible] tum se [illegible] fe[illegible] en p[illegible] & [illegible] suum, [illegible] fuit [illegible] ne timeat [illegible]. Sic amasio [illegible] latos, in geniale cubiculū deduxit [illegible] Cu[illegible] ad hunc modū Cupidinis ueteranus, B[illegible] cho Liber, & Veneri, n[illegible] armatu[illegible] d [illegible] itus de suis amoribus triumphauit: Plaudite: fabula acta est N[illegible] homin[illegible] [illegible] huius, & reliquorum mille sunt talia, quorum quæd[illegible] m n[illegible] [illegible] alia, uero mania, & horrenda sunt. Nunc, miraris, ducibus his, & [illegible] suo CHRISTVM & Rempub. prosperari.

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Periculum egresso gratulatur, & ut caueat hortatur.

E[illegible] isti, enatasti, euolasti, benè [illegible] timebam fateor tibi, timebam an[illegible] [illegible] descensum ad inferos, non cum uellet emergere sciebam, & Auerni descen-[illegible] n facilem, & [illegible] perrum Labyrinthi limen laboriosum, atque operosum exitum: Di[illegible] m mer[illegible] O[illegible] meus Alcides, o si Theseus meus, ab inferis redeat. O ne mali [illegible] m [illegible] pprim[illegible] t, neque pedes ad uirtutem, uolucres, adamantinæ scelerum catenæ [illegible] que. Inter hæc uota, hosque inter, metus emersisti, Deo gratias, qui ex inferno [illegible] educit, exoptatus, euocatus, expectatus aduenis. Hi[illegible] primi[illegible] [illegible] Hæ[illegible] credideranto nō Phœbo, ut Dædalus, sed CHRIS[illegible] [illegible] tabi[illegible] & caue[illegible] s, ne unquā amplius Gnosum spectes. Non est [illegible] us retent[illegible] [illegible] periculum sine periculo non fit, id cum semel euaseris, declina, [illegible] non fugias, nulla unquam te mala cupiditas tangat, ut [illegible] [illegible] is adeas. Quos cum suis opibus, suisque flagitijs dij, deæque omnes, [illegible] [illegible] mortuos malè perdat, quę cœlestis agni sanguine [illegible] [illegible] m, meus [illegible] euocat, quò te plangente, persuaderi mihi [illegible] [illegible] quidem, sed improuidus, ut Babylone uiuer[illegible] [illegible] cam bonos mergi, malos erigi, reptare aquilas, asinos [illegible] terribus, colūbas in [illegible] quil[illegible] liberos lupos, agnos [illegible] exulem, Antichri[illegible] Dominum, Beelzebub iudicem. [illegible] am, malè mihi cum illis, malè illis mecum conuenit. O [illegible] nil nisi ipsos amantium, idque ipsum [illegible] [illegible] Quis [illegible] pressum orbem? Quis uindicabit afflictum orbem? quis euer[illegible] [illegible] et sparsas oues? Quis pastores erroneos arguet? Qui [illegible] [illegible] nullus ne licentiæ ac scelerum modus erit [illegible] [illegible] hæc fecisti & tacui, existimasti iniquè, quod [illegible] [illegible] contra faciem tuam. Intelligite qui obliuiscimini Deum [illegible] quiequam) nobis loquitur, Dei hostes in [illegible] [illegible] nunquam [illegible] horrendo tonitru, seu [illegible] [illegible] fulmine expertecti. Ad te m[illegible] sermo est [illegible] sime Re-[illegible] temporis, quem non nomino, quando & nomen obstat [illegible] scriptioni & abundè [illegible] rerum ac gloriæ magnitudo. Nam quid opus est ue[illegible] [illegible] es loqui [illegible] [illegible] nus te uictorijs ornatum credere phas est, qui [illegible] [illegible] alis [illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] ulo[illegible] s las nefarias fœdis, & non suis e caueis CHRISTI q; [illegible] [illegible] s eruere, potens es. Et facies [illegible] iure, tibi perpetuam fœlicita[illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] m optaue[illegible] t. Past[illegible] em illum, & senio, & soporem [illegible] [illegible] ga-[illegible] m [illegible] ama[illegible] us egressurum, solus manu pr[illegible] tens[illegible]

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& ue [illegible] m, à [illegible] ant [illegible] bic [illegible], q [illegible] plu [illegible] quam [illegible] uem [illegible] ea [illegible] mu [illegible] que [illegible] mei te. Ad p [illegible] rem [illegible] obduratum [illegible] qui [illegible] tipl [illegible] m [illegible] lingua, p [illegible] o [illegible] p [illegible] xi tam [illegible] & iam [illegible] dixisse non [illegible] m, de ere [illegible] & [illegible] st ue [illegible] ali odium [illegible] om [illegible] cum [illegible] ulcar: [illegible] n [illegible] qua [illegible] im [illegible] a le nunc o [illegible] erant [illegible] & perexigua dice [illegible] eo [illegible] em [illegible], manum meam ponam super os [illegible] n add [illegible].

FRAN. PETRARCHA C. AMICO. S. Epist. XVIII.

Contra [illegible] ut scribat [illegible] ortatur amicum.

MA [illegible] nam tu [illegible], ubcremque materiam, & lætandi tribuis, & sperandi [illegible] ant [illegible] [illegible] fortasse, non alius in te oculos altiùs defixit. C [illegible] arum t [illegible] Deus dedit, industria que no [illegible] lis stimulos addidit, atque ex his not [illegible] [illegible] um, pro ætate minimeam: ipse nempè, non alius est [illegible] dat om [illegible] [illegible] operat, Ipse est, cui soli conuenit, quod ludens pr [illegible] tas lo [illegible] g [illegible] m [illegible] largitor. Et sicut t [illegible] ad rerum perceptionem [illegible] ex- pr [illegible] ia [illegible] ius defect [illegible] s m [illegible] a sæpe dec [illegible] orau [illegible] genia, [illegible] s [illegible]. Tu [illegible] us his instru [illegible], [illegible] fauore Dei uu [illegible], & hominum [illegible] m [illegible] ter duræ re [illegible] onis ingressus es, eo duce, p [illegible] quem nemo unquam e [illegible] q [illegible] A [illegible] num dico, cuius hæsisse uestigijs, ea demum & [illegible] lum [illegible] d [illegible] m uia est. A [illegible] penè puer eras, dum consanguineo [illegible] lo tuo, ut [illegible] & amico [illegible] stante ad me perductus, aliquandiù pro tuorum tunc annorum imbecil [illegible] tat [illegible] tem, [illegible] ò me impleßi, ut contra morem propositumque meum, tant [illegible] n [illegible] am amplexus, sæpè exinde de me redeuntem, indies lætius te uiderem, ad [illegible] d [illegible] id ætatis, [illegible] stræ amicitiæ tanta cupiditas, & sæpè mecum in silentio, po [illegible] a [illegible] illud p [illegible] s Ambro [illegible] repetens. Puer iste, si uixerit aliquid magni erit. Tra [illegible] u [illegible] [illegible] m anni plures, nihil enim tàm tacitè, tamque uelociter transit, diuque in patriam [illegible], tuo conspectu carui. [illegible] puer meus, ad me red [illegible] t, sed ut ai [illegible] Naso:

Iam iuuenis, iam uir, iam formosior ipso:

Ea scilicet forma, quam, nec ætas imminuet, nec morbus eripiat, nec mors ipsa. Iam de [illegible] tur [illegible] n tantum spero, sed spero simul & gaudeo, est enim præsentis [illegible] oni nomen ga [illegible] spes futuri. [illegible] ecce iam te magnis uiris parem teneo, parem maximis mox tenebo [illegible] em p [illegible] citer assumptum, excita teipsum, adde geminum calcar ingenio, hinc honori [illegible] d [illegible] is mane cœpisti noli sub meridiem torpere. Solent pigri uiatores, dum solem [illegible] d [illegible] u [illegible] clunt [illegible] tum luc [illegible] bi superest e cogitantes umbras quærere, seque omn [illegible] [illegible] ade [illegible] e, ser [illegible] an [illegible] pe [illegible] inclinatam diem, se & elusos intelligere, id ex te certe n [illegible] [illegible] o non hoc [illegible] mi tui a [illegible] dor [illegible] o [illegible] d [illegible] n frons, non oculi, non uerba denu [illegible] ciant V [illegible] [illegible] em multos, ad [illegible] mma [illegible] s [illegible] nuit, & aduertit, dum auctoritate nel [illegible] quo- rum insan [illegible] rum [illegible] ret, n [illegible] c [illegible] iam æt [illegible] tem c [illegible] ns [illegible] tem, uana sibi persuasione c [illegible] n [illegible] quæ n [illegible] la unqu [illegible] sui [illegible] semper & labitur [illegible] & rapitur [illegible] Cicero [illegible] olat Excu [illegible] tenuisque senectutis inertiam fragilitas & morbo [illegible] n- [illegible] que illam præmen [illegible] quæ [illegible] en [illegible] quid instar uirtutis est reliquum, neque omnia, a [illegible] a- tiles abstulerunt, magna ui [illegible] finem suis affinibus abigit torporem, & uigorem [illegible] ad honest [illegible] s actus manu retrahit. Meministi M. Port. Catonem [illegible] Latinas litera [illegible] n [illegible] cent [illegible] cas uet [illegible] unc senem [illegible] cap ipsa ætate Socratem, post l [illegible] o [illegible] m [illegible] re, [illegible] dem [illegible] hilos [illegible] litum obliuisci [illegible] latonem [illegible] [illegible] o ul [illegible] mo uel S [illegible] m [illegible] s sub capite habente [illegible] u V [illegible] e C [illegible] mori S [illegible] o [illegible] ar [illegible] m, in certamen carm [illegible], a [illegible] Isocrat [illegible], ac Sopho [illegible] em [illegible] d [illegible] mi [illegible] P [illegible] p [illegible] de [illegible] ra [illegible] ipsa de [illegible] Pol [illegible] x [illegible], qui ætat [illegible] umar es be [illegible] s [illegible] eganti sime c [illegible]

ad [illegible]

[illegible] generis sermo [illegible] his similia, senectuti mi[illegible] bina [illegible] ut nihil sit p[illegible] tu[illegible] ex[illegible] enim uitia an[illegible] est [illegible] ardens [illegible] aut [illegible] certam [illegible] querun [illegible] ciplin [illegible] cu [illegible] n est iuuen [illegible] us exp [illegible] e [illegible] senectus docta, diutu [illegible] expectare dementia est [illegible] memorem, qu[illegible] etas alia n[illegible] da, & imped[illegible] ntis libera [illegible] faciunt qui scienti[illegible] uo [illegible] ptate sua [illegible] tantur [illegible] ,uulgo lu[illegible] dem, undiq; inutiles, nec [illegible] peruenit. Sed ex alio quoq; genere [illegible] minum [illegible] citent, quæ cum alias partes ætatis possent, ad agendum fortu[illegible] erunt, neq; uel modicum distulerunt, neq; si distul[illegible] iam Achylles Troiam, Alexander [illegible] m pul abat, Scipi[illegible] at, meridiemq; transi[illegible] at, [illegible] mpeius Magnus Hispaniam [illegible] pacan[illegible] at. Flac[illegible] tate Drusus uerò Germaniam [illegible] a popu[illegible], ac uincendo perue[illegible] rat, tantaq; a[illegible] e, ut h[illegible] quoq; uenerabilem se, in omne te[illegible] negant, uel dissimulant, quod interdum forte po[illegible] di, & ingenita huius noui Cæsaris, & suorum procerum c[illegible] ribus illustrioribus munire, his teipsum urge stimulis, h[illegible] qui uestigia, seq; illis conferre, magnis animis dulce [illegible] n mihi superest temporis: ut enim hoc dubium, sic certissimum [illegible] quod [illegible] dies ista reuertitur. Arripe eam ergo, ne tibi infructuosa prætereat, & ut ma[illegible] omnium, imò ferè cunctis hominibus, atq; in morem inter [illegible] tos [illegible] quod nulli unquam fuit, tibi certi temporis multum e[illegible] utilis dum abundant, nempe cum defecerint [illegible] ad[illegible] Quamobrem iterum atq; iterum te moneo, & obtestor, ne ull[illegible] fero, tecum ipse calculum ponas (tanquam dil[illegible] hoc egi hodie, hoc mer[illegible] hoc dedici hoc [illegible] Non enim minus ad uirtutem, quam ad [illegible] te e[illegible] hortor [illegible] diem [illegible] de[illegible] tenderis, nec uixisse te credito. Amice diem perdidi inquit [illegible] se laudatur, qui non alijs illa luce profuerat, quid dicturum pute[illegible], qui [illegible] Non possumus fateor libro semper incumbere, n[illegible] semper [illegible] & mundus est turbidus, & res inextricabiles, hoc possumus, cui [illegible] ad [illegible] usione, & in nos animi refectione pertransiat. Qu[illegible] modo e[illegible] nostra negligimus. Sedendo quidem, standoq;, licet [illegible] de [illegible] confe[illegible], & quanquam Cicero [illegible] aliter uid[illegible] re. Vix tam sterilis ager, ut tam durum est animi [illegible] quem n[illegible] det ac lenat. Quid de [illegible] perem, quem [illegible] Nostram ergo, quod apud [illegible] Cato, ducem [illegible] unum quidem naturæ, unumq; omnium patrem Deum [illegible] mentem, omnesq; qui [illegible] creauit, redemitq; omnium non c[illegible] sed ex [illegible] trophæo quod pro n[illegible] omnes inquam uocat [illegible] illum audiu[illegible] exaudi [illegible] à quo corpus atque anim[illegible] em e, qui sein te gaudemus, per quem er[illegible] & multa [illegible] ptem ego, quid ue a[illegible] qui te ain[illegible] tacito me [illegible]

tamen [illegible] on obmiſerim [illegible] ut animum aecomm[illegible]cs, [illegible]
g[illegible] á notiti[illegible] dch[illegible]
[illegible]us [illegible] ſupc[illegible]
[illegible] crexi[illegible] Exp[illegible]
ter [illegible] omnia [illegible]
nalium ſit in[illegible] a tu[illegible] ſunt [illegible]
cul[illegible] on æ omne [illegible] ſecundo de d[illegible]ina C[illegible]
idem diſputat A[illegible]. Leg[illegible], quæ potes [illegible]
lis præiud[illegible] quantum d[illegible] ingeni[illegible] ut memoriam aſ[illegible]tas, ſempe[illegible]
neris eſſe [illegible]rum non Poëtam, ſur Phil[illegible]hum: niſi, inquam, tum ueru[illegible]
ph[illegible] ſpic[illegible]ſt amator. Vera autem Dei pat[illegible]is ſapientia CHRISTVS eſt. [illegible]
[illegible] in omni doctrina illa tibi præcipua cura ſit, nunquam abdita, [illegible]
[illegible] quam [illegible], quibus animum intendis, ſunt enim [illegible]
me q[illegible] intel[illegible]aniter gloriant[illegible], ſtultum genu[illegible] nam ut [illegible]
ctum, ſi ni fallor cl[illegible]itas eſt [illegible]icitas intellectus. In omni autem ſanctitate ac [illegible]
dicam illam, & compendiariam, Socratis ad gloriam uiam nunquam d[illegible], [illegible]
eſſe ſtudeas, qual[illegible]s uideri: ſunt enim peſsimi quidam, qui uideri uolunt [illegible]
alios, ſic & [illegible]eum, & conſcientiam ſuam fallant. Geminæ autem uitæ huiu[illegible]
habes, utrique tamen unus ſuffecerit Auguſtinus domeſticus tuus dux, [illegible]
pſa tua ætate, cum erroribus, ac uitiis generoſo impetu magnificentiſsime [illegible]
[illegible]nquam uitæ error fuit, aut doctrinæ primus contraria ſublatus eſt [illegible]
dus manu [illegible] diſcretiſsimo uolumine extirpatus eſt, ut nil ſit tutius, qu[illegible]
u[illegible]am [illegible] & doctrinam ſequi. Hoc ne tibi unquam è memoria excidat [illegible]tremum [illegible]
ſo ut cum primum perueneris quò ſuſpiras, quod citò fore confido, contra canem [illegible] rabidum Auerroim, qui furore actus infando, contra dominum ſuum CHRISTVM, contraq; catholicam fidem latrat, collectis undique blaſphemiis eius, quod ut ſcis, iam cœperamus, ſed me ingens ſemper, & nunc ſolito maior occupatio, nec m[illegible] temporis, quam [illegible]entiæ retraxit inopia, totis ingenii uiribus ac neruis incumbens, rem à multis magni[illegible] impiè neglectam, opuſculum unum ſcribas, & mihi illud inſcribas, ſeu tunc uiuus ero, [illegible] interim abiero, ſemper enim tempus eſt omnibus, & mihi inter alios, iam de habit[illegible]gitandi. Neu dubita defuturum tibi, uel ingenium, uel ſtylum quamuis tuorum nonnullis ſolitum deeſſe aderit CHRISTVS ſuas res agenti,
qui tibi affuit, uel naſcenti.
Vale.

FRANC[illegible]

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. IN E[illegible]TOLAS RERUM SENILIU[illegible] [illegible]IMONI[illegible]

PRAEFATIO.

[illegible] m Socrati meo [illegible] is [illegible] M [illegible] X[illegible] VIII. omni[illegible] ine[illegible] [illegible], nam mem[illegible] n, quae [illegible] [illegible]xagesimo faciam anno [illegible] [illegible]imum, unicumq; habui[illegible] em mihi [illegible] su[illegible] um ducere ne tristi[illegible] mi[illegible] ctum ren[illegible] [illegible] in multis locis, per[illegible] hanc maximé C[illegible] [illegible] quinq; inter ce[illegible]eras Mediol[illegible]num [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ctam, pené funditus exhau[illegible], me[illegible] uo[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] neq[illegible] mni[illegible] medi[illegible] s cogat [illegible] ult[illegible] mi[illegible] pe[illegible] [illegible] ampl[illegible] us fortun[illegible] tab[illegible] si puero[illegible] si mi[illegible] cum fierner ac[illegible] [illegible] id quod [illegible]cturus sum prog[illegible]. [illegible] id So[illegible] libe[illegible] F[illegible]m [illegible] em ingens, & si [illegible]eretur ingentior futuru[illegible]. pre[illegible] le quod[illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]aris styli, quam uix[illegible] hi[illegible]s ost[illegible]nd[illegible] qu[illegible] le mi[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] tum necessitas extor[illegible] rit e[illegible] [illegible] m rer[illegible] [illegible] meorum, n[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] quid detraham, totum t[illegible] in[illegible] bere[illegible] an[illegible] us c[illegible] prot[illegible] [illegible] quantum sané uel rerum, uel in[illegible]x[illegible] petes, [illegible] certum est, q[illegible] [illegible] quod[illegible] si modicum totum si[illegible] neq; uer[illegible] cun[illegible] [illegible] rem [illegible] [illegible] red[illegible]s, sed memineris e[illegible] te[illegible] hi[illegible] tempest[illegible] te, nondum co[illegible] tan[illegible], q[illegible] d [illegible] om[illegible] ulta sunt ad te[illegible] ui ne[illegible] dum Simon[illegible] nomen [illegible] q[illegible] m q[illegible] [illegible] um rerum, tibi dono, eó gratius accipies, quo serius, [illegible] ibratio [illegible] [illegible] num dona quam iuuenum.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARUM DE REBUS SENILIBUS,

LIBER I.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SIMONIDI SUO, S. Epist. I.

Fortunae blanditias contemnendas esse.

[illegible] AM anté literularum tuarum aduectum, & Zenobium nost[illegible]um defunctum e[illegible] moestus, & te Campanum fieri laetus au[illegible]ieram: gaudeo, hercl[illegible] ubi totus esse non possum, te qua[illegible] dimid[illegible]m animae meae esse, ut de Virgilio ait Flaccus, dū q[illegible] cup[illegible] pero, ubicūq; fueris bené ac foeliciter sit. Neq; uero aliter e[illegible] [illegible]e persuadeo mihi tali hospite, Moecenate, illo [illegible]str[illegible] m om[illegible] tali, hoc animo tuo[illegible] tali deniq;, & t[illegible]m fido t[illegible]arum u[illegible] t[illegible] um ta[illegible]q; indiuiduo comitatu. Ad id quid[illegible] quod M[illegible]e[illegible]as [illegible] illum, tanta pre[illegible] m[illegible], [illegible] n[illegible] c[illegible]m in[illegible] m[illegible] a[illegible] m euo[illegible] q[illegible]d al[illegible] d[illegible] am. [illegible]uàm [illegible] me[illegible] non uestros [illegible] mi[illegible] no[illegible] os a[illegible]ctus, sed [illegible] ha[illegible] am[illegible] t[illegible] [illegible]m. Ne[illegible] ece[illegible] dol[illegible] c[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] ce[illegible] d[illegible] p[illegible] s[illegible]. D[illegible] [illegible] is [illegible]um di[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] mundus in exit, [illegible]ed u[illegible] [illegible] siccdo-

sic ed[illegible]ctus ludis talibus, [illegible] coa[illegible] sum [illegible]dem hoc ipso tempore [illegible] hic, n[illegible] [illegible] at u[illegible] [illegible], n[illegible] a me [illegible] R[illegible] m[illegible] C[illegible]sar [illegible] ec [illegible] prei[illegible] qu[illegible] p[illegible] lo[illegible]g[illegible] mer[illegible] [illegible] de [illegible] [illegible]us inerm[illegible]s, [illegible] [illegible] f[illegible]us Nigroma[illegible] ip[illegible] al[illegible] us ad se u[illegible] [illegible]us [illegible] n[illegible]ciis co[illegible]at[illegible] sq[illegible] li p[illegible] am o[illegible] at[illegible]s, [illegible] mucrò miri [illegible] [illegible]ta e[illegible]t, u[illegible]t me ad [illegible]m secretorũ, quod Zeno[illegible] noster gessit, quodq; nec ip[illegible] de[illegible] [illegible]us habuisset, ni[illegible] ego illud [illegible]tum mihi, perquiam hon[illegible] a[illegible]m. Sed senect[illegible]s auaritiæ f[illegible] ecta est, sperant f[illegible]rsitan me [illegible] [illegible]d[illegible]atem ac [illegible]t d[illegible]rem [illegible]lito, amplecti, quod iuuenis, in [illegible] q[illegible]ntur. [illegible] p[illegible]ætium egentium amicorum, quo[illegible] me [illegible] [illegible]actus e[illegible], inter quos [illegible] [illegible]gam tibi nu[illegible] [illegible], qu[illegible]e po[illegible] ac seponere, & [illegible]iceat obl[illegible] Ioa[illegible]es [illegible] [illegible]rimo [illegible] CHRIST[illegible] fuit Hie[illegible] [illegible]utar uerbo. Is Ioannes, qui te co[illegible]ere ap[illegible]d [illegible] [illegible]ona e[illegible] inter u[illegible]æ durum, ac breue ante uespe[illegible], imò uer[illegible] [illegible] cum [illegible] in melius spem dedisset, credo quo grauior mihi mors e[illegible] [illegible]est. Qu[illegible]d [illegible]m ad damni cum[illegible]um, calcarq; gemituum, ma[illegible]a pars uite[illegible] ad [illegible]lamen, & quia ille melior obijt, ego lætior uiuo. Omnibus [illegible] me uocant[illegible] [illegible], miras quidem, sed præ alijs senectutem ueram [illegible]am non [illegible] [illegible]m, ad honestos enim & placidos labores, adhuc Deo præstante, sat[illegible]us [illegible] [illegible]crep[illegible]ius, atque impotens factus sum, quod ipsum inter naturæ d[illegible]na [illegible] [illegible]od p[illegible]sse nolim nec possim quidem, nec honesta mihi unquam de[illegible] ex[illegible]atio [illegible] [illegible]è penuria, tædijs multis, grauibusq; negoci[illegible] imp[illegible]tum obt[illegible]. Ad hanc [illegible] u[illegible]cationem, cum me Pontifici excusassem, [illegible]m[illegible] te amice, [illegible] pro hon[illegible] t[illegible] Dabis [illegible]en[illegible] e[illegible]arum esset. Cogitaui enim, [illegible]mihi quem ad ta[illegible]rem u[illegible]ido [illegible] gi[illegible]en[illegible], [illegible]a[illegible]erius ingeni[illegible] creditum esse ar[illegible]is, ut par erat, uel emolumentum a[illegible] laborio[illegible] fate[illegible]r, sed honesti officij, uel repulsæ magnanimæ, tibi no desuturũ de[illegible]. [illegible] si mihi propter inobedientiam infesti, meum quoq; de te iuditium spreui[illegible]ent, tamen [illegible]um n[illegible]men, semper & tunc maximè, ueris laudibus prosequi meum duxi, quod quid[illegible] ex[illegible]lio q[illegible]àm ex me tibi nunciatum malim: scribo autem, ut paratior sis, responso, si [illegible] fo[illegible]san audieris. Neque uerò Mæcenatis nostri laude, laus tua caruit. Scripsi enim, te c[illegible] illo a[illegible]ere, & [illegible]lius è gremi[illegible] poscendum ut appareat, tum in alijs multis, tum in hoc q[illegible]ue, qua[illegible]s ille [illegible]t uir, qui talia Ecclesiæ nutrit ingenia, cui olim Zenobium dedisset, [illegible]e [illegible] q[illegible]tur te dat[illegible]rus, ut de communis patriæ laude tacuerim, quæ totius ciuium glori[illegible] fo[illegible]s quidam, illum simul & uos genuit, & alios edidit, & altorem. Reliquum est, u[illegible] m[illegible]mor[illegible]us asperis, hinc atque hinc pulsum, lætum minimè, sed rationis auxilio re[illegible]stare. Quid de me ipso statuam, tamen adhuc dubium, & facile fieri potest, nisi nouum quid emerserit, ut me audias, non post multos hos menses, in transalpinam solitudinem redijsse. Plenus sum Italicarum rerum. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SIMONIDI SVO, S. Epist. II.

Pro consolatione gratias agit.

PErgrat[illegible]m meis uulneribus medicinam, suauissima quidem, ac doctissima tua [illegible] [illegible]us, a[illegible]it. Solans me super adolescentis mei obitu, quem uiuentem ue[illegible] [illegible]ram, d[illegible]m m[illegible]e dili[illegible]o corde teneo, complectorq; memoria, quæ[illegible] heu ne q[illegible] quam. Amanti[illegible]sime tu quidem istud ut omnia. Sed ô ingens u[illegible] amoris, & rationis imperio exempta, fles tu interim co[illegible]lator meus, & quod fieri ratio pr[illegible] amor cogit, [illegible]es tu [illegible]lum nec immeritò. Quisquis enim esset in reliquis, tu amator, [illegible] tu[illegible] nominis indefessus cultor euaserat. Quo[illegible] mihi unum de multis indi[illegible]um e[illegible] [illegible]um [illegible]dies [illegible] nisi u[illegible] [illegible]ris excutere. CHRISTVM t[illegible]r, c[illegible] [illegible] tui [illegible]pe[illegible] pr[illegible] [illegible]s meum, rapt[illegible]q; anim[illegible]m re[illegible]do n[illegible] [illegible] c[illegible] io[illegible] præ[illegible]erat, nem[illegible]m i[illegible]e mort[illegible]m tibi æqu[illegible]bat [illegible] [illegible] amor [illegible] mens e[illegible], ea demum uniformitas in [illegible]is. In cæter[illegible] pr[illegible]ntia uarius [illegible] te u[illegible]mper[illegible] quis fortè in [illegible]aratione t[illegible] [illegible]o [illegible]m [illegible] u[illegible]s submi[illegible]a fronte, tu tacito sententiam [illegible]o [illegible] [illegible]an[illegible] tuu[illegible] illum ard[illegible] in uerba compelleret, reuerentia cum dilectione [illegible] cerneres,

[illegible] p [illegible] m desidera, [illegible] te [illegible] turis [illegible] s [illegible] ut [illegible] na [illegible] non [illegible] cia [illegible] m [illegible] ur alterum [illegible] tem meum d [illegible] or [illegible] m, uirtu [illegible] a- [illegible] in re [illegible] d [illegible] ue lenescere. [illegible] Sed con [illegible] assiduu [illegible] s im [illegible] edia [illegible] alia. Nolit [illegible] us o- [illegible] s nol [illegible] iam [illegible] Tanta [illegible] & [illegible] ip [illegible] om [illegible] co max [illegible] m [illegible] quodammodo uide [illegible] r immorta [illegible] e [illegible] et, hunc ego ante [illegible] tu ali [illegible] tum scilicet, dum haud procul P [illegible] sub [illegible] Iac [illegible] bo de Columna locorum præs [illegible] le, [illegible] imè uiueremus. [illegible] to cœli regnator ô [illegible] temp [illegible] æc tanta uelocitas. Nudiustertius [illegible] futurus [illegible] ã, de qu [illegible] ipso [illegible] m dubiu [illegible], nullum pe [illegible] è cœli [illegible] m [illegible] ũm, nec de [illegible] longus hic [illegible] m breui spatio [illegible] exp [illegible] m [illegible] pu [illegible] pe [illegible] s, ô errorum [illegible] tabilis Labyrinthus, [illegible] insi [illegible] ces a [illegible] mu [illegible], h [illegible] n [illegible] mur, collidimur, exercemur, & qui [illegible] extollimur, [illegible] perbimus, hic potentiam hic honores, hic [illegible] e [illegible] im [illegible] rias, hic rapinas uolumus hic uind [illegible] ctas. Quid de nobi [illegible] terea, n [illegible] , sed [illegible] ora enam tempus pariat incerti, nihilque aliud diu [illegible] en [illegible] o con [illegible] mœsti, ut corporibu [illegible] utque animis graues inter quæstus & lachrymas, & [illegible] mus. Certè e [illegible] o [illegible] tod nudi [illegible] stertius dixi, melius hodie dict [illegible]. Quid e [illegible] st [illegible] hæc? Is [illegible] hybernus breuis turbidus. E [illegible] ut mult [illegible] e, n [illegible] ltis [illegible] aucissimis perductus ad uesperam, hodie, inquam, [illegible] a [illegible] u, [illegible] dum hoc ingressus. Ecce iam uitæ fessus, & propè iam solus a [illegible] m [illegible] exoptato uotis omnibus longiusculæ ui [illegible] æ tractu, bon [illegible] aliqu [illegible] d int [illegible] nimius fortasse morimur, iis præmissis, qui dulcem nobis faciebant uitam [illegible] cl [illegible] et animum relinquentes, nisi contra opportunum illud ac miserum sem [illegible] perpetuo mœrore, ut Satyricus ait, & nigra ueste senescere, siue ut propri [illegible] quod [illegible] corum mortes sæpè mori, nullum tuorum nouissimè reli [illegible] quentem, cu- [illegible] que, post obitum sis uicturus. Et tu mihi nunc amabili prior [illegible] s iniuria, ac [illegible] h [illegible] us [illegible] tri [illegible] sque negotii longitudinem imprecans, dum treme [illegible] te ais, [illegible] es sis. Ego uero superstitem te nolo, & hos pau [illegible] los, qui e ta [illegible] ta [illegible] m [illegible] era [illegible] t. Sin [illegible] ultima iussa abeuntis excipiant, sint qui oculos teg [illegible], [illegible] quamuis affatim illud mors faciet, [illegible] oc natura, sed dulce est [illegible] nice man [illegible] is [illegible] a mihi aduersû fortunam meam, grauiora querela est [illegible] uam qu [illegible] d ani [illegible] s an [illegible] is siqu [illegible] huic [illegible] umeri dies esset, ego durior adamante, [illegible] dine tardior ae [illegible] huc d [illegible] n. Neu cumulus desit offensæ, quorum manibu [illegible] s [illegible] eliri a [illegible] non l [illegible] sepulturæ. Sed redeo ad Socratem, qui ad me non redit, nec [illegible] d [illegible] it, ut put [illegible] corpore licet abscesserit, cum unum, & triginta me [illegible] um an- [illegible] Alter e [illegible] m fl [illegible] s n [illegible] ster uitæ quartum & uigesi [illegible] n im [illegible] ar [illegible] ic [illegible] em, het mihi ter & amplius, nisi quod luct [illegible] pell [illegible] est a [illegible] u [illegible] am, [illegible] d [illegible] lorem pellere, nitar equidem. In quam rem tam [illegible] m [illegible] o, quod & uirtus humanis casibus altior, & qui dedit a [illegible] m [illegible] io iure usa est nec fortuna nobis accusanda, nec natura, ne [illegible] querer [illegible] us [illegible] quam fuit, cauendumque quod in aliis aliquãdo reprehendimu [illegible], ne iure [illegible] a [illegible] r in nobis. Nec mirandum uerò quod acerbus ille, hic maturus, a [illegible] uc [illegible] uitæ [illegible] us impletũ, nostra nobis im [illegible] da sunt, sequẽdi [illegible] que quos præ- [illegible] es diximus, iam [illegible] ande ante ocul [illegible] s h [illegible] endũ. Leuis est enim so [illegible] us lin [illegible] dũ n [illegible] s, & [illegible] us est [illegible] re ipsa fa [illegible] esse cupim [illegible] s, hic f [illegible] amus [illegible] u [illegible] amu [illegible]. Se [illegible] em [illegible] r nostros, qs hoc [illegible] bitat, [illegible] m, [illegible] ert [illegible] n [illegible] quimur. Na [illegible] qu [illegible] al [illegible] d a [illegible] us or [illegible] te dum qui [illegible] ti e [illegible] re [illegible] urrimus quid [illegible] & singuli currimus, & uicissim n [illegible] s. [illegible] mul [illegible], ipsa nostra nos ue [illegible] t, ne d [illegible] pr [illegible] p [illegible] t natura, & pere [illegible] mora. Quid mœrori incũbere, aut torquere desiderio animũ iuuat? En cõfestim quos

q[illegible] ad nos [illegible] pene [illegible] & q[illegible] fami[illegible]s, [illegible] al[illegible] utroq; [illegible] n[illegible], per am[illegible] d[illegible]a, q[illegible]orum [illegible] m la[illegible] bo[illegible]m [illegible] idcir[illegible] mei [illegible] tibi [illegible] lo [illegible] p[illegible] mox in te retula, sic mea [illegible] percu[illegible] illinc, a[illegible]ixa pariter ac su[illegible] m[illegible] o m[illegible]e [illegible] aptius præst[illegible] p[illegible]terat [illegible] a[illegible] du[illegible] medicus, de[illegible] xim[illegible]t. [illegible] at q[illegible] a[illegible] ates me[illegible] s er[illegible], neq; [illegible] h[illegible] muni[illegible] tulus, [illegible] pe[illegible] d[illegible] m[illegible] q[illegible] æ[illegible]s appar[illegible], [illegible] li[illegible]o audiorsim[illegible] is, ami[illegible] en in[illegible]pellant[illegible]us, no respondere nefas si[illegible] dam (quam u[illegible] reo) nota [illegible]lentiæ heri possit, omnis ille fami[illegible]ariũ re[illegible] n[illegible]ium retu[illegible] lus ad te transeat, & alienigenæ hac in parte deditum ingen[illegible] [illegible] meo uati sacro, ob eamq; rem nostro Simonidi co[illegible]ecretur. Tu es enim [illegible] quem prima huius operis compellat epistola, quæ nondum tamen ad te [illegible] m sola. Illam certè cum legeris quid huic de[illegible] intelliges. Rel[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible]ocq; studios[illegible], ad IIII Idus Ianuarias Patauio digre[illegible] ad transitũ al[illegible]ium paratior [illegible] deram namq; Italos [illegible]s, [illegible] m[illegible] ne[illegible] ire, ut & transalpinum Hel[illegible]a reuiserem, q[illegible]em iam [illegible] termi[illegible], c[illegible] mei desiderij simul ac tædij, [illegible] uerbo [illegible] pe[illegible] epi[illegible] monuit. [illegible] qui[illegible] dei Pont. mihi Max. habu[illegible] et [illegible], quod ab[illegible]s [illegible]pto fece[illegible] me uicarium præsens darem. Sic simul & officio illi, ton[illegible] s mihi ob[illegible] cui uel ob hæc [illegible]um [illegible] consi[illegible]um uelim, nõ tantum benè, sed magnific[illegible], & tibi, seu ne[illegible]cessitatibus [illegible] m[illegible], [illegible] ultare mihi uis, nec potes, tanto licet tempore, ac rerum spatio distractu[illegible] u[illegible] ue [illegible] rou sum iri existimans. Verum omnibus, undiq; bello ardentibus, atq; armati[illegible] [illegible] s inc[illegible]us nõ fuit, substiti ergo, responsum Pont. operiens, quod seu [illegible] simplicit[illegible] m[illegible]a enim & [illegible] aula inde narrantur) seu captis in itinere nu[illegible]s, [illegible] audi[illegible]mus, nondu[illegible] ha[illegible], hoc unum ciu[illegible]us n[illegible]stris mercatoribus [illegible] bus scriptum e[illegible] et suo [illegible] de Pon[illegible]ta respuerem, item saltem ad c[illegible] sentiam, mecum ducens, [illegible] o[illegible]cio idoneum iu[illegible]icarem. Quæ an uera sint nes[illegible]o, [illegible] est, paratus esto, uel mecum, uel cum literis meis illuc ire, si cætera enim clausa perma[illegible] [illegible] iter tibi patet æquoreũ, ego quidem expectationis impatiens, atq; in circuitu n[illegible] [illegible] semina iacta conspiciens, iam ferè cunctis fractis itineribus, Pado me cred[illegible] di[illegible] [illegible] c statu reru[illegible] uix uolucris pe[illegible]etrasset, ad V. Idus Maias Patauium re[illegible] h[illegible] ex[illegible]e [illegible]s ad Cæsarem [illegible] me crebr[illegible], tamq; altis uocibus euocantem, ut d[illegible]im[illegible] [illegible]æsa uerecun[illegible]a [illegible]euotione [illegible] t. Sic accinct[illegible]s in Zephyrum, in Bo[illegible] [illegible]tel[illegible]as humanor[illegible] con[illegible] m[illegible]nta constantia est, sed hac quoq; præter sp[illegible] obst[illegible]a omnia repperi, neq; minus hic angulus Venetorum, pacis olim habita[illegible]o, a[illegible] pes Noricæ, quàm reliqua feruet Italia, tum quæ alpibus uicina Germaniæ pars est su[illegible] psa motibus æstuat. Ita omne latus nostri orbis, uno nunc tempore Mars infestat. [illegible] uis amico pa[illegible] animo, non molesta esse nequeant, quia tum æstiuam requiem p[illegible], pr[illegible]pè gratissi[illegible] dixerim tens[illegible] nempe ad occasum alas, atq; ad Arcton inter alp[illegible] A[illegible] pe[illegible] s[illegible] um mari[illegible] nota cõtrahunt, ac detinent stan[illegible]nc, [illegible] d [illegible] scri[illegible] . Et q[illegible]oniam te littoribus Siculis, morte [illegible] r, [illegible] d q[illegible] n[illegible] ralias tua o[illegible], ubi, q[illegible] mq; [illegible], [illegible] m n[illegible] ucem, i[illegible] d[illegible]posuit. Vltimum e[illegible]t, [illegible] [illegible]tiæ tuæ mun[illegible], promissumq; n[illegible]era[illegible] b[illegible]othecæ huius ornamen[illegible]um [illegible] e[illegible]uies, oblectatioq; animi atq; unicum iam uitæ solatium rem[illegible] p[illegible] er [illegible] oro te, & arculæ n[illegible] fidem adhibeto, quod cum mihi [illegible] a [illegible] m[illegible]s op[illegible] pè [illegible] iam spe sola efferor. It[illegible] & si [illegible] [illegible] eq; i[illegible]n[illegible]ile[illegible], meo diu[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] V. [illegible]

[illegible]

RRAN.

[illegible]

L[illegible] eas [illegible] requerenti [illegible] endi [illegible] quod literis [illegible] atque [illegible] & [illegible] pulsi, & nunc [illegible] or meus [illegible] stupeat, sim [illegible] non gaude [illegible] m suspicari, sed affirmare [illegible] opinionem hanc de m[illegible] enus contra tuum eloquium, [illegible] nullo [illegible] extirpare [illegible] nūc repente non modò dep[illegible] se, sed [illegible] lia perm[illegible] ho[illegible] ere uideretur alloquium, atque aspectum tu[illegible] e [illegible] quiū, donis poscat ac precibus. Magna uis ue[illegible] extingui. Per se ipsum, cum ali[illegible] diu ia[illegible], a[illegible] Deus, qui falsi illius opinionis auctor fuit. [illegible] non ultimus, & prætereà tum co[illegible] imus, quod [illegible] mirab[illegible] x[illegible] entiæ multiplicis, & prouectæ admodum ætatis, nisi [illegible] di[illegible] lum su[illegible] (quamuis error nullus, maior posse esse, quam crimen [illegible] m [illegible] quam errat, quamlibet ridiculum aliquid ineptum sibi igno[illegible] an [illegible] De[illegible] it, aut proximum) quæcunque demum fuerit causa, mag[illegible] rcationem, quod Virgilij [illegible] s legere, seu legissem, [illegible] lem [illegible] in ingenia qui[illegible] s rerum summa commi[illegible] his uerò quotiens risimus [illegible] ipso nunquam præsente, cui delator meu[illegible] persuaserat, donec illo tandem, a [illegible] tum [illegible] res ludicra esse desijt, atque ad iram tuam uergere cœpit, ac dolorē meum [illegible] d [illegible] da[illegible] eo magnop[illegible] cuperem: ambitiones meæ notæ tibi omnes sunt sed [illegible] Bene- [illegible] adol[illegible] entiam, & [illegible] iuentam Clemens meam, non dico Innocentē sed a[illegible] mal[illegible] his artibus abhorrentem agnouisset, senectutem meam Innoce[illegible] [illegible] ere non poteram. Proinde per id tempus, quo ille conscenderat, [illegible] rus, inde abiens, dum tu me ualedicturum, ipso etiam uolente d[illegible] ne aut [illegible] mea Magica, aut mihi molesta credulitas sua esset. Scis me uer[illegible] non sem[illegible] frustrà nixum, ne insalutato illo proficiscerer. [illegible] quid m[illegible] contulit, unius uiri, cui nulla quidem in me odij ratio erat, [illegible] causa nihil fit, o[illegible] me, non propter me quidem, sed propter illum, cui familiarissim[illegible] me fuisse meminer[illegible] propter [illegible] uem & te ipsum oderat, sed odij sibi conscius iniusti, erga utrunque nostrum, [illegible] us, amicitiam fingebat (nota tibi commemoro) sicut sepulto illi, ipsius ne[illegible] lenitus mo[illegible] bellum cineribus indixerat. O tristis & cæca rabies animi, propagatrix pestilens [illegible]

Certè si inimicos dilig[illegible] re dominico iubemur imperio, quid ij fiet, quibus inim[illegible] m extinctos odisse non sufficit nisi amicos illorum omnes im[illegible] tali odio insequan[illegible] autem uiuax odium, siue pudor mutandi quod dixerat, causa esset, su[illegible] nem [illegible] e[illegible] m uixi & quam plantauerat irrigauit, gratias Deo quot men[illegible] ium ue[illegible] endacem u[illegible] t. Non credit profectò Magum Pontifex, quem secretari[illegible] s operam d[illegible] m[illegible] bus, quem interioris thalami arcano dignum, [illegible] a [illegible] epi[illegible] s. Magnas [illegible] pro t[illegible] honor[illegible] us, nec minores [illegible] o et[illegible] nim [illegible] nionibus magis ac [illegible], quanti nequeant [illegible] en angorem [illegible] at, apud animum meum falsa licet opinio, t[illegible] m diuturnam adeo [illegible] ut de me talia sentientem uel mea [illegible] um, u[illegible] en[illegible] a fuerit. Scio autem expectari responsum meum & quamu[illegible] c, & Pontificis pietas, & tua humanitas, & amicorum preces & lachry[illegible] hanc hinc meorum consilia impellant fixus tamen [illegible] po[illegible] primo [illegible] quod immutem, quæres apud alium [illegible] agenda sit, [illegible] urimum hau[illegible] meis in rebus, non tantū sermo breuis, sed silentium [illegible] at est. [illegible] hi[illegible] ud usu[illegible] o, dom[illegible] omne de[illegible] meum, [illegible] d[illegible] r[illegible] bus iam labe[illegible] sed [illegible] m meum [illegible] uel [illegible] mot [illegible] ne [illegible]

[illegible]

nec animus lucri egens, nec pr[illegible] q; [illegible] deuex [illegible] la[illegible] [illegible] tur. Q[illegible] me [illegible] [illegible] nom [illegible] [illegible] par [illegible] d [illegible] [illegible] em cu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] em [illegible] [illegible] quid in rem [illegible] h[illegible] [illegible] em & quo[illegible] uid [illegible] [illegible] est patria, [illegible] s animus, un[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] [illegible] cerdotio i[illegible] [illegible] decus ac nost[illegible]um.

FRA. PETR. [illegible] AT[illegible], S. Epist. IIII.

[illegible] uaticinio morientium.

MAgn[illegible] me mo[illegible] uit frater epistola tua, quam dum legere, [illegible] cum ingenti m[illegible] ertabat. Vterq; abijt, dum legissem: Quibus [illegible] [illegible] hu[illegible] tibu[illegible] [illegible] rum lach rymarum, tuiq; tam uicini obitus, meno[illegible] [illegible] rerum nescius omnino, solisq; inhians uerbis? Vbi d[illegible] mū in re[illegible] ternos fl[illegible] [illegible]s, defixiq;, mutatus ilico animi statu, & [illegible] uporem sepositi, & m[illegible] [illegible] quod erat, in ipsa literarum fronte prætereo [illegible] bi d[illegible] uerecundissime [illegible] [illegible] me, non te ausum dicis, præceptoris tui inclyti, (sic me nimia tua uo[illegible] at [illegible] um improbare, quod Musas, totumq; (ut ais) helicona, mecum trahēs, [illegible] [illegible] is, in ips plebeiusq; incola fueram, nūc iam peregrinus abstractus [illegible] penè exul[illegible] [illegible] si damnatis Italis, & indignis industriæ meę fructu, meiq; præsentia [illegible] tis, in Germa[illegible] os, siue Sauromatas (uerbo tuo utor) ultimos, cōmigrare decreuerim. Multo me facet[illegible] [illegible] caciùs reprehendisti, quàm si totum eloquentiæ tuæ flumen, in Satyram effundisses. E[illegible] dem gratulor hunc tibi esse animum, atq; hunc [illegible] elum, ut quod Maro ait, omnia tuta tim[illegible] mœtu magis abundes, quàm amore deficias. Tibi uerò amice cui [illegible] corum conf[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] cult[illegible]m uelim, totu[illegible] læsæ mentis arcanum pando, me ut Italicæ telluris aspe[illegible] [illegible] nequeo, sic quod nuper Simonidi nostro scrip[illegible] Italicarum rerum usque hercle ad f[illegible] m pl[illegible]um esse, & sæpe hinc mihi in animum uenisse, nempe non in Germaniam, sed in aliquas mundi l[illegible]ras me conferre, ubi procul ab hoc strepitu, inuidiæq; turbinibus, quibus me non tam utique mea sors, qu[illegible] me iudice, nescio an contemptum, sed certè inuidiam nō meretur, quàm hoc undec[illegible] [illegible]ttum nomē exposuit, (benè latitans, benè uiuerem, si datum esset, ac morerer. & fec[illegible] [illegible] quia quo me animus urgebat, fortuna iter obstruxerat. At quid nunc ad Arcton intenderam, non huius quid audisti propositi mens erat, neq; enim [illegible] illa barbariæ: inq; illa cœli inclemētia: terræq; duritie requiem quæro, sed uerecund[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] prorsu[illegible] obsequi, quod scilicet Cæsari nostro, totiens, tantisq; me precibus euoc[illegible] [illegible] mei præsentiam denegasse, no[illegible] superbiæ modò, sed rebellationis, aut sacrilegij [illegible] m uideretur, q[illegible] loquidem no[illegible] maiores, ut apud Valerium legisti, eum qui [illegible] [illegible] pes nescire[illegible] quodlibet facinus procursurum crediderunt. Parce autē metui [illegible] [illegible] ce: nā & hac quoq; bello cl[illegible]usum iter, haud inuitus [illegible] ffiendi, mira res dictu, qu[illegible] [illegible] ber[illegible]tius no eo satis & desiderio Principis, & meę fidei fuerit, ire uoluisse, & de reliquo [illegible] a culpabi[illegible]r. His omissis ad id uenio, quo me adeò prima lectione concussum dixi. [illegible]is, nescio quem Petrū Senensem patria, religione insigni, & miraculis insuper clarum [illegible] m nuper obeuntem, multa de multis, inter quos de utroque nostrum aliqua prædixisse, id[illegible] tib[illegible] per quendam, cui hoc [illegible] e commiserat nunciatum, ex quo exactiùs dum quæreres, quemadmodum sanctus ille uir, nobis incognitus, nos nouisset, sic respōsum: fu[illegible] [illegible] ro[illegible] po[illegible]tum, ut intelligi datur, ... [illegible] quod cum implere denunciata [illegible] ut [illegible] ror morte, non posset, or[illegible] Deum e[illegible], & ad cœlum peruentura prece: Reb[illegible] id[illegible] eos [illegible] car[illegible] desig[illegible] [illegible] ceptis seu destinati operis exitum, d[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] amq; fam[illegible] [illegible] a, quę [illegible] cum [illegible] tet, ustiq; animam e[illegible], se int[illegible] ligeret e[illegible] tum, [illegible] re d[illegible] [illegible] RISTV[illegible] ipsum habuisse præsentem, cuius [illegible] [illegible]

Quæ sint, quæ fuerint, [illegible] mox uentura trahuntur?

[illegible] [illegible] em [illegible] theu[illegible] [illegible] nius, multoq; perfectiùs, ac clarius, nam [illegible] [illegible] lum uid[illegible] pe[illegible] quem [illegible] ia facta sunt, illum ocu[illegible]s uid[illegible] mo[illegible] [illegible] u ra. [illegible] ita [illegible] m ac uetustum, [illegible] plerunq; mendacijs, fict[illegible] [illegible] um [illegible] nis [illegible] prætendere, ut humanam fraudem tegat [illegible] opinione,

[illegible] Quin [illegible] [illegible] superi[illegible] hæc primum [illegible] [illegible] neq; [illegible] illa consternatio, mœror [illegible] [illegible] & tu si mihi aurem imò [illegible] es, & [illegible] dolui [illegible] tius sit gaude[illegible] CHRISTUS dicitur, [illegible] est. [illegible] nequi[illegible] [illegible] autor [illegible] alter quispiam ad [illegible] idem. Q[illegible] [illegible] nipsent. E[illegible] tem, inter ignaro[illegible] nomi[illegible] [illegible] gentium fides [illegible] ta uaticina[illegible] morientes, & [illegible] naturæ. Vides [illegible] lecto, Homericus, [illegible] mortem uaticine[illegible] [illegible] entio, Ciceronianus Theramenes Critiæ, Gala[illegible]us [illegible] te præmunt, apud Posidonium philosophum [illegible] Rh[illegible] mori[illegible]ēs, breui post [illegible] morituros, sex ex coæqueuis sui[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] dij[illegible] moriendi. D[illegible] rerũ uel ueritate, uel causa [illegible] non [illegible] & quæ fi[illegible]untur [illegible] alijs, postremò quæ term[illegible] tuus n[illegible] [illegible] Quid est tamen, qu[illegible] te usq; adeò permoueat, uulgaria & n[illegible] omnium [illegible] uatiunt [illegible] perturbant. An tu quæso modicum [illegible] esse qu[illegible] [illegible] ignorabas? Quod hæc hodie natus infans, [illegible] ne [illegible] [illegible] rta[illegible]um breuis est, senijq; breuissima, & [illegible] p[illegible] præter op[illegible] [illegible] hic quærimur ac lugemus: nascendi o[illegible] e mors præ[illegible] [illegible] uenere, primi abeant. Profectò fuimus umbra, somniũ, præ[illegible] [illegible] & [illegible]is area, uita est, quæ hic agi[illegible]r, quod u[illegible] Ad [illegible] a[illegible] non [illegible] contemptibilis modò, sed odio[illegible] prorsus, a[illegible] & d[illegible] m[illegible] longè optimum non nasci, proximum qu[illegible] mori. N[illegible] [illegible] hominis præcisa sententia, Hebræorum sapient[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]s fratris ob[illegible]tum deflens, suo more uestigat. & [illegible] [illegible] ditur, nõ ille Philosophos, sed illum Philos[illegible] hi sequuntu[illegible] [illegible] A[illegible]rosio potiùs quàm Salomone descrips[illegible] ur dicto uni d[illegible] au[illegible] [illegible] ait: Non nas[illegible] longè optimum secundùm [illegible] monis sen[illegible] [illegible] sunt in [illegible] excellẽte secuti sunt, nam [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] laudaui ego omnes mo[illegible]s, quã m d[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] & optimus supra hos d[illegible] [illegible] pus m[illegible]um, quo[illegible] actum [illegible]st sub [illegible]e. Nec ta[illegible] [illegible] am po[illegible]osc[illegible] & impetrauit. Et m[illegible] [illegible] uerunt cœles[illegible] quemadm[illegible] d[illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] ond[illegible] terræ, quam in se expertus est, errare aut m[illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] expres[illegible] legerat sanctum dixisse Iob. P[illegible] at [illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] malorum omnium esse principium, & ide[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] lle [illegible] commodorum. Po[illegible] h[illegible]c Dauid a[illegible] [illegible] Si igit[illegible] a[illegible] uir[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] ex[illegible] non [illegible] a[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] uasi f[illegible] pecu[illegible], u[illegible] [illegible] pe[illegible] torum ære se[illegible] Qu[illegible] [illegible] ctu[illegible] u[illegible] no[illegible] m p[illegible] [illegible] tio ac [illegible] Ve[illegible] mu[illegible] [illegible] quos mal[illegible] [illegible] ocen[illegible]s m[illegible] [illegible] de re[illegible]is, antequam [illegible] rep[illegible] m[illegible]

te ex [illegible] Q[illegible] ab [illegible] au[illegible] e[illegible]m [illegible] p[illegible] n m m [illegible] tar [illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] tem di [illegible] m [illegible] uequaq [illegible] [illegible] ro. Placet G[illegible] at o, e[illegible] rmone [illegible] quoti [illegible] em p[illegible] æternæ uitæ [illegible] potius dicenda [illegible] m uita. [illegible] puto. [illegible] tem [illegible] oq, quamuis ut ui des m[illegible] u-[illegible] tam [illegible] r do[illegible] ens Lactantius Firmianus hic [illegible] um [illegible] libro [illegible] um [illegible] n recordor quoto [illegible] im[illegible] atientiam a[illegible] hu-mana[illegible]m. Q[illegible] nil [illegible] re illos, qui aut m[illegible]rtem a[illegible] et int, ta[illegible] n[illegible] aut u[illegible] malum, si quia sint iniq[illegible], qu[illegible] pa[illegible] ra [illegible] pen[illegible] us. [illegible] m uitam omnem, per ex[illegible] s [illegible] tanas trad[illegible] p[illegible] quid fort[illegible] q[illegible] am [illegible] superu[illegible] t, t nq [illegible] g[illegible], si ali[illegible] fuerit malè. D[illegible] mn [illegible] m [illegible] m, ple[illegible] b[illegible] m[illegible] ir, [illegible] nata est inepta il[illegible] a[illegible] ten[illegible], h[illegible] m[illegible] tem [illegible] uitam, quam nos pro morte timeamus: ita p[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible]. Quę ut maioris sit autoritatis [illegible] eno att[illegible] tur C[illegible] n C[illegible] o-n[illegible] n[illegible] longè optimum, nec in[illegible] s [illegible] ulos [illegible] dere [illegible] p[illegible] xim[illegible] m autem s[illegible] mprimum, tanquam ex incen[illegible] æ. Credidi[illegible] si-m[illegible] di[illegible]o, exinde apparet, quod adiecit de [illegible] [illegible] naret Q[illegible] o igitur, c[illegible] cl[illegible] pti-mum putet n[illegible] nasci, cum sit nullus omninò qu[illegible] ntia[illegible] Nam ut h[illegible] m[illegible] t ali[illegible] ad [illegible] ma-lum [illegible] ntius e[illegible] cit, deinde [illegible] omnem uitā, nihil esse aliud quàm [illegible] s, & incen[illegible] u-[illegible] it, [illegible] in nostra [illegible] rit potestate ne nasceremur, aut nobis uitam fortu[illegible] a [illegible] n[illegible] Deus aut [illegible] ratio quicquam simile incē[illegible] h[illegible] bere uideatur. [illegible] Lac[illegible] ce autem, [illegible] e me c[illegible] usquam [illegible] ntiæ addictum put[illegible] auctores, & [illegible] nte[illegible] d[illegible] t[illegible] n m[illegible], uolen[illegible]q connexi, & [illegible], ut [illegible] um c[illegible] & suo, ueritas [illegible] E[illegible]o aut[illegible] ad rem red[illegible] h[illegible]c dix[illegible] u[illegible], quicquid horum quæ mu[illegible] ad[illegible] s [illegible] uerit[illegible], [illegible] b[illegible] a[illegible] h[illegible] on nimis am[illegible]da, sic usq ad exitū tolleranda [illegible] c[illegible]q ha[illegible] d[illegible]rā iter, ad optatam patriam aspirandū. [illegible] Lqu[illegible] m[illegible]m n[illegible] anceps, [illegible] osa, si mala est, de quo ut puto [illegible] mo [illegible] d[illegible] tatibus exc[illegible]catus, ueram sui notitiam, iudiciumq [illegible]-[illegible] c[illegible] rei [illegible] b[illegible] m atq optabilem finem esse, & [illegible] enda uita [illegible] d [illegible] am extimata [illegible] c[illegible] em, non quod desinat flend[illegible] esse sed [illegible] cœ-[illegible] it. Quid & q[illegible] gētes [illegible] cere [illegible] as acce[illegible]mus, quibus nat[illegible] e esse Pl[illegible] m [illegible] dixer[illegible] orum fl[illegible] b[illegible], in [illegible] ne ga[illegible] entibus, [illegible] cm[illegible] da non tàm d[illegible] [illegible] tæ breui[illegible] causa est, quàm [illegible] æterni. Quod ut tral[illegible] of[illegible] u[illegible] [illegible] tis & [illegible] misericordiæ open[illegible] pote[illegible] nec [illegible] hi quidem. No[illegible] itaq [illegible] da, [illegible] ul[illegible] me [illegible] sed co[illegible] cit, [illegible] æ [illegible] una ne[illegible] fo[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] c[illegible] m morte fam[illegible] as q[illegible] m, [illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] ag[illegible] commercium arce[illegible] nda [illegible] m[illegible] m [illegible] di [illegible] t inco[illegible] am h[illegible] rreamus. [illegible] m c[illegible] lent[illegible] m [illegible] cte na c[illegible] tao [illegible] medi[illegible] at [illegible] m mort[illegible] c[illegible] niunt q[illegible] d & P[illegible] lu[illegible] [illegible] moria[illegible] nemo enim amp[illegible] is qu[illegible]m [illegible] mel naturaliter [illegible] p[illegible] mo[illegible] em [illegible] ne dur[illegible] iam [illegible] onsuetu[illegible] [illegible] e [illegible] is fuerit [illegible] his [illegible] t [illegible] [illegible] rū me[illegible] HB[illegible] est [illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] d f[illegible] h[illegible] re c[illegible] [illegible] is hoc [illegible] r[illegible] me [illegible] d[illegible] fue[illegible] Q[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] [illegible], & siqua [illegible]

mi-

[illegible]locata [illegible] trenæ ad[illegible] re n[illegible]n po[illegible] mortis [illegible] m[illegible] [illegible]ipsa, [illegible] uisse [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] uitam dif[illegible] [illegible] d [illegible] eas ætati, [illegible] po[illegible]us [illegible] em omnibus [illegible] u[illegible] etiam [illegible] enim tá[illegible] poci[illegible] e se po[illegible] n[illegible] talium dies u[illegible] o uel horæ intelligere, [illegible] xi[illegible] m[illegible] mortem creditur, non [illegible] pi[illegible]. [illegible] importunum, ut ex malis n[illegible] lor[illegible] certus [illegible] a[illegible] im, spes incerta, utcunque [illegible] Vi[illegible] a[illegible] ui[illegible]uit:

Stat s[illegible] cuiq; dies, breue & irrep[illegible]abile tempus
Omnibus est uitæ, sed [illegible]amam extendere f[illegible]s
Hoc uirtutis opus.

[illegible], no[illegible] tenuem famæ sonum aucupa[illegible]bu[illegible], sed in[illegible]tutem ipsam [illegible] nec [illegible] c[illegible] e [illegible]tæ umbram iacit. Dicerem salutare, diceremq; unicum [illegible] hac r[illegible]m [illegible]erpl[illegible] [illegible]um, ni Poëticum, sci[illegible]s auribus tuis parcerem, ab hac omni conl[illegible]d[illegible] at[illegible] ne [illegible] h[illegible] multum mihi maior priore stupor incidit, nam si id seni, ut aiunt, cl[illegible] di[illegible]r, æquo animo pati possem. Senuisti, iam uicina est mors, age res animæ [illegible] stium seni[illegible] amarumq; negotium literarum, si nouum atq; insolitum p[illegible]ponat[illegible] una seni [illegible] [illegible]l dulcius. Seram hác i[illegible]itur curam linguę, siue Musas Hel[illegible]a, fonte Cast[illegible] m[illegible]ta puerum decuerant, [illegible] dedeceát senem, frustrà niteris, [illegible] memo[illegible]ia labascit, oculi calig[illegible] n[illegible] c[illegible]rporei sen[illegible]us hebent, nouoq; [illegible] fragiles sunt [illegible] Momento uirium, & me[illegible] quod ag[illegible]rederis, ne irritis conatibus [illegible]s irrumpat. Fa[illegible] pot[illegible]s, quod [illegible] benefit, quodq; [illegible] n o[illegible]ni ætati sit hon[illegible]tum, n[illegible] ce[illegible] [illegible], horumq; [illegible] inchoanti seni, quid ni grauiter a[illegible] magni[illegible] dicer[illegible] a[illegible] m[illegible] iam habenti, cu[illegible] d[illegible]antur nescio. E[illegible]ce iam morti proximus, li[illegible] q[illegible] l[illegible]s [illegible] e reliquias uoluptat[illegible]m, malas consue[illegible]ines, resor[illegible] anum[illegible] ac [illegible] V[illegible] [illegible]aceas, nouitatē & renascentia uitia, quæ hactenus abscindeb[illegible] radi[illegible] [illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible] rimi auaritię studiū, quod senibus cur annexū, pecu[illegible]re sit admiror hoc [illegible] tud & ho[illegible]g[illegible]a, ut paratus, ut securus ad extremū uenias. Optim[illegible] quā) prud[illegible] [illegible] in que[illegible] [illegible]u Poëticas, seu quascūq; alias, in quib. non iam tyro [illegible]meritus uet[illegible]ra[illegible] in b[illegible] d respuendum tibi sit noueris: in quibus deniq; no[illegible] labor, sed o[illegible] at o[illegible] [illegible] tas [illegible] h[illegible] certé, quid sit aliud non uideo, ni[illegible] auferre sola[illegible]um ac p[illegible] di[illegible] nectuti. Q[illegible] ue[illegible] [illegible] le Lact[illegible]ntio dictum esset? Quid [illegible] dictum [illegible] cred[illegible] [illegible]no, dicam qu[illegible]d in a[illegible]mo est. N[illegible]q; ille tam u[illegible]ldé peregrina[illegible] super[illegible]tion[illegible] [illegible] uelleret [illegible] illa ciuitati [illegible]ei muros tam [illegible]rte [illegible]onstrue[illegible] quantoq; [illegible]u [illegible], atq; a[illegible] a[illegible] impie[illegible] te latrantibus responderet. Quid [illegible]m [illegible] H[illegible] [illegible]s id ipf[illegible] dici [illegible], & [illegible]od credi uult e[illegible] Vigilantio. [illegible] uer[illegible] [illegible] Phi[illegible]s, si Oratores, si Historicis semper literis abstineret? Nunquàm [illegible] n[illegible] & hæret[illegible] [illegible]um ca[illegible]nnias reliquorum, tanta persuad[illegible]di facil[illegible]tat[illegible] con[illegible] quam Nepoti[illegible]num s[illegible], uel [illegible]um doceret [illegible]el defunctum fleret? Nunquam d[illegible] [illegible]as [illegible] libellos [illegible]ios, tan[illegible]a ora[illegible]nis luce per[illegible]funderet. V[illegible]nim à ueritate [illegible]m [illegible] [illegible]tq; ornatum dicendi genus, unde oro nisi ab eloq[illegible]tia requi[illegible]d[illegible]m[illegible] Q[illegible] t[illegible]tq[illegible] ie Oratorum propriam e[illegible]e, nec Hieronymus ipse negaueri[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible]ari egeat. Non discurr[illegible] p[illegible] ng[illegible]los, sed ad summam non [illegible]nrel[illegible] [illegible] senem imbui. Nihil enim [illegible]encfi[illegible] quod n[illegible] tempore s[illegible]o f[illegible] a pu[illegible] [illegible]ri, uel in senectute prohibeatur? Scientem di[illegible]d ex his ad re[illegible]m [illegible]t[illegible]am [illegible] [illegible] und ad [illegible]o[illegible] tentiam [illegible]ud po[illegible]emò ad re[illegible]is no[illegible] g[illegible] at[illegible]o[illegible] [illegible]m [illegible] maximè uide[illegible]s, [illegible] prox[illegible] m[illegible] a[illegible] nec [illegible]narum præte[illegible] [illegible]o qu[illegible] Merc[illegible] I[illegible] [illegible]micid[illegible] præd[illegible] Herc[illegible]i, [illegible] [illegible]oc[illegible]io[illegible]es at[illegible] ng[illegible] A[illegible] edi[illegible]q[illegible] A[illegible] c[illegible]a [illegible] no fabro, q[illegible] textri[illegible] uper [illegible] q; [illegible] mat[illegible] d [illegible] [illegible]lem[illegible]ori n[illegible]o uero D[illegible]u, [illegible]q; ho[illegible] Quid [illegible] [illegible] s[illegible] ui[illegible]us [illegible]ud[illegible]tum, & [illegible]m CHR[illegible]T[illegible] [illegible] æreticorum & n[illegible]um [illegible]HR[illegible]T[illegible]

[illegible] quod [illegible] ferre. C[illegible] tardita[illegible] de[illegible] petuat [illegible] sperac[illegible] noran[illegible] & [illegible] iat [illegible] e [illegible] [illegible] orem dear [illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible]. Neque enim [illegible] [illegible] an[illegible] posse [illegible] non retardent [illegible] [illegible] quæ na[illegible] ant[illegible] machum præ[illegible] m [illegible] em bene nutriant [illegible] anoque ingenio [illegible] [illegible] ra sunt infirmo [illegible] cretionis affuerit, [illegible] [illegible] ax [illegible] extrem [illegible] oret [illegible] ita multorū. Præterea enim [illegible] La-to Latino[illegible] ras, iam senes [illegible] s uerò iam [illegible] ex didicit, quòd Va[illegible]o ad c[illegible]m ti[illegible] a [illegible] do, semper [illegible] bendo peruenientes, uitam prius, q[illegible] am [illegible] stu[illegible]orum. Quid Liuius D[illegible]io & [illegible] ætate confectus, iuris c[illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]mam [illegible] omis[illegible]. Quid Appius Claudius, eisdem [illegible] fuit perfectu[illegible]a. Quod Homerus apud Græcos idem p[illegible], i[illegible]m [illegible] a[illegible] licet in [illegible] erc[illegible] ar industriæ genus exhibuit. Quod Soc[illegible] iam senior Mu[illegible] [illegible]dit, q[illegible] Chrysippus cœptum iuuentute media [illegible] us acut[illegible] mum, ultima uix e[illegible] [illegible] Quod Oratorum Isocrates, tragicum Sophocles uolumen utrunque nob[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] ua [illegible] onagesimum, hic prope centesimum agens annum scrips[illegible] uod studij a-[illegible] in[illegible] en [illegible] rneadem senem cibi, & Archimedem uitæ reddi[illegible] ut neg[illegible] gen[illegible] uod [illegible] cant[illegible] m [illegible] los, amor idem, cum inopia [illegible], p[illegible] um senio, apud nos [illegible] um [illegible] pu[illegible] paupertate simul ac senectute [illegible] ha[illegible]oram, q[illegible]d D[illegible] [illegible], quod Anaxagoram, quod Platonem per [illegible] nes [illegible] as, pe[illegible] [illegible] a m [illegible] [illegible] mores ac la[illegible] rum, [illegible] habendi, ut multo [illegible] sed d[illegible] ndi ard[illegible]. Qu[illegible] [illegible], eodem [illegible] natali suo die, uel literis [illegible] imben[illegible], uel [illegible] al[illegible] uol[illegible] [illegible] m spiri[illegible] m exhalarat, quòd Phile[illegible] n medita[illegible] dus, ac [illegible] [illegible] um [illegible] ectantibus, p[illegible] riam anim[illegible] m en[illegible], & si de hoc, alia ridiculo[illegible] a [illegible]. Quo[illegible] ad e[illegible] tr[illegible] um, is po[illegible] è mihi nom[illegible] andus occurrit Solon semper n[illegible] quod ad[illegible] scens senuit, atque obijt, nec generosum discendi desiderium mors extinxit. Præter hæc igitur, & quæ sunt id ge[illegible] erabilia, non'ne & nostri omnes, quos imitari [illegible] iam[illegible]s, uitam omnem in literis c[illegible] unt, in literis senuerunt, in literis obierunt [illegible] [illegible] am le[illegible] ntes aut sc[illegible] ultimus dies inuenerit, neque ulli unquam, quod aud[illegible] m [illegible] un[illegible] quem dixi Hieronymum, noxæ fuit, disciplinis sæcularibus floruisse, [illegible] nominatim sibi. Nec me fallit laudatum à Gre[illegible] Bene[illegible] ctum, q[illegible] [illegible] soli[illegible] dinis, & prop[illegible] rigid[illegible] otis amore de[illegible]. At n[illegible] ille P[illegible] d [illegible] m [illegible] neglex[illegible] laud[illegible] tor suus, idem si tunc [illegible] ceret, audar[illegible] [illegible]è a[illegible] bitror, a[illegible] enim di[illegible] iam discere, aliterque puer spe[illegible] uàm sen[illegible] [illegible] mentum, h[illegible] namentu[illegible] ille laborem & quærendi studium ancep[illegible], hic [illegible] o [illegible] [illegible] certum, delectabilem, & quæsitum studio pretiosum thesaurum literarū abij[illegible]. Quid [illegible]ctas? [illegible] multos ad sanctitatem eximiam, sine literis peruenisse, nullum literis hinc [illegible] um sc[illegible] & [illegible] audiam Paulo Apostolo quæsiram literis [illegible] saniam exp[illegible] [illegible] tem [illegible] tum [illegible] ù[illegible] de proprio loqui licet, ita sentio, planum f[illegible] [illegible] utem, unus est finis omnium bon[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] a [illegible] rietas. Ille tardiùs, hic ocyùs ille [illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] Quorum, q[illegible] om[illegible] eteg[illegible] [illegible] c[illegible] æ altio[illegible] de[illegible] eratæ [illegible] o [illegible] a [illegible] qu[illegible] mu[illegible] ta r[illegible] s [illegible] cc [illegible] m[illegible] ram sen[illegible] m aliquem ex[illegible] [illegible] pem d[illegible] c[illegible] ro s[illegible] ctiorem [illegible] umero [illegible] am. De h[illegible] [illegible] tera [illegible] n [illegible] terer, te amp[illegible] hod[illegible] n m[illegible] [illegible] æ [illegible] u[illegible] rer[illegible] m liq[illegible] m [illegible] tera q[illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] s [illegible] m nst[illegible] menta pr[illegible] ere, a[illegible] [illegible] au[illegible] ut [illegible] e [illegible] [illegible] g[illegible] et corporibus, [illegible]

[illegible] fuim [illegible] orum hæc [illegible], si uero meum Deus ad [illegible] perpetuo me [illegible] ioc [illegible] excerpta per [illegible] quo ill [illegible] um me [illegible] succ [illegible] ere, quo [illegible] d [illegible] merum n [illegible] digel [illegible] an in an [illegible] m [illegible] rum [illegible] temporum [illegible] o semper [illegible] e, & c [illegible] m [illegible] modò co [illegible] l sic no [illegible] acco [illegible] e. Extremum si [illegible] is, inter qu [illegible] o me [illegible] em, mirerisque quis [illegible] cuius [illegible] e nep [illegible] am [illegible] dus. Po [illegible] m tibi [illegible] ereni anum [illegible] N [illegible] m in [illegible] po quæ [illegible] am [illegible] rem, sed nec illum debes, [illegible] bona fide [illegible] ge [illegible] ide [illegible], quia quod semper ac [illegible] is, em [illegible] d & qu [illegible] d [illegible] lu [illegible] ntin [illegible] es. Nam ad id, quod ut sæpè olim, de [illegible] is, nolo tibi e [illegible] at [illegible] pe [illegible] um illustnum nunc exempla congerere, no [illegible] t tibi qu [illegible], [illegible] ara eq [illegible] d [illegible] er [illegible] una uoce respondeo. Laudo quod me ma [illegible] s licet fra [illegible], ut [illegible] diuitias, p [illegible] ertatem animi, quietatemque prætuleris e [illegible] tem, quod amicum [illegible] tiens te [illegible] preueris, non laudo. Non sum qui ditare te hinc possim, quod [illegible] ei [illegible] m non ue [illegible] amo, sed reipsa tecum loquerer, sum uerò, cui in tannim suppetit, quantum [illegible] un [illegible] at du [illegible] us, unum cor habentibus, atque unam domum. Iniuriosus es mihi [illegible] m [illegible] ior si diffidis. Vale, Pataui, V. Cal. Iunias.

[illegible]RAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO BRVNO, S. Epist. [illegible]

Contra immodicam am [illegible] fidem uera suæ Paruitatis expressio.

SVauis mihi, Vir insignis, [illegible] olæ tuæ odor, gustusque suauior, si de ali [illegible] scripta esset, nunc cum [illegible] uauitate uerecun [illegible] iam, ac ruborem attuli [illegible] e præferens, quotum [illegible] neus utinam [illegible] im mirator. Illud metuerem, ni [illegible] n [illegible] uirtutis, ac fidei tuæ [illegible] d [illegible] obstaret, te potiùs errare crediderim, quàm me fal [illegible] abet e [illegible] im [illegible] ud ex [illegible] at [illegible] enciuolentiæ plenam, hoc rep [illegible] ehensionem amicitiæ alienam. C [illegible] ne [illegible] n [illegible] mearum laudum fasce multiloquus sim, fatigatio enim est amic [illegible] lenti [illegible], hoc un [illegible] do dicturus fuerim, rem tuam, quantuis prætij facere tuum est, sed, mihi crede [illegible] c [illegible] m [illegible] s terrebis emptores. Respondebis non est mihi uenal [illegible] laudo, credo equidem [illegible] m [illegible] autem, te rem paruam, æquis auribus a [illegible] diet, sic lau [illegible] inuidiæ meæ ut ex [illegible] t [illegible] tuæ co [illegible] sulas, quod est dicito, minus quoque, siquid m [illegible] nus est. P [illegible] et [illegible] a [illegible] e, quod te ube [illegible] m, copioseque disserere, ne puduerit, pr [illegible] ngens oc [illegible] s amor [illegible] t [illegible] m [illegible] ratorem, tu H [illegible] oricum, tu Philosophum, tu Poëtam, tu me denique Th [illegible] lo [illegible] n faceres, nisi sic esse tibi persuasum esset, ab illo cui non cre [illegible] re ma [illegible] us e [illegible] a [illegible] d [illegible] quo nu [illegible] c forsan ueniam merebaris, [illegible] ris on [illegible] m [illegible] s, ad ext [illegible] m [illegible] maximis, & q [illegible] us conferri non mereor, etiam pr [illegible] es. E [illegible] amice, [illegible] intel [illegible] g [illegible] u [illegible] ntum uel [illegible] ie mea, uel reipsa ab hac sententi [illegible] ua ablum, ho [illegible] um omn [illegible] m [illegible] t [illegible] ibus, nihil [illegible] n. Quid ergo Scholasticus, & he id quidem, sed [illegible] a [illegible] a [illegible] fago [illegible] nel [illegible] o quid insulsum strepere solitus, quæque præsumptionis [illegible] a [illegible] summa est, ac [illegible] a [illegible] ub lauro, f [illegible] ilem calamum attingere, non ut f [illegible] ruens [illegible] perum, [illegible] & [illegible] entu [illegible] m [illegible] nti [illegible] r, q [illegible] àm [illegible] or literarum. Sum sectar [illegible] m negli [illegible] ens, [illegible] ppeten [illegible] m [illegible] quæsitu arduum ego quæsitor infimus, atque [illegible] mus, [illegible] è di [illegible] dens m [illegible] n [illegible] m [illegible] cer, du [illegible] t [illegible] tionem i [illegible] sam pro ueritate comp [illegible] ector [illegible] en [illegible] m Ac [illegible] nu [illegible] x pluri [illegible] atque in [illegible] ili plebe no [illegible] issimus, cu [illegible] n [illegible] bu [illegible], dubitansque de [illegible] guli [illegible] n [illegible] e quibus dubitare sac [illegible] le [illegible] u [illegible] re [illegible] n tu [illegible] nuentu o [illegible] Philosophiæ cuncta profiteri [illegible] t [illegible] m nihil præte [illegible] in [illegible] anxiam, præterque dubieta [illegible] m atque [illegible] nsi [illegible] tia [illegible] am [illegible] lust [illegible] n [illegible] p [illegible] nium, ad tuæ multum d [illegible] uersæ sentent [illegible] m u [illegible] lidum [illegible] quæ [illegible] o summæ [illegible] n [illegible] at [illegible] licet [illegible] a [illegible] is [illegible] d a [illegible] e [illegible] n [illegible] m quæ [illegible], [illegible] b [illegible] ib [illegible] re [illegible] us. Non [illegible] m, [illegible] imper [illegible] nimium m [illegible] m [illegible] ua [illegible] of [illegible] n, errat a [illegible] p [illegible] res so [illegible] re [illegible] c [illegible] ta [illegible] s [illegible] x [illegible] e [illegible] s [illegible] pe [illegible] d [illegible] e, de [illegible] a [illegible] tat [illegible] at [illegible] abo [illegible] e co [illegible] de [illegible] glori [illegible], d [illegible]

quoque ali [illegible] m a [illegible] descen [illegible] das, al [illegible] ru sum [illegible] surg [illegible] lu [illegible] s [illegible] quo [illegible] cas, m [illegible] nte [illegible] in [illegible] m quo me tempe [illegible] inc [illegible] tat in [illegible] non [illegible] hortaret. Q [illegible] um me [illegible] temp [illegible] hinc Italiæ [illegible] ex [illegible] te, [illegible] m, [illegible] periculisque d [illegible] habuit, [illegible] n [illegible] u [illegible] æ à propera [illegible] d [illegible] ad me [illegible] & tan [illegible] rum [illegible] acc [illegible] idé, q [illegible] um tam inferiore ue [illegible] den [illegible] ægritudin [illegible] es, quam [illegible] iden [illegible] no sub sole acta æstas, h [illegible] emsque [illegible] modo [illegible] or, curæque pepereran [illegible] im se nondum suis ped [illegible] u [illegible] m [illegible] meris me petijt. Quem per totum tempus ægritudinis, ad [illegible] is uid [illegible] t, sed iucundius inter libros u [illegible] at, sede uelut in [illegible] Q [illegible] m, tamque heroicam uiri illius humanita [illegible], è memoria [illegible] mor lethei [illegible] gurgite diluet. Denique uictor in patri [illegible], mu [illegible] gloria reuersurus quod neque pictor primus uotum eius imple [illegible] an [illegible] res mea, alterum adhibuit, un [illegible] m quidem ex paucissim [illegible] no [illegible] bu [illegible] a [illegible] us Zeuxim aut Prothoge [illegible] Parrh [illegible] sium, aut Apellem, [illegible] sed omnis ætas contenta [illegible] gem [illegible] tet m [illegible] ergo quem [illegible] um pro [illegible] sus artificem, ut res sunt, qui cù [illegible] ad me [illegible] et, dissimulato propo [illegible] m [illegible] on [illegible] o, ille suo i [illegible] e a [illegible] idens. Erat enim mihi [illegible] miliarissimus, nescio quid [illegible] ageret [illegible] tellexi [illegible] amicissimam, passusque sum nolens, ut ex professo me [illegible] quod [illegible] tamen omni [illegible] s ope quiuit efficere. Sic mihi, [illegible] m erat, cur si [illegible] od [illegible] è uehe [illegible] te [illegible] tata [illegible] ced [illegible] nius, & nimia uoluntas e [illegible] Ea [illegible] psam ima [illegible], tantus ille dux [illegible] m tu [illegible] interque del [illegible] h [illegible] hoc unum, quod meo saltem nomine facta esset. I nunc, & sic affe [illegible] o meis in laud [illegible] bc. Hæc iam multa in in [illegible] ssimo loco ac tempore ut scriberem, coëgit illius recorda [illegible] tum ut agnosceres illu [illegible] amare, ieque non minus, si [illegible] credideris, errare. Sit hoc [illegible] amicitiæ meæ pign [illegible] s amici animum opinionibus, absoluisse, bona fide q [illegible] quid uerò non sim dixi. De me mihi potiùs crede quàm alteri, nulli enim profundius [illegible] qui & [illegible] me amem, amo tamen ueritatem, hac in parte mihi notam adeò, ut u x [illegible] de [illegible] ontra ill [illegible] loqui, [illegible] loquentibus, uel in silentio consentire. Sile [illegible] d [illegible] m n [illegible] liquo, f [illegible] u [illegible] en [illegible] nis odio, uel loquen [illegible] dio. Nunc [illegible] n, hinc im [illegible] bilis la [illegible] m [illegible] es, illinc eloquentię ratus [illegible] dor in ca [illegible] ri fo [illegible] ta [illegible] e alijs, & [illegible] me omn [illegible] bso [illegible] uerent, ipse mihi reus atque [illegible] cusabilis ui [illegible] m [illegible] o [illegible] so atque artifici laudat [illegible], me tac [illegible] tum præbu [illegible] em. [illegible] eni igitur in cert [illegible] b [illegible] re, cum illo cui in rel [illegible] mn [illegible] onsentiens, atque unanimis esse uel m, [illegible] dar [illegible] tate [illegible] n [illegible] nnu [illegible] quam a [illegible] tus, sed non ita, inde est ut nullum [illegible] uam [illegible] d [illegible] lu [illegible] am [illegible] h [illegible] tiam fecerim, quia nec tale aliq [illegible] pass [illegible] d [illegible] a. [illegible] ostremò autem quisquis sim, qua [illegible] tar [illegible] el [illegible] eloqu [illegible] omnium pe [illegible] incertus at [illegible] tan [illegible] m [illegible] m [illegible] o mihi [illegible] o, in a [illegible] s fa [illegible] is [illegible] de [illegible] s, ad [illegible] us e [illegible] ta, qu [illegible] rum p [illegible] ex omn [illegible] ut n [illegible], sed [illegible] is, q [illegible] as mediocrita [illegible] In amand [illegible] ctu [illegible] s, mem [illegible], cun [illegible] s in rebus al [illegible] ens mul [illegible] de [illegible] em [illegible] ent, uel ueritas, ipsa m [illegible] erit ami [illegible] qu [illegible] u [illegible] um [illegible] c tua [illegible] reius [illegible] rtus, h [illegible] me [illegible] æ [illegible] non [illegible] phic [illegible] sed c [illegible] lesti [illegible] a [illegible]

[illegible] meminisse non pot [illegible]

[illegible] s.

[illegible] PETRAR[illegible] [illegible], S. Epist. VI.

[illegible] proximam, [illegible] am. Astrolo[illegible] multa mentiri.

Q[illegible] me ad fugam mor[illegible] habeo, ne[illegible] id faceres, nisi c[illegible] [illegible]tarium mortis, hoc e[illegible] non no[illegible] d[illegible] am[illegible] [illegible]tius, [illegible]. N[illegible]s, nemo Deu[illegible] [illegible] mo [illegible] ma[illegible] m[illegible] nemo amicum, q[illegible] c[illegible]ncere cr[illegible] um [illegible] quoq; dicam [illegible]m uid[illegible]s ergastula. Pr[illegible] corpora [illegible]ncula sunt, [illegible] a nobi[illegible] a[illegible] agi[illegible] a conti[illegible] um [illegible] calam[illegible] unde Plato [illegible], qui de eo atq; hominibus [illegible] inquit [illegible] ater mortalia [illegible] [illegible]. Sed redeo ad charitatem tu[illegible] micū, id quidem f[illegible] [illegible] ogitas, sic si ad naturam rei [illegible]as [illegible] enim mo[illegible]gi, [illegible]t, ut fuga mortis, sit ad mortem fuga. [illegible]s, nil tu[illegible] mortis ac metū nec anticipare, nec de[illegible] cit, q[illegible] bea[illegible] [illegible] or[illegible]es senis illius, multis malis exerc[illegible] [illegible]entiæ [illegible], [illegible] D[illegible]ens: Vocabis (inquit) me & ego respon[illegible]bo [illegible] [illegible] uenimus [illegible] no[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]m, ne aut tergiuersatio, aut præcipitatio sui no[illegible]tra displiceat. N[illegible] respondere superbia [illegible] sic non uocanti respondere dementia, æqu[illegible] mortem [illegible]nis uel metuere, uel [illegible]ptare. Alterum ignauiæ est, alterum impatien[illegible] [illegible]cax, hic uotum superuacuū, frustrà metuitur, quod uitari nequit. Frustra [illegible] [illegible] adest, simus forti animo, ac trāquillo, nihil minus uiri est, quàm [illegible] [illegible]m perturbatio sapientis. Ex quo die nati sumus, & pericula nob[illegible] & laqueos, & laquei, quæ cuncta iampridem uiris prouisa esse debet, si non [illegible]. Quem [illegible] Quam palæstram? Quod [illegible] tamen [illegible] essuri sim[illegible], atq; omninò, que[illegible] mund[illegible] [illegible]us ignoramus? Ianitor nos fefellit, m[illegible] atiēda om[illegible] prędixit in limine hominū se nō [illegible], qui se humanis casibus nesciat expositum, & naturæ mortalis ob[illegible], qui de morte non cogitat, horisq; illam, & locis omnibus non expectat. [illegible] sors nostra est, quam [illegible] [illegible] conquæri, quod totis uoluminibus docti homines fec[illegible], ut egoipse, non paruis e[illegible] [illegible] olim feci, sed nil fletu proficitur, aut lamentis, adamantinæ leg[illegible] [illegible]rum sunt. Semel [illegible]tus est Deus, dixitq; semel nascentibus auctor, quicquid scire licet, [illegible] quæ ille dixit, fixa sunt omnia. Nam ut uatum alius quidam ait:

——graue & immutabile sanctis
Pondus adest uerbis, & uocem fata sequuntur.

F[illegible] [illegible] ctō si à fando, fatum dicitur, quod non huic tantum, [illegible] sacris quoque doctoribus, [illegible] Augustino præcipuè uisum scio, fatum nostrum, si hoc nomine uti licet, non in [illegible] [illegible] motibus, sed in Dei uerbis ac prouidentia situm est. Seu securis ergo, seu timi[illegible] ac [illegible] natura, quod Deus rigido sanxit edicto, moriendum esse, nem[illegible] dubitat. Qu[illegible] [illegible], alter, horum dubietas multa est, ut est fermè omnium futurorum neq; dubietas m[illegible] [illegible] inscitia, [illegible] caligo profundissima, atque densissima, quam acies nostra non p[illegible] [illegible]. Quid hic op[illegible] auspice? Quid torquetur Astrologus? Quid inludat curiositas ua[illegible] [illegible] mathematicos? Quos etsi uerbis accendi posse, non corrigi plane norim, de successu [illegible] [illegible] spe[illegible] tamen aggredior. Sinite o insani, sinite sydera cursus suos agere, [illegible] [illegible] nobis nihil a[illegible]unt altra, si e nihil in nobis iudicant, siue horum [illegible] a nobis [illegible] [illegible] um [illegible] tem uerum esse, si nihil aliud, [illegible]a utiq; m[illegible] iudicat me d[illegible] [illegible] bet eligit. [illegible] enim aliud non licet, [illegible] e [illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] tus. Quid [illegible] mendac[illegible] m[illegible] eos [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]rum nihil [illegible] at omn[illegible] quæ uelut consopiti ebrij [illegible] tē fortuitum [illegible] um, q[illegible] am ali[illegible] and[illegible] me[illegible]. Nemo [illegible] amus uel[illegible] falsa omnia, [illegible] qui p[illegible] sæpè [illegible] mend[illegible] de pectore [illegible], & uos quidem, uero unico casu [illegible] cum [illegible], mille inter uera unico mendacio e[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] itum uideatur, uerò un[illegible] alterum add[illegible] uaticinia ua[illegible] [illegible] uel fortunæ u[illegible] nomen dat[illegible] Qu[illegible] m, quid h[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] Qu[illegible] incertissimis le[illegible] s [illegible] uos l[illegible]s [illegible] syde[illegible] seruos [illegible] ia, [illegible] s qu[illegible] us hu[illegible] [illegible] a uultis, expetit [illegible]

præsentium ac [illegible] nihilq; nisi futura n[illegible]bus, quæ sola [illegible] Prosper & faci[illegible] uester, doct[illegible]es [illegible] aride[illegible] Nan[illegible] Mars aut Ve[illegible]piter aut Saturnus [illegible] a[illegible]ridem ab[illegible] N[illegible]ca ruditate [illegible] s Quo[illegible]an ma tarta[illegible] [illegible]um t[illegible] a[illegible] ad[illegible] [illegible]m pr[illegible] [illegible] q[illegible]d n[illegible] ar[illegible]aro [illegible] [illegible] ante fec[illegible]rat [illegible] ul[illegible]m, & omnibus eis [illegible] [illegible]uis [illegible] illa co[illegible] uerus q[illegible]dem, ac p[illegible]æclarus A[illegible] non [illegible]rolemæus, non Archimed[illegible]cus, sed altior multò, c[illegible]rtiorq; [illegible] hæc nominum mortalis inuen[illegible]um, nauigationi præsidium, [illegible] neq; præsi[illegible]um potest esse, ne[illegible] [illegible]uid incassum malefici lab[illegible]ati [illegible] [illegible]o ut [illegible]et, nos aduersus [illegible]s ex[illegible]ecti, intentiq;, & arman su[illegible] nos numeris uestris a[illegible] [illegible]m sumus, ex illorũ grege, [illegible]uibus per So[illegible] Dominus comi[illegible]atur? Qu[illegible] su[illegible]ecta militiam cœli. Quò[illegible] ibi sic expon[illegible] lem scilicet & Lu[illegible]m, & cæte[illegible]ui e[illegible]r contra scientiam Dei, quicq[illegible] geritur, ad ortum & [illegible]ccasum [illegible]rum re[illegible]entes, qui iurant in Domin[illegible] & in Mel[illegible] qui duobus scilicet dominis uolunt placere, Deo & mundo, q[illegible]ullo pacto propte[illegible] d[illegible] rum discordiam fieri potest. Nos autem sub tecto clausi, p[illegible]ectoris non cœli mil[illegible]m [illegible]d ipsum cœli regem adoramus, omnipotentem scilicet Deum [illegible]riem, & filium eius u[illegible] cum [illegible]ESVM CHR[illegible]STVM crucifixum, & sanctum spiritum paraclitum à patre, [illegible]o procedent[illegible] ũ hunc, [illegible]numq; Deum colimus, illi fidimus, in illum credimus, in [illegible]o [illegible] in alio [illegible]ra[illegible]d ext[illegible]a supe[illegible]itione nos inuoluitis? Illi obsequimur qui cre[illegible]n[illegible]s, & creatos re[illegible]lumq; simul ac [illegible]llas, & creaui[illegible] & re[illegible]it, neq; ma[illegible]is in uobis aut [illegible] dis, aut reg[illegible] di[illegible] stellarum ope, q̃ in [illegible]is nostro [illegible]et a[illegible] Si quid [illegible]ci esset, in nob[illegible] [illegible]s potestati, [illegible]lam pariter [illegible]ulru debito coleremu[illegible], nũ[illegible]l alteri nos debere cogn[illegible] Si quid [illegible]n nobis est boni, ab illo est. Quicquid autẽ mal[illegible], num ab alio quàm à nobis? Al[illegible] quin pœnale non esset, quod [illegible]iunde procederet. Nolite ergo creatorem & creata con[illegible] dere. Deniq; si errorem demum eligitis, uiam linquite ueritatis, ac uitæ. Ad illum aspirantibus, qui est uia, ueritas, & uita, execr[illegible] syderum miratores, ac syderũ uiles serui, quodq; est mirabilius proxenetæ, & captiuandarum artifices animarum. Quò pergitis? Quid intend[illegible]n[illegible] Quid nobis aut igneos globos instabiles, aut mortuos peccatores duces procuratis. Io[illegible] minor, sed uel non notus nob[illegible]s, [illegible]el non creditu[illegible] nec dilectus cœlum uoluit ac temperat, [illegible] suum orbem, ipse opifex mode[illegible]t. Illi canitur, & nõ Ioui, in manibus tuis sortes meæ. [illegible] testi[illegible] in animum inducere [illegible]lectis fulgoribus, qui si per se extimentur, oculos mu[illegible]c[illegible] excæcan[illegible]q; animos, ad illum attollatis ingenia, de quo scriptum est: In lumine tuo uid[illegible] mus lumen: & incipiatis aliquando credere, quod Iuppiter uester nihil, CHRISTVS n[illegible] [illegible]otest omnia, quod sol & luna lucent oculis, horum conditor menti lucet, quid illam in[illegible] [illegible]rpoream ac diuina[illegible], ad cor[illegible]a q[illegible]stis clara reflectitis? Stupetis forsan hæc lumina [illegible]lum ipsum diesq;, & noctes ornan[illegible], & mundo, si[illegible]s sanè uti nouit [illegible]a, sed recta a[illegible] spectantem animam, interior lux delectat, in quam uersi, sortilegis non egemus, & his [illegible]s uatibus, credulorum arculas auro uacuant[illegible] busiat uerò nugis aures, errore animos atq; h[illegible] rore complentibus præse[illegible]q; uitæ statum futuri pollicitatione turba[illegible]ibus. Hæc a[illegible] aduersus hos n[illegible] n[illegible] tan[illegible]um mihi, sed CHRISTO, & in [illegible] c[illegible]us od[illegible] atq; h[illegible] dixi [illegible]rari desinas, his eisdem, q[illegible]us h[illegible]ssimam [illegible]em [illegible]ac[illegible]a[illegible], per [illegible]e, [illegible]te[illegible] spem obsessus, ac[illegible]exatus, qua[illegible] [illegible]o[illegible]a[illegible] ter, [illegible]et [illegible] ca[illegible] et ex multis, [illegible]tamẽ, [illegible]m hoc tempus p[illegible] aut hæc caperent[illegible] ni[illegible] cum calor hest, & nu[illegible]rtius, [illegible]ndo con[illegible] bentem nunc et[illegible]m[illegible]asset. Ad rem redeo. Si[illegible] igit[illegible]em adhuc i[illegible]a[illegible] tent, quiq; [illegible]a[illegible]ue re[illegible]ium, cu[illegible]e[illegible]t omn[illegible], parum fidat, auiũ se, [illegible]oct[illegible] ster agere, [illegible]ne [illegible] Flacci carmen audiat.

Pru[illegible]is c[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] trepidationem nostram & n[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible]ert[illegible] [illegible]tas est. Q[illegible]scamu[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] p[illegible], [illegible]dentissimi ac clemen[illegible]

[illegible] taciti, quin po[illegible]us, ex[illegible]que atque alacres festinemus. Non [illegible] m[illegible] nos ad illam [illegible]to a[illegible] :

stat sua cuique dies.

O[illegible] ait, dies stat, nos currimu[illegible] dumque [illegible]ere [illegible] uolam[illegible] q[illegible] cu[illegible] tenerimus, dies illa nobis [illegible]is, quasi q[illegible] expe[illegible]at n[illegible]cta d[illegible] nihil it alq[illegible] propter id quod d[illegible] Psalmo [illegible]icit quod u[illegible] n[illegible]. Et ali[illegible] luxta est die[illegible] d[illegible]ora. Sane [illegible] p[illegible] disceptatio u[illegible] ubi de re[illegible] di m[illegible] præcesat q[illegible]sque, quem u[illegible]um meminer[illegible] diem hanc [illegible] ad [illegible]am magno animo [illegible] ad n[illegible]entem, fe[illegible]nantemque pari ani[illegible]imus autem imperterritos a[illegible]e non sufficit. lætos docet, nec[illegible] nihil aut modicu[illegible] hic dele[illegible] [illegible]isis ueri è omnibus, lætam m[illegible] tiens laudat [illegible]di[illegible] n[illegible]erris iam superuacuas moras odi, ac fo[illegible]as, fortè en[illegible] ipsum q[illegible]mur propè est. Quid uerò rem certiss[illegible]am [illegible]o ponimus, [illegible]re uo[illegible] [illegible]lmista: Propè enim esse, quis dubitet [illegible]n qu[illegible]oc iter [illegible], nu[illegible]am l[illegible] p[illegible]gressus elongabitur? Et quod m[illegible]è pro[illegible] erat, eo rap[illegible] interm[illegible]ne p[illegible]s, procul erit ad u[illegible]ram. Fieri potest, neque [illegible]at mi[illegible]um e[illegible], aut [illegible]m ut q[illegible]pe in longum trah[illegible]is, hoc ipso futurum die sit. Et quis nouit, an quod [illegible] nis [illegible]us pessimum suspicamur, simus optimum reperturi? Vt quod ualde timuimus, n[illegible] m[illegible] timuisse nos pudeat, sed etiam non sperasse, cùm errorum nebulas d[illegible]a dies il[illegible] l[illegible] cuncti in lucem illam exierimus, à qua fusco nunc carcere proh[illegible] Et de h[illegible] [illegible]imilibus, ut ipse ais, per me multa. Sed tamen multò plura per al[illegible]ci possu[illegible] nec tempus patitur, nec locus, & ego satis hodie euagatus sum. Vnum [illegible]c tibi, tuæque [illegible]tudini notum uelim, me aliam licet o[illegible]usam, iam implesse quod mones & pridem P[illegible]o ubi pestis inualuit digressum, Venetias petijsse, non ut mortem fugiam, sed ut qu[illegible] [illegible] qua in terris est requies. Vale.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER II.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCCATIO S. Epist. I.

Obiectorum crimina purgat.

AVT tacere oportuit, aut latere, seu uerius non nasci, ut Scylleos euaderem latratus, non e[illegible]udus [illegible] publicum prodire [illegible]ual[illegible] canes dente, uoce sæuiūt inu[illegible]di, [illegible]inc d[illegible]men, hin[illegible] t[illegible]d[illegible] utrunque silentio, a e latebris [illegible]re, co[illegible] æstu[illegible]o nolebam, iam conspectus [illegible]o, d[illegible] corum [illegible]minum, quibus ignotum [illegible] N[illegible]cip[illegible] qui noctu [illegible] Ca[illegible]m[illegible]d[illegible] qua[illegible] canes latra[illegible] si de[illegible]ni[illegible] scr[illegible]pt[illegible]m[illegible], q[illegible] uis id uel medi[illegible] a[illegible] el[illegible] n[illegible] me quocunque licet m[illegible] a[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible]t, q[illegible] me[illegible] ci[illegible] ue[illegible] uere[illegible] fa[illegible] [illegible] autem innumerabiles, inquiet[illegible] nt[illegible]o agi[illegible] [illegible]. Legatur Anneus tale aliq[illegible] no[illegible] [illegible]um minuti canes lat[illegible] inco[illegible] [illegible], qui præ tum[illegible]e, uel lat[illegible]ar[illegible], uel [illegible]ord[illegible] [illegible]o[illegible] ali[illegible]

neq; Th[illegible] tib[illegible] & illis ne[illegible] fuit. Mira [illegible] tis, temp[illegible] an[illegible] æ, qua[illegible] aliorum fieri u[illegible] ces a[illegible] admitti qui[illegible] ocem[illegible] mi[illegible] nt[illegible] a[illegible] m[illegible] u[illegible] m[illegible] m[illegible] scri[illegible] l[illegible] erat[illegible] is c[illegible] u[illegible] ct[illegible] q; c[illegible] e[illegible] n[illegible] us idi[illegible] [illegible] ue[illegible] ur argume[illegible] m[illegible] & quomo[illegible] præsunt qui dum ta[illegible] homini[illegible] declinant, tacito doctor[illegible] demnatur. Si h[illegible] tan[illegible] timuit, & uitandos monuit, quid [illegible] endum putes [illegible] em h[illegible] non tam metu, quàm odio ac[illegible] enubus lingu[illegible] f[illegible] instrumenta c[illegible] gererem, [illegible] s, me ne noui a[illegible] c[illegible] siquid fort[illegible] ain [illegible] ripsera[illegible] Non hab eo, quod [illegible] quæ[illegible] mi non paruι, quæ si scribendi [illegible] enderet, scriberem ac d[illegible] lerem, quand[illegible] is erat, ex lite[illegible] is u[illegible] lupt[illegible] tem cap[illegible] mo[illegible] ac latratus inuidiæ declinarem. Idq; sic f[illegible] a- ctum esset, [illegible] q[illegible] me ad scri[illegible] dum [illegible] erem delectatio ac segnem ad delendum cor[illegible] a faciebat. Miserebat innocuæ nouitatis, durum ma[illegible] quem diligas, ipsem[illegible] p[illegible] is man[illegible] us uide[illegible] ar, in meā, hoc est, ingenij mei pro[illegible] euiturus, & sæuij tam[illegible], u[illegible] taham in [illegible] lio, Det Zelo, sic ego in scriptis sacrific[illegible] m, u[illegible] p[illegible] ticè ma[illegible] is, hoc qu[illegible] ce dixe[illegible] im. Ph[illegible] œb[illegible] gratum ratus ac Palladi, si[illegible] l mul[illegible] um proterui[illegible], multumq; l[illegible] tratori[illegible] us me[illegible] demptum iri existimās. Et li quissem, u[illegible] l nil scribere, uel scri[illegible] pe[illegible] iam [illegible] cedinem mihi requiem peperi[illegible] em, sed nequiui, rursumq; i rel[illegible] s li seuerio[illegible] a[illegible] potuissem, uiuu[illegible] ltem quieui[illegible] em, sed nec ad ipsum potui, ut qui nil occultare d[illegible] icerim, nil negar[illegible] nc mihi[illegible] dij[illegible] a radix. Vnū de multis aud[illegible] te annos plurimos, dum post obitum summi reg[illegible], a[illegible] mano Pōtifice missum me Ne[illegible] lis haberet, atq; int[illegible] r expectationis tædia, opportunum ac dulce remedium Barbatus m[illegible] Sulmonēsis illic esset, uir omnium literarum cupidissimus, mearum uerò tàm immodi[illegible] [illegible] lis non rerum pondus, non uerborū gratiam, nil postremò quærat aliud, nisi an me[illegible] Sed ne id quidem, sic illarum sibi eminus, uel odor ipse notissimus est, neq; mihi per id t[illegible] pus absq; illo dies ullus ageretur, accidit ut in Af[illegible] ca mea, quę rūc iuuenis notior iam [illegible] lior q;, quam uellem, curis postea multis, & grauibus pressa consenuit, aliquot illi[illegible] m[illegible] o uersiculi placuissent, quos palàm poscere ueri[illegible] (nemo namq; uerecūdior, nemo reuerentior amicorum, atq; in primis mei submisit, qui [illegible] los muneris instar ingenuis, supplici prece deposceret. Negaui contra meum morem, & intempestiuum desiderium, libera chart[illegible] [illegible] eda [illegible] ui, erubuit, quieuitq; tanti[illegible] per, atq; orauit imperioso ut parcerem amori. Nec s[illegible] die al[illegible] ero atq; altero, adhibitis in[illegible] rcessorib. institit, importunitate prorsus ingenua ac mo[illegible] [illegible] tenera quidem frons, pudo[illegible] q; purpureus mearum duritiem repulsarum ferre no[illegible] [illegible] semper igitur i[illegible] lo [illegible] tuti aderāt (est quidem quisq;, pro alio quàm pro s[illegible] nestius import[illegible] inu[illegible] lam ut arbitror finem tenes. Negaui quantum illæsa quiuit am[illegible], cumq; nullus pec[illegible] andi modus e[illegible] t, ad extremum uictus. nunquam enim cum ami[illegible] ctor, quin succu[illegible] bam cessi, & uersi[illegible] ni[illegible] fal[illegible] r q[illegible] or ac triginta, limæ adhuc & tempo[illegible] is indig[illegible] ntes, illi ami[illegible] o, cui nil ad ul[illegible] num negaturus sim, ea lege conc[illegible] s[illegible] t ad manu[illegible] [illegible] non ue[illegible] ren[illegible] d promitt[illegible] d[illegible] pron[illegible] mper intensa cupi[illegible] s, [illegible] æque autem[illegible] d [illegible] ndum [illegible] nullam c[illegible] em re[illegible] uit, dum optata per[illegible] t, [illegible] fidem, q[illegible] [illegible] e pu[illegible] erit. [illegible] uix bibliothecam literat[illegible] om[illegible] is introire mi[illegible] [illegible] ubi non cos[illegible] mma[illegible] ud Apollinei tripod[illegible] emplum sube[illegible] [illegible] m in[illegible] nin[illegible] rgm[illegible] uo horrori, scri[illegible] qu[illegible] r accesserit. non m[illegible] a ma[illegible] mi[illegible] onium scribent[illegible] æ[illegible] ic me igitu[illegible] le[illegible] gno[illegible] amo[illegible] s co[illegible] it im[illegible] s, dum l[illegible] udare, dum [illegible] sum facere [illegible] a[illegible] che[illegible] bus mul[illegible] n[illegible], a[illegible] ad [illegible] a[illegible] um c[illegible] p[illegible] orum [illegible] tati nost[illegible] æ p[illegible] m[illegible] ntissimum pro[illegible] pem [illegible] ma[illegible] um mores & [illegible] [illegible] s. E[illegible] as d[illegible] [illegible] uero præ[illegible] giter d[illegible]

[illegible] d[illegible] Nero[illegible] ui[illegible]
[illegible] ol[illegible]e,
[illegible] ue[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] s,[illegible]
[illegible] ere, l[illegible]
[illegible] um eo[illegible]
[illegible] n m[illegible]
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[illegible] mont[illegible] autem [illegible] nd[illegible] n[illegible]
[illegible] d in amic[illegible] q[illegible] im a[illegible] ium
[illegible] itare [illegible]edentium. Hæc [illegible]
[illegible] d[illegible] illud cand[illegible] u[illegible]
n[illegible] tem hoc mihi uideor dictur[illegible]
[illegible] luctus, nil grauius dici pos[illegible] , [illegible] ami[illegible]
[illegible] illæ quidem mites ac placidæ, [illegible] es & ac[illegible] m n[illegible]m
[illegible] ndo sit moll[illegible] Sardanapal[illegible] iudicando mu[illegible]
[illegible] g[illegible] ut cæter[illegible] rum, ad me nimi[illegible] spectantium iudici[illegible]
d[illegible] cant, quasi nihil [illegible] queat, quod non [illegible] capaces, ac patul[illegible]
[illegible] at asperas, & infensas placet, & recreat fessas, delicatas m[illegible]
[illegible] Ciceroni arduum, uel Maroni, uel utri[illegible], quod [illegible] a[illegible]
[illegible] t memonier quo[illegible] ille, cui[illegible] s non [illegible] a qui[illegible] plac[illegible]
[illegible] ut qui in alieno lib[illegible] c[illegible] sus e[illegible] antò a[illegible] ap[illegible] in[illegible]
[illegible] o c[illegible] t, & scrupu[illegible] ad [illegible] m atq; odium. [illegible]
h[illegible] ed [illegible] us, sed cling[illegible] ed exa[illegible] imis. [illegible] uidem ut possum [illegible] in[illegible]
[illegible] p[illegible] con uptiq; u[illegible] uli, post Apenninum ac [illegible] adum, al[illegible] n quoqu[illegible]
[illegible] m t[illegible] etsi, [illegible] usquam quod audierim reprehensor[illegible] in patu[illegible] ere[illegible]
[illegible] a magis acuta, quàm solida, magis acria quàm [illegible] ata. Qu[illegible] s [illegible]
[illegible] irs inhr[illegible] ? Quod calcar exagitat? Non tàm [illegible] s[illegible] antis A[illegible] c
[illegible] tàm t[illegible] pelagi [illegible] ag[illegible] r, aut tonitru, q[illegible] tàm [illegible] ciuis ho[illegible] men
[illegible] de[illegible] no enim agitur, quisquis [illegible] regi publico se subducere n[illegible] r, l[illegible] is est
[illegible] bse[illegible] ? An forte & illud Senec[illegible] uerum e[illegible] . Expe[illegible] t enim, inqui[illegible]
u[illegible] bo[illegible] um. Quasi aliena uirtus exprob[illegible] tio delictor[illegible] m fit. C[illegible] de[illegible],
[illegible] t[illegible] iutus, & inunc particeps, ex ea u[illegible] e[illegible], ubi u[illegible]
b[illegible] t m[illegible] orum maximè illorum [illegible] dmoneatur ignaui[illegible] de nul[illegible] s[illegible] m
[illegible] iquid exc[illegible] llentiæ sit oderunt, quam putas ob c[illegible] am, nisi quo[illegible] a[illegible] a
[illegible] t, quò m[illegible] inior lux offendit. Vis'ne hoc tibi [illegible] deò clar[illegible] u[illegible] pie[illegible]
n[illegible] ta quot nostr[illegible] ot pat[illegible] um, atq; auorum memoria, & quàm [illegible] auibu[illegible] bellis exe[illegible]
c[illegible] n[illegible] for[illegible] o, militieq; doctissimos uiros, d[illegible] semper [illegible] buerint. Nunc Cl
[illegible] n Gallia n, nu[illegible] Picenum, te[illegible] asq; alias, pro bell[illegible] ducibus adeunt[illegible], a[illegible] a
[illegible] ui [illegible] ci p[illegible] elegerũt, quã [illegible] uis uincere. Tantus est pudor suo duce p[illegible] rt[illegible] pr[illegible] a,
ut [illegible] h[illegible] o[illegible] quàm de hoste c[illegible] o suo [illegible] oriã quærimilit, siue is liu[illegible] r, [illegible] c[illegible]
de[illegible] te o[illegible] il c[illegible] um u[illegible] tu[illegible] lii[illegible] ium, factis insignibu[illegible] x[illegible]
p[illegible] a[illegible] ua[illegible] quem morem nescio quidem, unde, [illegible] n[illegible] R[illegible]
[illegible] a[illegible] d[illegible] n[illegible] s accip[illegible] nt, ut om[illegible] s [illegible] o[illegible] logma[illegible] næq; o[illegible]
[illegible] p[illegible] um atq; [illegible] brium [illegible] es ex[illegible] pl[illegible] u[illegible]
[illegible] ea, ciu[illegible] unt inscripta [illegible] omnibus, [illegible]
[illegible] tituli, a[illegible] uentutiæ p[illegible] p[illegible]
[illegible] is [illegible] dia, m[illegible] h[illegible] man[illegible] m[illegible]
[illegible] nd suf[illegible] p[illegible] re[illegible]
[illegible] e[illegible] ic[illegible]
[illegible] gni a[illegible]
[illegible] d Art[illegible] ud
[illegible] . Ce[illegible] te med[illegible] c[illegible]
[illegible] c[illegible] os p[illegible] tero[illegible]
[illegible] e[illegible] m uic[illegible]
[illegible] em Mæcenat[illegible] lu[illegible]

Capram [illegible] simus autor [illegible] extir[illegible]. Sed [illegible] n[illegible]tis, aut [illegible] fcd d[illegible] fira [illegible] ra p[illegible]ns o[illegible] manæ q[illegible] fce etu[illegible] N[illegible] n[illegible]us au[illegible] n[illegible]unt inuid[illegible] m[illegible] di dentium cicatrices? Sed [illegible] is. Qu[illegible] capellis [illegible] le olenti[illegible] c[illegible]tulcis fac[illegible] (spon[illegible]ioni[illegible]us [illegible] tentiæ [illegible] m[illegible] tores, iam [illegible] u[illegible] i[illegible] de accu[illegible] euapor[illegible] di[illegible]tu[illegible] to dicta [illegible] d cau[illegible]am. In illa ergo poematis me[illegible] ture decerp[illegible]a, ac uul[illegible]ata pr[illegible] & mortis quærimonia [illegible] Ma[illegible] Hamilcaris [illegible], frater Han[illegible], b[illegible] unico Secundo, in Italiam [illegible] tandem ex u[illegible] re in Liguribu[illegible] acce[illegible] patriam repete[illegible] mare m[illegible] di[illegible] Hic accusa[illegible] ore mei, quo me fine [illegible] nc [illegible] menq; ip[illegible]m cœlo æquantes, in se clarum, sed a[illegible] e cu[illegible] dis quidem, nec in fusa reprehensio, [illegible] tera esset, nihil enim [illegible] gratiter [illegible] teq; re[illegible] he[illegible] ne [illegible]gitima caritu[illegible]rum scimus, quod dicen[illegible] is statur, moribu[illegible] q; [illegible] imò u[illegible] pl[illegible] el[illegible] quenti[illegible] lus erroris impertinês oratio habitura [illegible] ho[illegible] decoru n[illegible] ticu[illegible] erson[illegible] quo Cicero [illegible] n Offic[illegible]s, & Flaccus in A[illegible] ca, uo n[illegible] nil Pyerium, ni[illegible] uinum speres. [illegible] ideamus autem nunc ad pera[illegible] In[illegible] niam, uafre cæptam quanto [illegible] ingenio, quantoq; iudicio repreh[illegible] res mei [illegible] p[illegible] nescis nugas, & hæc murmu[illegible] iamdudu[illegible] [illegible] achans, [illegible] ta[illegible] us spe[illegible] diens, quid [illegible]us, quid ue alius oscitasset, nec dum seriem accusat[illegible] intelligens. [illegible] em primum die, rem o[illegible]nem ordine diduci, referente rel[illegible] q[illegible] dam iuuene [illegible] dem nostro, multum illis licet adu[illegible] quiq; mei studio. C[illegible] il[illegible] um certet inuid[illegible] a sacrilegium ducens, homines qua[illegible] sibi uidetur ignaros ue[illegible] e meis in rebus fc[illegible] ostentare, id q; adeò molestum omnibus, in patria meum nomê amantibus, ut mol[illegible] hil sit, & multa ab eis in auxilium ueri dici solere asserens. Nos autem cœptis ini[illegible] ster[illegible] nixu, ut iam non rei ueritas queri, sed mei tantum infamia uidebatur. Hæc mecum ille h[illegible] scintillantibus oculis, & inexp[illegible]letis ac tremulis uocibus agebat. Deniq; tanta erat [illegible] tio, [illegible] uix lachrymas cohiberet. Agnoui ætatis, amoris[illegible] q; impetum, solatus[illegible] q; homi[illegible] fi[illegible] bono animo, eandem fortem Philosophorum ac Poe[illegible]rum, maximis fuisse [illegible] m sed optabilem his, qui [illegible]cta uia ad gloriam nitterentur. Nam & languidis [illegible] m, & clara qu[illegible]libet ac [illegible] a[illegible] u[illegible] n morem attrita, & confricta nitescere. [illegible] de [illegible] compr[illegible] timore ac [illegible] uore a[illegible] quid Ar[illegible] rchi mei excaut[illegible]lentur expl[illegible] mis dicunt non h[illegible] uidem ue[illegible] ed [illegible] is, ægrê se hoc dicere uel [illegible] gnantibus, [illegible] tam [illegible] licet tum sermonis, ac [illegible] g[illegible] n querelarum, non sat con[illegible] tancam morien[illegible] ue horam illam, tales & tàm graues, [illegible] a admittere. Sic ut uides, prima pars calumn[illegible] [illegible] ps est, non potuisse uel mo[illegible] tis spiritum in eas uoces, uel ingenium in ea uerba [illegible] e-

Ad hæc uero, [illegible] lenni more di[illegible] utantium nûc omisso, prius q[illegible] àm pl[illegible] distrah[illegible] [illegible] ndebo d[illegible] m[illegible] ria recens est, neq; enim [illegible] ator expectat, d[illegible] [illegible] tem adue[illegible] [illegible] se ictib[illegible] s ulciscatu[illegible] ed ui[illegible] nera u[illegible] In[illegible] F[illegible] & nunc [illegible] repellen[illegible] [illegible] riam c[illegible] dict[illegible] m[illegible] er[illegible] n [illegible] m exh[illegible] atq; id[illegible] eq; mag[illegible] n[illegible] ci[illegible] s, atq; [illegible] le. No[illegible] in[illegible] To m[illegible] le atq; [illegible] ce ma[illegible] antibus intell[illegible] um, plu[illegible] in illo al[illegible] ho[illegible] em, [illegible] m[illegible] nturio, Dei[illegible] ium esse, est conf[illegible] cu[illegible] Ma[illegible] tr[illegible] ns. T[illegible] m [illegible] inqu[illegible] m[illegible] m[illegible] uerò [illegible] at[illegible] auit, qu[illegible] [illegible] ed [illegible] non mor[illegible] Q[illegible] o in st[illegible] ra si[illegible] tent[illegible] habe[illegible] tua, & si igitur p[illegible]

[illegible] lem spiritum [illegible] utrunque adiuuat, atque attollit, & uel [illegible] rerum [illegible] ac u[illegible] [illegible] relinquatur [illegible] et [illegible] iudi[illegible] [illegible] tus [illegible] is expe[illegible] [illegible] a de[illegible] re, in qu[illegible] [illegible] m quibus u[illegible] [illegible] uit, anno [illegible] tempore, quod u[illegible] eriató ni[illegible] [illegible] m, [illegible] dum nudum [illegible] dum, m[illegible] ac [illegible]. Nec mirabere, talis erat [illegible] ex ipsa, qualis mat[illegible] d[illegible] b[illegible] aprum, uel sæuire [illegible] um di[illegible] colloqui. Tandem a[illegible] [illegible] m defutura est, quamque mei [illegible] styli mei utar [illegible] d [illegible] uæ curam gererent. Conueni[illegible] s stud[illegible] qua- [illegible], qui sic uixerat, ille ubi se morti proxi[illegible] mirum [illegible] [illegible] ce, alius ea loqui cœpit, sic se argue[illegible] s, [illegible] h[illegible] [illegible] antisque suspirijs hunc sermonem [illegible] mu spirit[illegible] [illegible] es hominis probassem, neque ama[illegible] em, & re[illegible] de[illegible] p[illegible] res, beneu[illegible] dimitteret. Quod de Roberto Sic[illegible] re[illegible] quã [illegible] ac uiuenti, se[illegible] unus fuerit actuum ac uerborum tenor, clariu[illegible] men q[illegible] us in morte pe[illegible] nuit, cygneumque illud obiens impleuit, phil[illegible] [illegible] num uerè, sic instans regni periculum, casusque omnes ante oculos p[illegible] [illegible] æ futura alijs, sibi præsentia iudicares. C[illegible] s lingua, si f[illegible] sim[illegible] [illegible] at [illegible] t, non tàm subito infœlix illa Campani[illegible] la o[illegible] maior [illegible] [illegible] tam inuidioso, & trãquillo statu, ad hunc ad[illegible] qui[illegible] m ac m[illegible] lem co- [illegible] d[illegible] nostri secretioris, & nouæ philosophi[illegible] fessores, uocem [illegible] genium [illegible] em nondum extincti hominis obruũt, atque sep[illegible] unt, tum præcipue p[illegible] strati se- [illegible] & erecti solito altiùs attolluntur, sic uexatio animum tergit atque acuit, sic sop[illegible] [illegible] ic uirtutem excitat mors uicina, de quo tempore qui[illegible] ud Tullium admirans [illegible] cam. Tum uel maximè inquit) laudi student, eosque qui [illegible] s quàm de[illegible] uit [illegible] p[illegible] rum suorum maximè pœnitet. Quód dictum [illegible] pagani homi[illegible] se[illegible] h[illegible] s calumniæ fuerit, ea uerò e[illegible] iusmodi. Quæ ill[illegible] buerim m[illegible] o, [illegible] [illegible] Christiani hominis uideri. Ego uerò, non minus hanc [illegible] riam, quàm prio[illegible] [illegible], ut putassem nostro [illegible] b æthere nasci posse, qui ista tàm raucæ tãque [illegible] ter [illegible] [illegible]. Aridi atque ignobilis intellectus sunt talia tentam[illegible] ta quibus pa[illegible] o [illegible] em- p[illegible] & impatientia detegatur. Quid enim per CHRISTVM o[illegible] secro, qui[illegible] Chri[illegible] m [illegible] n potiùs humanum, omniumque gentium commune. Quid enim n[illegible] dolor a[illegible] m[illegible] pœnitentia in extremis? De qua quid Cicero ipse scripserit audiui[illegible] quanquam q[illegible] te res agitur. De qua quisque sibi, totusque adeò terrarum orbis, uno [illegible] te re[illegible] d[illegible] m [illegible] CHRISTI nomen expressum, quod s[illegible] peri[illegible] licet at[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] men [illegible] iteris non habuit locum, obstante temporum ra[illegible]. Nullus ibi [illegible] ilus, [illegible] im [illegible] ecclesiæ sacramentũ: Denique nihil [illegible] ngelicum, nihil omni[illegible] quod n[illegible] ut [illegible] ominis multa experti, iamque ad finem experientiæ festinantis, secundum na- tu[illegible] ingenium atque unitam rationem possit ascendere, quibus utinam non a[illegible] [illegible] enumer[illegible] eremur. Potest errorem ac peccatum suũ re[illegible] ognos[illegible] & pe[illegible] d[illegible] b[illegible] ac d[illegible] re homo etiam non Christianus, fructu quidem impari, p[illegible] au[illegible] [illegible] ic esset nunquam in Phormione Terentianus hoc diceret, a[illegible] el[illegible] s [illegible] pe[illegible] catum m[illegible] m. Quòd si sospes atque in[illegible] er fatetur, qui[illegible] tum [illegible] [illegible] el[illegible] cturum [illegible] dimus, d[illegible] ua rursum co[illegible] itione, & conf[illegible] ne [illegible] pœn[illegible] [illegible] etiam e[illegible] on qu[illegible] xagoras, aut [illegible] antes seu ex no[illegible] Cat[illegible] e [illegible] s poëtarum Naso, qui [illegible] p[illegible] (ut p[illegible] b[illegible] mus [illegible] e ille enim ai[illegible]

Pœnite[illegible] o, si q[illegible] o creditur ulli
Pœnitet, [illegible] or ips[illegible] meo.

[illegible] inquit, est [illegible] s [illegible] d u[illegible] [illegible] illud excutiens, qu[illegible] cit [illegible] s [illegible] m emendes. E[illegible] po[illegible] st [illegible], [illegible] a[illegible] ris primum par[illegible] [illegible] Prouerbijs Salomon. Iustus prio[illegible]

Lucilium ab[illegible]ait [illegible] a c[illegible] Q[illegible] quo[illegible] [illegible] tas c[illegible] [illegible] mo[illegible] [illegible] per[illegible] [illegible] ue ba[illegible] [illegible] m q[illegible] [illegible] Quoni[illegible] [illegible] parum mihi uide[illegible]ur [illegible] rect[illegible] [illegible] pauca [illegible] xi[illegible] mu[illegible]torum [illegible] te alios Platonicos, [illegible] Ambro[illegible] Augustino [illegible] Deo, de anima, de [illegible] & [illegible] contemptu uitæ [illegible] de [illegible] alterius. Quæ qu[illegible] n[illegible] iens ta[illegible] mord[illegible]ndum [illegible] in [illegible], ex qu[illegible] loquor attendant, & fort[illegible] colli[illegible]. [illegible] Nam sat considerate me serm[illegible] tàm [illegible] uent[illegible] tectæ [illegible] ent[illegible] imus sit ætati. Quod e[illegible] liter, sed [illegible] im dico. [illegible] legant omnes huius articuli [illegible] es, [illegible] ad initium senect[illegible]s, minus spatium inuenient posuisse quàm Cice[illegible]. S[illegible] dra[illegible]inta annos posuit, [illegible] uius sententiam [illegible], ni[illegible] & nih[illegible] ext[illegible] ipse Cato uera loqui faciens ore illius, id maioribu[illegible] [illegible] dicit, [illegible] [illegible] aut[illegible]rita. Vt sit ita, quando nihil proprius aduersariis meis fauet, nunq[illegible] [illegible] æt[illegible]tis quadragesimo secundo moriente, quo def[illegible]nctum [illegible] [illegible]um [illegible]cipem palàm est, loqui falsum, maturumq́ [illegible] id non [illegible] [illegible] uitæ [illegible]ga, atque huic errorum tenebris mortis [illegible] tate di[illegible] [illegible] autem senectus multò qu[illegible] Ciceronis est tardi[illegible], est ill[illegible] liber [illegible] sarum q[illegible]stion[illegible]m, ubi ab anno sexagesimo incipere illam dicit, quæ sententia, [illegible] [illegible]tur, seu res ipsa, quantum firmitatis, aut ponderis habitura [illegible] u[illegible]erint, qui [illegible] a sene decrepito dici posse contendunt. Nec uerò tàm per[illegible]naciter hanc ampl[illegible] reliquas omnes abijciam, scio de [illegible], alios aliter atque aliter [illegible] sed operosum [illegible] minum sensus ac uerba colligere, [illegible]que & si plures ad testimonium trahi possent, p[illegible] sponte obuio[illegible] adhibui. Inter quos [illegible]idorus, quo autore raro utor, dum in sex ætat[illegible] [illegible]m diuideret, quarta (inquit) est iuuentus, firmissima ætatum omnium, finiens [illegible] qua[illegible] [illegible]o anno, quid Rosores mei dicunt? An hic saltem æuo, ultim[illegible], opin[illegible] te[illegible] placet, an quis alius? [illegible]o enim causæ fi[illegible]s, nullū respuo, nisi qu[illegible] ter[illegible] a[illegible] ru[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible]scer[illegible], qu[illegible] [illegible]dentur, quibus cum mihi res est, qui de iu[illegible]ene u[illegible]o [illegible] la[illegible] duce me loquentem, qua[illegible] de puero uel in[illegible]a[illegible]te loquar, arguunt. Hac ætate [illegible] n[illegible] & firma iuuenis mens erat quam qui loqui nescit, meo consilio ad scholas el[illegible] nun[illegible]quam ibit. Hu[illegible] [illegible] ideo [illegible]uenem Pœnum dixi, ne si indefinite Pœnum dicere[illegible] m[illegible] fronte Hanni[illegible] [illegible]ederetur, & natu maior, & clarior fama. Benè autem & ætat[illegible] c[illegible]paratione [illegible]rat[illegible]is di[illegible]tus [illegible], qui hinc iuuenis esset, hinc iunior, se[illegible] t[illegible]m [illegible]mis in rebu[illegible] expertus [illegible] utranq́[illegible] [illegible]rtunam. Sed quid causam mun[illegible] im[illegible] u[illegible] [illegible]tem tueo[illegible], cu[illegible] promp[illegible]imum sit quod illi firmissima ac solidissima [illegible] ætate [illegible]p[illegible] id [illegible]mis [illegible] de[illegible]re. M[illegible] Diadumenum Anton[illegible] [illegible]um sen[illegible] [illegible] tu[illegible]e[illegible]us ip[illegible] pu[illegible] a[illegible] p[illegible]um prouectus, cum popu[illegible]um a[illegible] [illegible]ouis pr[illegible] mos [illegible] b[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible]m [illegible]so patre concionat[illegible] legit[illegible]r. [illegible]eo Cl[illegible] [illegible]binum, cuius [illegible] [illegible] t[illegible]m grauia referuntur, [illegible] ne qu[illegible]bet m[illegible] [illegible] possint, [illegible] te reprehen[illegible]bus meis habeantur incogni[illegible] n[illegible] tàm l[illegible] [illegible]s quàm Saty[illegible] Alexandrum Romanum p[illegible]ipem n[illegible] oueru[illegible] ar[illegible] c[illegible] u[illegible] tàm prudenter, atque integrè, acta[illegible] m mo[illegible] res[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] [illegible]elib[illegible]ta [illegible]ar[illegible]tu[illegible], ut liqueat l[illegible]m te[illegible] [illegible] q[illegible] ai[illegible] m u[illegible] ouem a[illegible] s me[illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] æ[illegible]um [illegible] tum [illegible] n [illegible] m[illegible] u[illegible] p[illegible] ulum licent[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible]s ut sæpè l[illegible]ion[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] n[illegible]quam timu[illegible]t. [illegible] [illegible]p[illegible] cet[illegible] am[illegible] ain dici[illegible] posset. De[illegible] eodem [illegible]

[illegible] Lam [illegible] en is pruden [illegible] &
[illegible] ponere. Q [illegible] tiæ [illegible]
[illegible] in tanta ill [illegible] us
[illegible] ne [illegible]
[illegible] fet. Ned [illegible] ris,
[illegible] t. Ant [illegible] ua-
[illegible] tæciæ [illegible] issimo
[illegible] uerum [illegible] senes na-
[illegible] prob [illegible] , sed ind
[illegible] q. Se [illegible] quam h [illegible] efficax
[illegible] u [illegible] ac al [illegible] elt, Scipio [illegible] ad
[illegible] im Re [illegible]
[illegible] media de mort [illegible] um [illegible]
[illegible] annos pueritiatis e [illegible]
[illegible] triplici laude consertam meru [illegible] Tlax ex [illegible]
[illegible] aut, aut quærebant, ut fortes, [illegible]
[illegible] iam acerbæ [illegible] uel [illegible] se, h [illegible]
[illegible] uel ætatis imb [illegible] enim aut p [illegible] aut annos ni [illegible]
[illegible] multo post ad [illegible] Liuiu [illegible] admodum adolescens, [illegible]
[illegible] consilia, Italiæ relinquendæ præsentissimo animo atque [illegible] te
[illegible] ea quattuor, & uiginti nactus annos [illegible] bus uel att [illegible]
[illegible] tenenis adhuc sub te [illegible] imp [illegible] ans ante
[illegible] domesticæ suæ cladis, & publicæ tep [illegible] tunc etiam cru [illegible]
[illegible] matio ætatis in met [illegible] terreret, [illegible] populum inconsult
[illegible] cantus ad concionem [illegible] ita [illegible] iam magni a
[illegible] eluit, ut extinctum animorum impetum suscita [illegible], & cunctorum me [illegible]
[illegible] spe cōpleret, nihil credo, secum in [illegible] & te p [illegible]
[illegible] loqui sciret, qui in publico adolesce [illegible] maximum in terris populi [illegible], ac
[illegible] & multiuolum, fando tam facilè in suam sententiam traduxit [illegible]
[illegible] mos adolescentis audacia uideatur, in Prouinciam mox profectus [illegible]
[illegible] feliciter, & patrem, & patruum, & patriam uindicarat, toto orbe [illegible]
[illegible] uirtus, hanc laudem sola occupet. Quæ nam eius iis diebus apud [illegible]
[illegible] tem continentia, & fides erga hostem quoque, quanta apud Sue [illegible]
[illegible] lementiæ. Hic custodia [illegible] gens matronarum, & ne [illegible] quidem de [illegible]
[illegible] exercitus, punitique [illegible] ad m [illegible]
[illegible] ne quantus apud popul [illegible]
[illegible] Max. [illegible] tunc senatus sapienti [illegible] tam [illegible]
[illegible] licet aduersis Patribus [illegible] lata uicit [illegible]
[illegible] ab adolescente [illegible] linguæ [illegible]
[illegible] quanto ingenio [illegible]
[illegible] audaciæ pot [illegible] fortunæ, quam con [illegible]
[illegible] gestum [illegible] utque attin [illegible] sunt so [illegible]
[illegible] ita [illegible] comitas, quæ uis eloquentiæ, qua [illegible] Syphacem in [illegible]
[illegible] rum [illegible] suetumque moribus Romanis, sed [illegible]
[illegible] Quæ humanitas [illegible] tas, dum uel [illegible]
[illegible] aptuum, mun [illegible]
[illegible] bus [illegible] prælio [illegible]
[illegible] offe [illegible] coetan [illegible]
[illegible] Masinissam, & [illegible]
[illegible] as [illegible] m [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] um n [illegible] as atque [illegible]
[illegible] me [illegible] udiant. Sine d [illegible] m [illegible]
[illegible] monitum, br [illegible] s
[illegible] uoce [illegible] ere, [illegible]
[illegible] castigare, & ote [illegible] R [illegible]
[illegible] Carthaginienses duces callidissimos confutare. In quo alia gesta licet à iuuene.

Hæc

Hæc [illegible] quæ d[illegible] [illegible] anre [illegible] circa [illegible] us ut [illegible] g[illegible] an[illegible] qu[illegible]at nec [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ros ne [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] anni [illegible] trigesimum du[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ectam [illegible] nobis nobis d[illegible] Q[illegible]teba[illegible] [illegible] potuit, n[illegible] dere, [illegible] tas apta [illegible] ne du[illegible] decim [illegible] res le[illegible] [illegible]utans omnes stup[illegible] c[illegible]mp[illegible] go [illegible] emp[illegible] non pro[illegible]ter [illegible] ne [illegible] exemplum [illegible] Ut [illegible] ro u[illegible] re[illegible] an Aug[illegible] p[illegible]r h[illegible] que [illegible] est. Rem itaque [illegible] [illegible] ne ue[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] mam [illegible] d[illegible]eramus. Q[illegible] m[illegible] q[illegible]m, sed ne [illegible]rum, nec ado[illegible] in qui[illegible] n[illegible] qu[illegible], adhuc modi[illegible]m & in [illegible] d[illegible] t[illegible] im[illegible] qu[illegible] mnes [illegible] partes [illegible] tat[illegible]s, inter uan[illegible]tes & [illegible] f[illegible] ut qu[illegible] non d[illegible] na, non stud[illegible]m, sed soli sapientia fer[illegible]nt au[illegible] tat[illegible] s, quod tal[illegible], quale [illegible] a[illegible]ola tum inter somnum ac ludo[illegible] tempus omne [illegible]nsumpserit, ue[illegible]tura æstate m[illegible] em [illegible]peret uberr[illegible]na[illegible]n. Sed iam p[illegible] materiæ satis est, unde ego melle s[illegible]poratam, & meditatis frug[illegible] u[illegible]ffam latrat[illegible] o[illegible]crem [illegible] hic ho[illegible]rent[illegible]m colu[illegible] cerberum consopirem, qu[illegible] prorsus im[illegible] & [illegible] [illegible]dia est [illegible] [illegible]isque cultoribus, ante al[illegible] bi, quem his p[illegible] trato[illegible]us [illegible] [illegible]um s[illegible]o, hac [illegible] am[illegible], sic æmulis rel[illegible] [illegible]pi[illegible]la satisfa[illegible]. Q[illegible]ta, [illegible] nescio an & [illegible]na accusat[illegible]one [illegible] moueor ad [illegible]d quàm ad risum [illegible] A[illegible] ut [illegible]lus est meus, qu[illegible]m pastorij carmin[illegible] po[illegible]at hum[illegible] mi[illegible] quæ scrip[illegible] omnia & quæ scribam, huius rerum fieri [illegible] le[illegible] non ignarus, cum tre[illegible] Poëtis, atque Oratoribu[illegible] stylos esse nec culpa ua[illegible] n[illegible] transferatur. Cæterùm com[illegible]aratiuè m[illegible]gis quàm simpliciter a[illegible] [illegible] quid, imumque uel medium dici uolet, & paru[illegible]les in plano eminent, & ma[illegible] m[illegible]oribus [illegible] latent. Olympus [illegible] se uictor nubium, cœlo uitetur. Luna no[illegible] [illegible]bus [illegible]unctis inferior est. Poëma ego [illegible]ud iuuenis scripsi audaxque [illegible]ue[illegible] [illegible] ol[illegible] ait M[illegible] uidebar inde [illegible]turus, iamque inceper[illegible]m [illegible] despero, altum adeo [illegible] ut [illegible] adiunctum h[illegible] s[illegible]m. Adde qu[illegible] [illegible]ulta etiam pe[illegible] ep[illegible] p[illegible] catum, huic a[illegible] [illegible] Psalmo scriptum est: Montes ex[illegible] [illegible] Petra refugium [illegible] terræ [illegible]perfi[illegible]iem, ubi attingi[illegible] al[illegible] [illegible] uolucres aquila, [illegible] nubem scandit. Pauo tegulas, [illegible] gallus, [illegible] p[illegible]a. Stylum [illegible] uerò ah[illegible]am e[illegible]us per unic[illegible]m ui[illegible]um [illegible]do e[illegible] oport[illegible] non inuitus in[illegible] e [illegible]am m[illegible] autem [illegible]dio, non o[illegible]rtet, modestiore f[illegible] n[illegible]ant, quib[illegible]um [illegible] apud me [illegible] in carmine, nihil al[illegible]us quàm [illegible] q[illegible]m uelim. Tandem uero ami[illegible] al[illegible]quan[illegible] placet, hos o[illegible]trectat[illegible]res n[illegible] loquente[illegible] aul[illegible]b[illegible]quid au[illegible]dia[illegible]us & n[illegible]mper in anguli[illegible] inter m[illegible] full[illegible]n [illegible] s cum Ph[illegible]hantu[illegible] in [illegible] [illegible]ud[illegible]a [illegible]quis [illegible]se[illegible] reus, n[illegible]h[illegible] [illegible] par[illegible] l[illegible] nge ter[illegible] [illegible] nt. & Pal[illegible] [illegible] ut [illegible] no[illegible]s [illegible] [illegible]ran[illegible]e nec pl[illegible]s inuid[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible], & in hoc se d[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] m[illegible] h[illegible]m qu[illegible] [illegible]ha multa pass[illegible]s est [illegible]

[illegible] . Idus
Martii.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRA[illegible] s. Epist. II.

In egestate, [illegible] uitui ac gloriæ [illegible]e.

A[illegible] quod de fuga mortis, loc[illegible] t[illegible]tione pride[illegible] scri[illegible] feras respondi, quòd ne miserrimi loci mutatio, deq; muta[illegible]ne o[illegible] icns [illegible] ex[illegible]as causa fu[illegible]t, quamuis ad eas tibi literas, uel solius famæ pr[illegible]o satisfa[illegible] potuer[illegible]t, nunciantis me ex illo naufragio elapsum, prono [illegible]r[illegible]re V[illegible]e[illegible] pet[illegible]e ur[illegible]em licet litu proxi[illegible]m, l[illegible]igè nunc tamen cœli salubritate d[illegible]antem [illegible]d cùm pe[illegible]s has uolucres, fugam q[illegible]m, [illegible]xumq; & inmobilem finem scirem, non t[illegible] studio fateor, sed quietis feci, ad has uero nouissimas, licet de præterito consultatio [illegible]t, unum tamen hoc dixerim, consilium ut opinor optimum elegisti, tui amicorum ul[illegible]de, sed tempore ac loco, si qu[illegible] in me momenti po[illegible]tum reris, accedo. Ita enim [illegible]e[illegible]ssimum [illegible] Patrem ue[illegible]re[illegible] l[illegible]be[illegible]alem, & urbanum, cui te familiariter notum, [illegible], Dei nutu expre[illegible], ad hu[illegible]m[illegible]æ e[illegible]cellentiæ summum gradũ & tibi, & bonis omnibus [illegible]tilem, ac mundo [illegible]l[illegible]riferum asce[illegible]e quoq; insperatius, eò sanctius. I fœlix, ita [illegible]HRI[illegible]TO duce, fœl[illegible]io[illegible]q; reuertere. Ne [illegible]cro, iamctsi rerum labentium contemptores iure optimo laudentur. ideo [illegible]o uituperandi sunt qui necessarijs usibus illas quærunt, modò id caueant, ne habendi studio iustitiam, m[illegible]destiam, pietatem, uerecundiamq; pòst habeant. Quanquam enim Diogenes Cynicus e[illegible] tracto ad fontem uase ligneo naturali poculo cõtentus, & uersatili domo hal[illegible]itans, claru[illegible]r, nihi[illegible]o tamen obscurior, aut Democritus inter diuitias multas, aut ex nostris duo illi, quibus exprobrari opes nouimus, Cicero & Anneus quorũ alter in Officijs. Nec uerò (inquit) rei familiaris amplificatio nemini nocens uitu per[illegible]nda est, sed fugien[illegible]a semper iniuria. Alter in eo libro, quò beatam uitam ut potuit figura[illegible]t. Desi[illegible]ne (ait) Philo[illegible]ophis pecuniam interdicere, nemo sapientiã paupertate damnauit, h[illegible]bebit Philosophus amplas opes, sed nulli detractas non alieno sanguine cruentas, siue cuiusquã iniuria partas. Audis ne sententiam Ciceronis Senecæ uerbis expressam, ut opum amplificatio, non iniuriosa, nec nocua, bono & officioso uiro, ac Philosopho etiam sit pe[illegible]missa. Multa ibi pro sua, & eorũ quibus opulentiæ crimen obiectum esset, excusatione d[illegible]uit. Quod ad summam rei attinet, Diuit[illegible]as nego (inquit) bonum esse, nam si essent, bonos facerent, nũc quod apu[illegible] malos deprehenditur, dici bonum non potest, hoc illis nomen nego. Cæterũ & habendas esse, & utiles, & magna commoda uitæ afferentes fateor. Mitto alia ne diuitiarum quibus parum debeo, nisi forsitan in transitu ceu Crassus alter, aut Crœsus, hodie patrocinium uidear suscepisse. Sed magis ad nostros u[illegible] ueniam, an ne ideò, quod Francisci clarissima sit paupertas at[illegible] humi[illegible]itas, diuitiæ atq; honores Ambrosij, aut Grego[illegible]ij minus clari sunt [illegible]uorum alter o[illegible]lentissimæ urbis Episcopus, alter Episcoporum omnium princeps erat & ut qu[illegible]p in [illegible]n[illegible]c non modò plures inuicem, sed eundemq; sibi ipsi conferam, ostendamq; quod uo[illegible]nquid Pl[illegible]to, nunquid Aristocles, ante petitam siue acceptam pecuniam, id enim u[illegible]n lat, obiectum quam p[illegible]stea fuerant clariores, potest non ignoro humilis aut impor[illegible]a petitio, claris obesse nominibus, nõ pecuniæ licet ingentis honesta possessio. Nunq[illegible] ergo a[illegible] Vir[illegible]ilius multo auro ditatus à Cæsare fuit obscurior, quàm dum rure [illegible]rimo d[illegible]is exul, atq; inops Romam peteret? Aut Syluester immenso Constantini munere m[illegible] sanctus, quam dum pauper, nudus in nemoribus ac cauernis montium habitaret? [illegible]o[illegible]uit successoribus suis [illegible]sitan ea largitas, nocebitq; sibi nil penitùs abstulit sanctitatis, a[illegible]riæ. Et omninò benè fundatum atque in solito radicatum animum, nihil est quod [illegible] moue[illegible]t eum inter fortunæ lubrica, male hæreat[illegible], & leues auræ agitent, & exiguæ mo[illegible] a[illegible]gant. Demum ne semper philosophemur in nubibus, sed è latebris erumpen[illegible], ali[illegible]nos & intelligere ualeamus & intelligi, de se quidẽ alij, ut libet apud me o[illegible]timus [illegible] modus est, mediocritas. Hinc si cogar ad extrema deflectere, malim certè d[illegible]ues esse [illegible]uper, de paupertate loq[illegible]r anxia ac deformi, qu[illegible]m tristis indigentia, & [illegible]uidæ præm[illegible]rdes. Nam ut paup[illegible] fae[illegible]is atq; honesta cõuge[illegible]t, nihil est dulcius, sic ul[illegible]a p[illegible]ius egestate, unam [illegible]io Quæ propter [illegible]HR[illegible] nomen a[illegible]umpta esset, q[illegible]od f[illegible]m[illegible]iperandis difficultat[illegible]us, leniendisq; mole[illegible]ijs & leuandis oneribus, & le[illegible]an d[illegible]a peritatibus, ut absq; illo omni[illegible] Philosophorum labor quasi in[illegible]nis ac ster[illegible]is, [illegible]uet, non pe[illegible] lat eturiem. Postremo hæc nodi huius rei [illegible] breuis sit, diuitias [illegible] appetendas, nec insolent[illegible]s respuendas: eas denique nec laudandas, nec uituperandas quidem, sed ut sapientibus placet, inter indifferentia numerandas. Idem p[illegible]ane de

paupertate censeo, huius autem atq; illarum usum laude seu uituperio dignum [illegible] tu nunc igitur ambitionis infamiam uerearc. Non est ambitio, nec cupiditas q[illegible] non dicam fortunæ ut u[illegible]us, sed Dei dona [illegible] fferantur admittere, tranq[illegible] rantur amittere grate ac [illegible] illis uti æqu[illegible]ter carere, sic ut rebus suis, omni[illegible]s seu prosperis, seu aduersis idem animus, isq; inuictus, infra se positis, pari uertice semper [illegible]neant. Sanè quod te Pont. Max. meis literis commendari postulas, amoris id [illegible] indicij tui est. Ita enim de me sentis, ut mea tibi omnia profutura con[illegible]das, quod [illegible] & [illegible] me crederem, non grauarer tali amico tanta modestia deprecanti, paucas literulas d[illegible]nare, qui tàm multas sæpè uel scribendi impetu, uel ingratorum importunitate proiecerim. Sed mihi crede, non simplicitas modò, quæ haud iniusta est bonis, sed amentia, seu temeri[illegible] cabitur, si apud tantum patrem, tam pusillus, pro tàm bene merit[illegible] tàm dignus in[illegible]er & ignotus commendator acce[illegible]o. Nec sim dubius, & si pro hoc [illegible] tuoq; tibi errore gratias agam, non tibi iuditium fore, aliud quàm mihi, si seposito, parumper amantium uelo, quod me magnū aliquid in tuo facit examine, rem ipsam in sti teris cogitare. Quin tu pot[illegible]s cum ad sacros pedes accesseris, si dignum ducis, nec in tanta luce fusci nominis pudet qual[illegible] uidebitur, mei memoriam habeto, quamuis enim nō tantum facie, ut & tibi, sed prorsus illi ut noscis incognitus. Quòd me tamen in stuporem egit, & sæpè per hos dies, & n[illegible]ssime heri ad uesperam præferuidis meorum literis habui, uelle Pontificem ac iubere, ut ad se ue niam, idq; confestim. Magna quidem & magnos forsitan motum animos spe iniect[illegible] fama ut putant mei aliqua, sed falluntur, imò uerò sola Dei clementia, quæ immentū sponte prosequitur id agente. Et fatebor tibi me, si tanti facerem, ut CHRISTI uicarius conspectum meum posset optare, iam nunc iter arripuissem, non meis tantum, aut equi pedibus, sed lectica, si res cogeret ac nauigio perferendus, Deum testor, non tàm Papatum eius cogitans, quàm uirtutem, de qua multa, uel tuis, uel exteriùs, quas dixi meorum literis, uel communi undiq; proborum ac ueracium hominum relatione percipio. In quibus illud eximium, bonos amat, quorum licet è numero non sim, utcunq; tamen ijs annumerari, tanto præsertim extimatore, delectaret. Nunc nisi fallor augurio, ad laborem uocor, honorificum nō dubitem, & si ea cura me tangeret, etiam fructuosum, sed ætati meæ iam, & exoptato semper ocio aduersum nimis. Vale. &c.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO BRVNO, S. Epist. III.

Quanti laboris & periculi sit scribere, scribendum tamen, & qualiter.

QVanta uis esset eloquij, lepôre simul & ratione conditi, atq; hinc uerbis, hinc sententijs affluentis, sæpe recognitum atq; compertum est. Nunquam Milonis aut Herculis tam fortia brachia, quin Ciceronis esset, aut Demosthenis lingua potentior: illi quidem magno nisu, molem forte aliquam, pondus ignobile: hi uerò animos mouebant, rem nobilissimam, penitusq; mutabilem ac diuinam. [illegible]æc in mentem ut nūc redeant, tu facis. Cœpi ego literis tuis, uix perlectis, magna uelut aliqua ui compulsus, uariè ac uehementer in diuersum agi, sic ut tibi mirum dictu, simul & compaterer, & congauderem. Gaudeo equidē, quo pergebas te incolumen peruenisse, qualemq; optabas ac sperabas, Apostolicam clementiam inuenisse, nihil durius, nihil amarius speca-duca, illius nempè mansuetudinis, morumq; suauium, & con[illegible]ersationis angelicæ, præterquàm quòd tuis, multorumq; mihi literis fides fit, certum iam ante præsagium fecerat, [illegible]bani nomen. Apud me enim appellatio spontè suscepta, iudex est animi, testis propo[illegible], optimam sanè, Deoq; & hominibus gratam uiam elegit, quæq; eum ad fœlicem portū necessariò perductura est, [illegible]am licet multis incognitam ac neglectam, sibi tamen & suo statui maximè debitam. Quamuis enim Rom. Pont. nil altius, nil clarius, nil uenerabil[illegible]us, im[illegible] uerò nihil illi par habeat orbis terræ, ipse tamē tanto euectus h[illegible]nore, tantoq; oneri su[illegible]e [illegible], cum fideli reuerentia ac stupore debet humanitate ac pieta[illegible]e contemnere, aliquanto [illegible] nisi fallor, & mitior, & humilior e[illegible]e quàm fuerat. Mirum hoc multis fortasse uid[illegible]bit[illegible], [illegible] ui qualibet prosperitate superbiunt, ac non sibi, qui meminit, ut res docet, sed illius in[illegible] uicem gerere, qui ait: Discite a me quia mitis sum, & humilis corde. Indecorū est qu[illegible] atq; absonum, h[illegible]ilis domini uicarium superbire. Huius ego igitur argumentum ma[illegible]us, nec postulo, nec expe[illegible]o quam qu[illegible]d mihi tu scribis, & loquitur fama. Nam quod ce[illegible]us quæso, inuicti & in solido fundati animi signum quæras, quàm neque fortunæ nimis d[illegible],

neq;

neq; blandiciis attolli. Aut unde altiùs poscas experime[illegible]tũ, quàm quo nihil est altius: equidem [illegible]uem supremus humani fasti[illegible] uertex immotũ u[illegible]t, nulla amplius res mouebit. O bene creatum spiritum, quem ista non [illegible] sunt. Fœlix ille his moribus, fœlix mundus hoc capite, fœlix tu hoc domino, ita dico, & [illegible]e f[illegible]licior his moribus, quam hoc statu, & tu hoc domino, quam libertate fœlicior. Est ubi libertas labor, est ubi regnum seruitus, est ubi seruitus regnum sit, proinde & fortunæ tuæ gratulor, & gloriæ, [illegible] compatior labori. Benè autem se res habet, ualida est ætas, meritorius ac præclarus labor, extimator optimus, quo nil optabilius, ingeniis bonis, atque ad alta surgentibus. Sub hoc ergo Deo auspice, quicquid erit obibis alacriter, indefessè, uiriliter, memorans illud Flacci:

Nil sine magno uita labore dedit.

Vt es fidei abundans, dexter animi, nihil accessu arduum [illegible]uenies, nihil executione difficile, montes etiam fides transfert, & ualde uolẽtibus om[illegible] plana sunt. Non tu art[illegible]es, nec in[illegible]nii, si quid insuetum nouitas feret, animi illud forcipe rapies, & in usum trah[illegible]es, tua incude repercussum, tuis iniectum, recoctumq; fornacibus, tuum fiet, idq; nõ so[illegible]um tale, sed melius. An ignoras ut ex eadem massa Phydias aliam cudebat imaginem, aliam Praxiteles, aliam Lisyppus, aliam Polycletus. Incipe ne diffidas, & ueteribus noua permisce, si id ritè feceris, suum pretium inuenient. Friuolum est soli senio fidere. Et qui hæc inuenerunt homines erant. Si uirorũ uestigiis dete[illegible]ur, pudeat, primas partes huius laudis fœminæ occupant, harum quibus utimur literarum inuẽtrix mulier fuit, nec nos moueat tritum illud ac uu[illegible]re, nihil nouum esse, uel dici posse, postquàm id Salomon atq; Terentius scripsère, quam illustrata philosophia est, quam elimata poëmata, quãta historiæ lux addita. Quot inuentæ artes, quot diuersis in gentibus leges latæ. Quis humanæ uitæ cultus accessit? quod rerum exercitium? Quanta notitia diuinorum. Nil tam cultum, nilq; adeò cumulatum, cui non aliquid addi queat. Assurgere & enitere, ut uoluptas ægri, sic fortis, saniq; animi cibus est labor. Primum solus in silentio meditare, meditata claustris abde memoriæ, serisq; constringito, tacitusq; eadẽ, intentusq; circuito, atq; incorruptus examina. Inde oris ad lumen, & ad calamum nullo adhuc teste pedetentim prodeant, uicissimq; subsiliant, deliberantibusq; similia, & dubitare uideantur, & fidere. Dubitatio circumspectam, cautam, sobriam, ac modestam reddet orationem, fiducia uerò lætam, uberem, magnificam, speciosam. Vbi sanè conceptus in uerba, siue in literas cõtinuæ lectionis eruperint, sic proferantur ut te audias, non quasi conditor, sed iudex, aurem atq; animum in consilium uocat, & cogita quid dicturus fueris, si tuus hostis illa dictasset. Quid scis, an tua hæc ad manus hostium sint uentura? Quorum inquies? Inuidorum, qui uirtuti bellum perpetuum indixere. Quisquis paulò altius niti cœperit, multos hostes inueniet, non eodem modo nitentium, ex acie, sed torpentium quoq;, quod miraberis, humiq; iacentium, imò quidem horum maximè. Nullum uitium pigrius inuidiæ est, nimis fer[illegible], depressisq; pectoribus habitat, gaudii nescia lucis bo[illegible]is. Vides quantum eum labore periculum sit scribere, sed scri[illegible]endũ tamen, ne ut lupus rusticum, sic n[illegible]os fecisse inuidia uideatur. Ad scribendum ita, ut qui nostra momorderint, solida, feruida, hispida, dura, atq; hirsuta reperiant, & dentibus fractis, intelligãt uerum dixisse, qui dixerit, inuidos homines nihil aliud, quàm ipsorum esse tormenta, eamq; non rapidam, iuuenilem, sed maturam, uereq; regiam fuisse sententiã fateantur. Idq; fœlicius assequemur si recti, si ueri, seu cricq; iudices nostrarum inuentionum crimus, nihil minus in illis cogitantes, quàm auctorẽ, nihil amantes minus, quàm quod nostræ sint. Neq; enim, ut deformis filius atq; incultus, amabilis, quia filius est, sic stylus quoq; quia noster, in quo nõ cultus, sed quis ipse sit quæritur, quæ in illo ueritas, quæ grauitas, quis ornatus. Vbi illud acerrimè prouidendum, ne quis te uerbi huius, aut illius splendor, ne qua tuæ uel alienæ uocis fall[illegible] illecebra. In quorundã ore nil non dulcè sonuerit, alterius ad os transfer, alio fu[illegible]e tibi uidearis ingenio. Optanda dictantibus, lingua suauior, le[illegible] asperior metuenda, ut semper placeas ad sententias respice, quæ si aptę, si nobiles, si decoræ erunt, & unde etiam delectabun[illegible] & facilè uel[illegible]entur. Multa utranq; in partem poteris ni desperes, hęc tu solus, aut [illegible] [illegible]mum dehinc pluscu[illegible]os ad[illegible]e liberos, non tàm tui, quàm ueri amicos, q[illegible] [illegible]uerint non fortunæ, ni[illegible] de[illegible]ter consulturi sint. Sic sensim domi horridula [illegible] [illegible]m[illegible]ersa peruenien[illegible], id cum s[illegible]mel atq; iterum feceri[illegible], indies minus senties labor[illegible], do[illegible]e in habitum uersa, non iam labor, delectatio in actu, nõ te amice, sed meipsum do[illegible] [illegible]ue[illegible] me moneo, meq; audiens d[illegible]o, dabis ueniam longus sum. Experientia (in[illegible] [illegible]teles artem fecit. Idq; enim uerè dicere nulla artium neget, hęc presertim quam

sub oculis habeo, nau[illegible] arte[illegible]o. Quæ prima po[illegible] huic ma[illegible] nuper procellas mund[illegible]gien[illegible]mmigrau[illegible]m multiplex incre[illegible] lit. Meministi enim qua[illegible]o cu[illegible]lo[illegible]u, & [illegible] nostrorum uatum [illegible] dus atque unica, sed ono[illegible]la semide[illegible]s, [illegible] ama c[illegible] cis digressa littoribus, per [illegible] prope contiguas Helle[illegible]ont[illegible]ces, angustiam [illegible]ropontidem, ac Thracium Bo[illegible] horribilia nomina, æquor Euxinum ingressa, ma[illegible]na uel gloriæ spe, uel lucri, [illegible] bem Colchon adijt, plausuque omnium [illegible]ent[illegible]um, & immortali præc[illegible]o dignum f[illegible] dos alueum attigisse: ô rem nouam. Inc[illegible]piebat experientia artem facere, sed adhuc in [illegible] bulis ars iacebat, creuit inde adeò, ut n[illegible] immeritò dictum putes, patre maiorem ex [illegible] nasciturum. Quod & si in cunctis euenerit, in nulla tamen apertius. Ecce nunc Ital[illegible] tore naues imminere funem [illegible], pars pridem hyeme rigida, pars hodie dum ad[illegible] ambig[illegible]m, brumæque similius quàm æstati. Illæ ad ortum solis, ad o[illegible]sum aliæ, pars in [illegible] ream, pars in Austrum, Helybicas Syrtes aditura, illæ occiduũ mundi limite Gades [illegible] pem à tergo, illæ duos Bosphoros & Colchon, & Phasidem relictura, nor aureæ o[illegible] quondam trahente miraculo, sed hortante auro, tamen & urgente, ut per tot casus, sortque ter rarum, pelagique discrimina, hinc uina nostra Britannis, illinc nostra insuper mella Scythis, in poculum deuehantur, hinc nostræ syluę quod uix credas ad Achæos, aut Aegyptios [illegible] ad Syros, & Armenios, ad Persas & Arabes noster crocus, nostrum oleum, nost[illegible] a[illegible] p[illegible] niant, uicissimque inde aliquid huc redeat. Cogam te una hora uigilare mecum, nempe dum tibi somno grauis hæc scriberem, intempesta nox erat, nimbosus aër, cumque ad hun[illegible] c[illegible]m fessus calamus peruenisset, tantus subitò nautarum clamor aures perculit, ut consurgens, [illegible] quod asso[illegible] memoriæ impresso superiorem in partem domus euaderem, quæ portui immi net, respicio, Deus bone, quod spectaculũ. Quis horror, pius, tremendus, delectabilis? H[illegible] ante ostium littoreo marmori retinaculis hærentes aliquot naues, hybernauerant, hâc ipsam quam meis usibus dedicauit libera, & liberalis hæc ciuitas, ingentem domum, molæ æq[illegible] tes, ac geminas angulares turres, nimis insigniter uelifera mali uertice superegressæ, ha[illegible] maxima, hac præsenti hora, nubibus astra tegentibus, uentis muros ac tecta quassanti[illegible] u[illegible] mari quoddam tartareum mugiente, iter arripit, faustum precor. Crede autem mihi, si h[illegible] Iason uideat, aut Alcides uehementer obstupeant, si Tiphys ad clauũ sedeat, eru besca[illegible] tan tùm sibi de nihilo partum nomen. Diceres non nauis illam esse, sed montis pelago natan[illegible] effigiem, cum fasce tamẽ pressa grauissimo, bona pars uteri fluctibus tegeretur. Et ipsa qui dem Tanaim itura, nostri enim maris nauigatio, ultrà non tenditur, eorum uerò aliq[illegible] quos hæc fert, illic iter eam egressuri, nec antea substituri, quam Gange & Cauca so[illegible] rato, ad Indos atque extremos Seres, & orientalem perueniatur Oceanum. En quò arde[illegible] inexplebilis habendi sitis, hominum mentes rapit? Misertus sum, fateor nec imme[illegible] Poëtis dici, nautas miseros, intellexi, quos cùm iam per tenebras sequi oculis non po[illegible] concussus animo ad calamum redij. Hoc unum tacitus mecum uoluens, heu quàm ch[illegible] simulque quàm uilis est uita mortalibus. Ecce amice fabulam peregi, non necessariam ep[illegible] [illegible]æ, sed iocundam mihi, quàm quæsitam minimè res ac tempus obtulerant, ad id uerò respi cit, quod dicere ceperam: Experientia siquidem artem facit, usus autem artem gignit, nu trit, ac perficit, uerumque fit quod Afranius opinatur, rerum sapientiam, usus ac memoriæ fi liam, uerba tenes,

Usus me genuit, mater peperit memoria.
Sophiam uocant me Graij, uos sapientiam.

Hæc, horumque similia cogitasse uidetur Augustinus, ubi artem rerum expertarum, plac[illegible] rumque memoriam diffiniuit. Et tu igitur experire, idque tam sæpè, ut quod fuit experie[illegible] us[illegible] sit, hoc plena memoria, mox tibi pulcherrimam sobolem, facilitatẽ actionis, [illegible] du[illegible] delectationem, gloriamque pepererit. Et licet fortassis interdum, quod in talibus ut mole[illegible] [illegible]mum, sic commune est, plebeiorum ingeniorum turba circumstrepat, facilè cum [illegible] [illegible] murmur inane despicies, uirtute ac doctrina, & stu[illegible] inuidiã extinctur[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]cu[illegible] graues oculi, fe[illegible]a manus, hora noctis ad [illegible]oriferam uergen[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]la insomnis, nec dum hoc colloquio satiata mens refugit. Hæc me, ut ad quo[illegible] [illegible] respondeam adi[illegible]it, quod scripsi[illegible] esse nonnullos apud nos, qui nõ de te [illegible]ntùm [illegible] me [illegible]iam deque meo [illegible]dicent ing[illegible]uo. Noli precor indignari, noli obnit[illegible], noli [illegible]peram [illegible] dere, [illegible]ntes tibi quæ[illegible] iens, ne eosdem mihi ideò dempseris, sed irritaueris amp[illegible] [illegible] naueris, fatalis hæc mihi, si dici fas, & antiqua est pestis. Multi de me iudicant, q[illegible] noui,

... nosce quidem uolui, nec nosci dignos arbi... & quis eos rerum iudices mea... ce..., nō inficior me mirari. Neq; uero magis il... quàm communi patria, nostrisq; ... id patior, iudicibus tàm c... is, ... inam ... am ... relocib... ac securis. Ne... autem, huic generi, unde hoc prop... m ... ... im ut ad iudicandum, eò quisq; sit au dacior, promptiorq;, quò indoctior, seu quod paucorum notitia, multa uetet aspicere, & ua ... tas animorum, illos efficiat leuiores, atq; ita cùm bre... r ... celerior ad ferendam sen tentiam sit processus, seu quod in hac hominum fama, cuius tenue licet, ... xùq; negotium, multis ac uarijs artibus præcipuis, tamē armis ac literis agitur, idem quod in rebus ferè cun ctis eueniat, ut is semper ad aliena rapiendum, uastandumq; sit pronior, qui proprium nihil habet, quod eripi ualeat, aut uastari. Cæterum ciuili illa procacitas, ingentem mihi nuper epistolam extorsit, hanc externam, ob illius reuerentiam, ... us canibus ne dicam familiari bus, deferendum est, tacitus feram, non modò dum ludit ... latrat. Et lanè iole ... quis animis decet omnium iuditia, nam ut iustè respuere superbia est, sic molliter ... me tuere. Non solet mendacium esse longæuum, & sæpè multo studio consilia ... in magnam reprehensi laudē, & reprehensoris infamiam uersa est. Tegi potest ueri lumen, sed extingui nequit, uiuit enim dum extinctum creditur, perq; obiectas nubes in expecta tum iubar erumpit. Quāmobrem, & si interdū subirascar ac stomacher, fastidiocq; mihi non exiguo sit, tot, talesq;, tamq; non meos iudices pati, ad summam tamen nullum iudicē, præ ter inuidiam atq; odium recuso. Restat ad ultimum, ut te horter quicquid ages, quamuis ni mium, tibiq; notissimū, ne unquam uiribus tuis fidas, sed ex alto poscas & speres auxilium pia & humilis terrenæ fragilitatis extimatio, iugisq; memoria diuinam opem ac robur cæ leste merebitur. Nullum hoc artificio certius ad res agendas, nullum efficacius, hoc fidelē consilium amici senioris amplectere, & Vale nostri memor. Venetijs v. Idus Aprilis.

FRAN. PETRARCHA LÆLIO SVO, S. Epist. IIII.

Quid sit peius, an sua scriptoribus eripere, an aliena iungere.

QVid adulantium mendacijs est opus, quando neq; ijs obscura ingenia illustrantur, neq; clara tali indigēt auxilio, quo in gesto potius offendūtur quā iuuentur. Extenuat nempe, non cumulat laudati gloriam, laudator mendax: fal... q; suspi tionem ueris laudibus incutit. Non sum ex hoc quidem numero, fateor, sed quisquis sim, de me mihi loqui expedit, cogit enim res ipsa. Scribis te uidisse opuscula nuper aliquot: Quædam quoque uulgana, meo nomine inscripta, quorum mihi principia misisti, tantumq; de singulis ut intelligerem mea'ne essent an alterius, laudo dili gentiam, ambiguitatem miror. Ego enim subitò ijs conspectis, non tantum intellexi mea non esse, sed indolui, sed erubui, sed obstupui, potuisse illa, tibi unquam uideri alijs, uel te dubitā tenuisse. Qui hæc ergo mihi tribuunt bis iniurij sunt, & authorem suo spoliant, & me præ grauant non meo. Si de quo peius mereantur, quæritur, subdifficile iudi... ium, at si de quo quam illustrium quæreretur palā est offendi magis, cui datur tale aliquid inuito, quàm cui aufertur. Cui de suo enim eripueris, non plus famæ dempseris, quàm quod scriptum illud, quicquid id erat peperisse potuerat, cui uerò alienum attribueris, immortalem facilè confla ris infamiam, atq; feceris, ut quæcunq; benedixerit fortuna iudicentur, longè sanè est aliud ... is ignominiæ cumulus illam despiciet Vir magnus, hunc oderit. Ego quidē, quamuis & sperat modicum, & quæ ... q; gloriæ nihil sit, malim tamen huiusce generis rapinis, in u... quàm uno tali munere crescere, & si quid est proprij decoris oculi, quàm aliena defor ... meo imprimi, atq; affigi, cui satis, superq; nimium sit suorum. Multa quidam aufer ... mihi, ne quicquam nixi sunt, quæso, non sunt potentiores in hac iniuriæ parte, q... al tera, ne... largiendo impleant quod nequeunt rapiendo, dic constanti animo, uul... q;, mea non e... quæ feruntur, meq; meis pressum, aliena respuere. Est autem non sum nescius, ue tus ... iniuria, multisq; olim magnis ingenijs, uel errore, uel amore, uel odio inflicta. Qui ... tribuuntur Aristoteli, quorum innocens ille est: Senecæ libellus, nolenti non d... ... datus est, cuius Titulus est: De quatuor uirtutib. Omne uulgus opusculum illud ... le ... ac Senecæ libris interserit, inq; eo quod Seneca nunquàm uidit, Senecam p... ... t, mira... turq;. Sunt qui inter ... Senecæ libros omne..., hunc maximè d... ... quip ... max'mè ingenijs conforme. Nam reuera, & Senecæ inuito, ac si liceat ... ... em ueneri naturaliter non suus, adhuc tamē uulgò, quàm ... ocius est grat...

 quan-

quanqu[illegible] ctia[illegible] d[illegible] hoc ip[illegible] ignotum sit, [illegible]um uulg[illegible] e auth[illegible] ere autem ip[illegible] nequeant. Ill[illegible] el præferent melioribus, u[illegible] quidem e[illegible] [illegible] importunis, ac loquaci[illegible] o asti[illegible] aleg[illegible] [illegible]or. Nam is quidem liber M[illegible] ad My[illegible] ab authore suo inscriptus, [illegible] uitæ hone[illegible]. Quæ omnia non [illegible]enter, et[illegible] ui quadam præfatiuncula dicti operis pridem nostris ex libris abol[illegible]a, per B[illegible] tem Galliarum ubi scriptum creditur, adhuc stante noscuntur. Isti uero ino[illegible] em [illegible] & hoc forsan unico gloriantem, suo [illegible]ant, ut di[illegible] cm, & rebus onus[illegible] s [illegible] no, neque hoc contenti, sua sibi quoque [illegible]ingerunt, quod in libro de Mori[illegible]us, ac [illegible] obseruatum est, qui libri Senecæ di[illegible]untur, [illegible]um in eis nihil ille pec[illegible]erit, nisi qu[illegible] spa[illegible]psit, unde illa decerperentur, ex multis unum in locum [illegible]portunius ac[illegible] Raró q[illegible]em ille, nisi de moribus agit, & sententiæ breues, ac præci[illegible], quibus a[illegible]te [illegible] undat, quid nisi prouerbia quædã sunt, neque ideò tamen ex bene di[illegible]inctis, apte [illegible]nis, hæc suorum confusio sequi debuit, neque his raptus alienorum, quasi indignum e[illegible]et [illegible] pau per ille Martinus, de uirtutibus, quarũ cultor esse potuit, & fortasis sui aliquid [illegible] ac scriberet: sed referri ad unum omnia etiam mendacio, oporteret, ne ui[illegible]s [illegible] subiectum esse posset alterius, cum sit omnium mortalium, & Platonis a[illegible]e al[illegible] stotelis, & ex nostris M. Tullij, ad quẽ nominatim M. Bruti liber est de Virtute c[illegible]ari[illegible] cuius & Seneca ipse suis in libris meminit. Quantò ergo melius fuerat, eius[illegible] Senec[illegible] tra superstitiones, nisi me gustus fallit egregium opus, uel perditum quærere, ue[illegible] ne p[illegible] retur occurrere, & de Consolatione ad Polybium ut in multis uoluminibus anim[illegible] d[illegible] & correxi non quidem perditum, sed permixtum cum eo, qui de breuitate Vitę in[illegible] in apertum educere ut non unus, sed Duo libri, sicut sunt ita & uiderentur, & non dicam [illegible] ber, sed libri titulus non periret. Quæ res tardiusculis lectoribus sæpè non paruæ ca[illegible] causam dedit. Multa Origeni tribui fama est, famæ usque etiam ad disc[illegible]imen, quædam [illegible] stino egoipse, in magno quodam, u[illegible]ustoque uolumine, quod Ambrosiana Mediolan- habet ecclesia, ubi scriptorum Ambrosij bona pars est, librũ styli alterius Ambrosi[illegible] uidi. Quæ me res, dum Solitariæ uitæ libros scriberem, pauló minus circumuenit. [illegible] mum Palladij esse non Ambrosij, multa sunt huiusmodi. Ciceroni ac Vir[illegible]lio tale [illegible] cidisse scio propter inaccessibile, credo, semperque unum styli genus. Librum cuius n[illegible] est de Vetula, dant Nasoni, mirum, cui, uel cur cuiquam id in mentem uenerit, nisi ho[illegible] tasse lenocinio clari nominis obscuro, fama operi quæritur, & quod uulgo fit, ut gal[illegible] uonum oua subijciant. Id ab istis in contrarium uertitur sperantibus, ut genero sus f[illegible] cubitor uilia oua nobilitet, atque ita euenisset, potest cõ sentientibus ip[illegible]s auth[illegible]ribus [illegible] opera, quàm suum nomen amantibus. Quod si credimus, miraculo res non uacat, cu[illegible] ptorum parti maximè prima nominis ætate ac præcipua cura sit. Mihi quidem ut ad[illegible] uertar, nulla de alio, nulla alij de me, ut arbitror talis est spes. Nemo mihi mea igi[illegible]r e[illegible] nemo, mihi uel sua, uel aliena ingerat, hoc precor, hæc summa est, si alterutro [illegible] sit, spoliari feram æquius quàm premi. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA LÆ[illegible] SVO, S. Epist. V.

De silentio utili & damnoso.

BOnum censeo si fieri posit in libertate uiuere, nulli obnoxium, aut subie[illegible] charitatis legibus, bonum dixi, cùm sit optimum, quò nil me[illegible]us habet hom[illegible] uita, nulla igitur opum spes. Nullus auri pallor, nullus purpuræ aut g[illegible]mmar[illegible] gor, nulla ex diuersa squalor inopiæ, nulla uictus asperitas hinc animũ di[illegible] Melior multò est paupertas libera, quàm seruæ diuitiæ. Neque uerò libertatem [illegible] [illegible]pi marcescamus ocio, sed ut sponte non coacti, non labores gra[illegible]s dicimus, [illegible] stos nobis, utiles patriæ subeamus, & Ciceronianum illud in Oratore [illegible] enim l[illegible] non uidetur, qui non aliquando nihil agit. Sic accipio, ut nihil agar oc[illegible] u pat[illegible] m mo[illegible] d[illegible] stimul[illegible] urg[illegible]tur imperij. Sed sæpe ociosus exteriùs, cum alijs ni[illegible], sec[illegible] m in[illegible] p[illegible] a at a[illegible] o[illegible] e[illegible] im nihil agere, non liberi, sed inertis est. S[illegible] a[illegible]c[illegible] q[illegible] [illegible] pa[illegible] M[illegible]eus,

[illegible] omnia uers[illegible].

[illegible]us alieno sub imperio uiuendum est, quod tibi nunc, mihi olim, multisque sap[illegible]

ximta

[illegible] tempus necessarium, uis fortunæ, seu [illegible] potius Dei fecit, multa cauenda, [illegible] prouidenda erunt, de quibus modo age[illegible]e, nec [illegible]empus patitur, nec res poscit. Duo maximè propria tuæ conditionis attingam, primum ut si eas, ne sileas secundum. Mi[illegible] dicam clar[illegible]. Eras olim Romæ, commu[illegible] illum dominũ secutus, qui tàm citò nos [illegible] hac miseriarum ualle destituit, dum querulam illam ex Gallijs epistolam misi, quanta esset silentij religio apud Persas, inter multam disserui, cuius [illegible] meministi, ut mearũ soles rerum omnium. Non est opus pluribus, nisi ut scias omnes hac in re dominos Persas esse, nec dominos t[illegible]ntùm, sed amicos, quibus non idcircò minor fides debita est, quod uiolat[illegible] fidei m[illegible]us p[illegible]ompta sit ultio. Decus namq; non pœn[illegible] uirtus liberat, neq; lenitùs præstat, quod impunè negligitur, quàm quod neglectum plectitur. Vltrò enim agit, & ut Tullij ue[illegible]bo[illegible] [illegible]tar, suis animum trahi illecebris, ipsa sibi præmium, ut Philosophis placet, nostri enim al[illegible]ius as[illegible]ic[illegible]nt, suppl[illegible] est peccasse. Siquidem uiro bon[illegible] n[illegible]lla peccato grauior pœna est, cui nil detrahit, multum addit impunitas, mauult certè Vir bonus innocens tor[illegible], uel si ita res tulerit mori, quàm nocens uiuere ac regnare. Sed quoniam de domini[illegible] sermo est, quamuis rari boni, crebriq; mali sint, quamuis ut certum est, plures malos seruo[illegible], quam dominos esse, sic incertum, pauciores ne boni domini sint, an serui. Si cui tamen ho[illegible]um qua[illegible] li[illegible] m[illegible]nq; dominorum, te tua sors subdidit, siquidem talis est seruitus, qua dominus maior offenditur, & libera iugum contumacia discute, neu quid hinc sequi possit examin[illegible], an pau[illegible]peres, an exilium, an carcer, an supplicium, an mors? Nihil enim non utilissimum, at[illegible] optimum uideri debet, quò pessimam rerum iram Dei fugias: sin tolerabilis, licet dura conditio e[illegible], perfer, & donec omniũ dominus de te aliud statuit, eius iussu à quo omnis est potestas, te illi quisquis est, domino subditum puta. Illi eum in cæteris, tum præsertim in hoc uno, de quo loco loquor deditus, inconcussam suis in rebus, semper sacri silentij fidem serua, quam non tibi blanditiæ, non minæ, non impetus, non ira, non ebrietas, non spes, non metus, non torror excutiat, & de primo quidem hactenus. Alterum erat ut sicut omne domini tenens secretum, sic in dominum secreti nihil quod non statim pandas, inq; illius notitiam perdu[illegible]cas omnis periculosa cunctatio atq; suspecta est, neq; excusat innocētia tarditatem. [illegible] [illegible] sufficit innocentem esse, nunquã plurium reus, unius solutione se liberat, multæ de [illegible]oc [illegible] manibus nostrum temporum historiæ sunt, sed clariora profundiùs animo illab[illegible] t[illegible]r & præterea nouis, auctoritatem atq; obscuris lucem dare difficile est. Itaq; uetus una [illegible]e[illegible]rit, & exempli satis unus fuerit Alexander, neq; notissimum casum narro, Philot[illegible]ill[illegible], qui ut Macedo clarus uir, inq; illo exercitu, primi loci, ad eum diem habitus, semper quod nunciatam sibi regis mortem tacuisset, ultimo supplicio affectus est, neq; eum tam mœstis euentibus, aut propria uirtus, rerumq; à se gestarũ recordatio, aut paternæ gloriæ fulgor eripuit. Is enim non suppressor modò coniurationis in Regem, sed conscius uisus ac par[illegible]iceps, non silentij, neq; desidiæ, sed consilij atq; perfidiæ pœnas luit. Si senes autem Persa quidam Phil[illegible]po primum, mox cum filio militans, æquè illi charus, ac patri fuerat, ad hunc quasi compatriotam, & ob id pro patria memorandum aliquid ausurum, literæ prætoris Darij Persarum re[illegible]is inuentæ, atq; ad Alexandrum primò delatæ erant, in ijs se senem Prætor hortabatur, ut in[illegible]igni aliquo, magnificoq; facinore, gloriam sibi, suiq; regis gratiam mereretur. [illegible] cùm legisset Alexander, ignoto signatas anulo, ipsi cui inscriptæ erãt, per Cretensem quendam militem dari fecit, quibus ille perlectis, homo fidus atq; innocens, illicò perrexit ad regem literas ostensurus, q[illegible] cum curis atq; consilijs bellicis occupatissimum in[illegible]isset, substituit ambiguus anim[illegible], [illegible]n cogitatibus regijs nouæ rei intempestiuus nunciator irrupe[illegible]et, an differret, donec ua[illegible] uo illum animo uidisset, demum reuerentia perstiterat differendum ratus, illo die tacuit. Reuersus in crastinum eodem in statu regem repperit, & ben[illegible] sibi [illegible]ius, & ob eam rem ut nil regi, sic nil sibi metuens, nec periculum dil[illegible]tionis intelligēs, [illegible]m tacitus abijt. Inter has morulas, cum sæpè idem faceret, complures[illegible] [illegible]crunt [illegible] q[illegible]o in suspitionē præceps animi rex adductus, innoxium dilatorē iussit interfici. Vtra[illegible] historiam apud Q. Curtium inuenies, quarum prima fidem seruare, quod natura in[illegible] debet esse: secunda uerò moras pellere fidei monemur, ne quis inter pericula dominorum expectandum censeat, cum uitæ, necisq; hominum causas afferre, non horæ tantùm soleant, sed momenta, & sæpè debitam dolo pœnam tarditas occupet.

Vale &c.

NN 4 FRAN.

FRAN. PETRARCHA ROBERTO COMITI DE Batifolle, s. Epist. VI.

Incogniti amicitiam ambit.

ET tui nominis claritas inclyte Vir, & amici communis charitas me [illegible] lamum alio tendentem ad te sola, mihi notum fama, quod non fle[illegible] cterem, multa quidem & magnifica, & iocunda de te [illegible]isque st[illegible]s, & [illegible] dio, pro quibus tibi, patriæque tuæ gratulor, nemo mihi unquam loca [illegible] deserta dixerit, ubi tales oriantur uiri, qualium urbes magnę steriles, atque effœtæ [illegible]a tulor aërijs atque umbrosis, & roscidis Apennini collibus, qui te nostri [illegible]ulerint ætati, [illegible] uerum fatear, illos tibi, teque illis inuideo, tuique simul, & illorum desiderio teneor, ra[illegible] Te mihi quidem uirtus animi, illos loci situs reddit optabiles, & quod ortus meus quamuis impari sydere ijsdem quoque uicinus est collibus: at quoniam occupatio uotis obstat, tu me il[illegible] quis tam paruæ rei usus est, iure tuo utere, meque si non prorsus indignum [illegible], habeto [illegible] animo præsente, inter opaca montium conuexa, & patrij amnis he[illegible] ripam, thorosque gramineos, nec dum malis urbium moribus infecti gurgitis alueum, inter densas & uirides syluas testudines, frondea submouentes solem, inter riuos, fontesque p[illegible]lidos, leonis rabiem temperantes. Ego te hic inter aurata palatia, ac templa marmorea, [illegible] Patauina, Taruisinaque flumina, sinumque intimum maris Adriaci præsentissimum [illegible] habeo. Vale fœlix, condisce etiam non uisa diligere. Venetijs IX. Calend. Augusti.

FRAN. PETRARCHA ROBERTO COMITI DE Batifolle, s. Epist. VII.

Patriam cur non inhabitet.

SPem de te conceptã Vir clarissime, miris mihi modis auxit Epistolę tuę stylus. Nempè quem militariter eruditũ alijs crediderim, anxiè doctum, mihi iam credo, si [illegible]losophicis ac Poëticis cuncta ibi plena sunt floribus, quid ni ergo, magis, magisque [illegible]bi gratuler, ac patriæ, regique montium Apennino ingenia parienti, & suis uberiora fontibus, & suis uiridiora frondibus, & suis uerticibus altiora? Scribere tibi, fateor, [illegible]bundus inceperam, non quod usquam omninò aliquid bonorum atque illustrium fam[illegible]tate dulcius habeam in uita, sed ueritus, dum fortunam, dumque ætatem tuam cog[illegible]o te ab his publicè iam desertis studijs abhorrentem, nec satis, aut famæ fisus, multa mentiri [illegible] aut amantis iuditio, quod antiquo prouerbio cæcitatis arguitur. Ecce iam cui scribam [illegible] itaque securus, atque alacer scribo, nec uerba perdere metuens, quæ apud Nasonẽ leuis [illegible]ra, sed apud silentij auidos grauis est, imò uerò magnum, gratumque de tuis responsionibus, tuisque colloquijs lucrum sperans. Sanè quæ de mei desiderio, deque expectatione nõ tu[illegible] tantum, sed locorum dulcisonis atque honestis blanditijs multa dixisti, uera esse non dubi[illegible]eit hoc non meæ uirtutis illius, sed tuæ nobilitatis extimatio. Proinde si per occupat[illegible]es aliquando licuerit, tuum hoc recens, simulque meum uetus desiderium, ut impleam dabo operam. Quod sequitur libentius tacuissem. Nam amariusculum gustu est, sed [illegible] lis ore prolatum, negligi fas reor. Ad admirationem igitur illam tuam, quæ sæpe m[illegible]rum fuit, quid ita patriam fugiam, deseramque, uno breui, sed è medio cordis erumpente suspirio respondisse uelim. O' patriæ uenerator, & quando ita uis amator mei, ignorique cultor hominis. Non ego illam, sed me illa deseruit, quem & aliqu[illegible]do complecti uisa est [illegible] gloriari humiliter tecum sinis, non tantùm urbes Italæ, sed [illegible]lpinæ etiam, barbaricæque nunc maximè precibus irritis euocant, & expectant, non quod ego sic merear, nosc[illegible] sed quia id mihi cœlitus datum est. Quo uno forsan inutili & uentoso bono, mul[illegible] ut [illegible] sum uariarum rerum soler incommoda. Vale, & ignosce uaniloquio, non hoc d[illegible]ere [illegible] sed coegit dolor, mœstam sarcinã fidenter in amica aure deposui. Patauij [illegible] Idus O[illegible]

FRAN. [illegible]TRARCHA PRIORI GAMALDULENSI, s. Epist. VIII.

PRo benigna illa, & plena ueræ charitatis epistola, in qua quidem illa scripsi[illegible], non quæ ego audire, sed quæ tu loqui & scribere dignus eras, meritas grates a[illegible]o, ad laborem uen[illegible]ndi ad me, ut [illegible] me ad ære[illegible]m dicas, quem tua sibi [illegible] militas, quia nec tibi conueniens nec debitus mihi est, accept[illegible] h[illegible]beo, & pe[illegible] apud me est, ac [illegible] ueneris uenisti enim meliore tui parte, non dubi[illegible]o u[illegible]n[illegible]rus [illegible]o[illegible]u[illegible], [illegible] ob[illegible]atem. Mihi autem satis est [illegible] ueniam, [illegible]c affectum t[illegible]s u[illegible]a[illegible]mu[illegible] reperire, [illegible]

mihi, quæso, tribuito, & mihi utilius, & facilius tibi, ut CHRISTUM quotiens ad mensam eius accesseris, pro me ores, det quod superest uitæ, tuto, feliciterq; agere, delicta iuuentutis meæ, & ignorantias meas ne memineris. Deinum ex hoc carcere caduci corporis egressuro, longumque iter & ambiguum acturo, uel ipse mihi obuius sit, & sæpè uocatus, tunc respondeat, ecce adsum, uel angelorum aliquem suorum præcipuè Michaelem adesse mihi iubeat, qui per ipsas hostium insidias, plano calle dirigat infœlicem animam, suis diffidentem meritis, & de sola Dei sui misericordia præsumentem. Vale. Pataui VIII. Idus Octobris.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ V. C. EPISTOLARUM DE REBUS SENILIBUS,

LIBER III.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO, S. Epist. I.

De Astrologorum nugis.

PRæsentiam tuam animo meo gratam, & speraui semper, & scio, & quantum tibi placuit sensi. Illa uerò quod minimè noueram, & fausta erat, quandoquidem his mensibus paucissimis, nimiumq; uelocibus, quibus in hac quæ mea dicitur, tua domo moram trahere tibi mens fuit, inducias, bona fide mea, uideor habuisse cum fortuna, nil nisi lætum te præsente ausa. Mirabar ipse, quid ita rumorum infœlicium iaculis semper expositas aures meas, tristioris nuncij cuspis, nulla percelleret, mecumq; tacitus quærebam, quid nunc agit hostis mea? Fessa'ne an oblita mei est? An tandem patientiæ uicta succubuit? Nihil horum, nunc intelligo. Causa erat occultior, longeq; alia breuis, & insolitæ quietis, an forsan erubuit sub oculis tanti amici, mecum moribus suis uti, dumq; sibi non parceret, mihi propter te pepercit? Illud uerius putem, sæuitiam hanc, & dolos quibus largiter affluit, non uerecundiam qua penitùs caret, aut misericordiam fuisse. Non enim tali subnixum comite ferire ausa distulit, dum abires, ne prius inuaderet, ultrò te illi obuium dares, neu mihi uel strato dexteram, uel nutanti humerū offeres. Non parcebat igitur, sed hærebat, & nocendi tempus obseruans, interim sagittas cruenta cote mortiferas acuebat. Itaque uix dum funem solueras, dum repentè ex insidijs hostis erumpens, solum atq; incautum, teq; animo ac suspirijs prosequentem, uulnere perculit inopino, strauissetq; illicò, ni complexus propositum constitissem, quod uix ferum ueris ac solidis cōflatum sententijs, quasi unum fluctuantis uitæ gubernaculum, tempestatibus multis fessus arripui, & Deo præstante non deseram, mortem scilicet, & mortalia quælibet æquanimiter ferenda mortalibus. Certè tam me sic sępè olim, sic nouissimè mea me pupugit sors immitis. O' quid loquor, aut ubi sum. Quæ mentem insania murat? Neq; enim hoc tam illi conuenit, cui à Marone tribuitur, quàm mihi, quem contra notissimam ueritatem, contraq; meam quoq; sententiam, loqui cogit dolor, atq; ita fortunam accusare, quasi me claua percusserit, aut cuspide uinxerit Panthasilea uel Orythia. Magna quidem pars querelarum humanarum, non iniusta materia, sed stulta est, illud consultius ac rectius, & fateri, & credere, nil hominibus siue iusto licet abdito Dei iudicio euenire, neq; fortunam immeritam & incognitam lacerare. Sed ad id inceptam reuertor historiam. Igitur te digresso, sacerdos ille, cui literas ad meum Lælium perferendas dederam, ea ipsa hora rediens, intactas retulit, non fuit uerbis opus, aspectus ipse, pro nuncio fuit. literas ipse meas mœstus arripio, manum atq; anulum recognosco, & quid, inquam rei est? Quid hæ sibi uolunt literæ? Quid huc redeunt? Quid incomitatæ? Quid intactæ falrem ueniunt? Quid Lælius meus agit? Vbi est? Ad hæc ipse deiectis in terram oculis tacebat, sed ad quod longo & frequenti usu, ualde sensibilis factus sum, ut damna mea ante etiam, quam mihi nuncientur intelligam, tantus amicus ille perierat, imo certè præierat, secuturus [illegible] sequentem, & cursu continuo properantem. Obijt ergo Lælius meus, uir ingenio,

 & elo-

& eloquio, & [illegible] us, nam de amicitia loqui superuacuum, sic omnibus [illegible]. Erat autem hic quartus ac [illegible] us nostræ annis amicitiæ, propter breuitate uitæ [illegible] tis, pro uiuendi desiderio breue tempus. Ecce a [illegible] manu adhibita, dum adhuc [illegible] nus foueo, spiritumq; [illegible] repe [illegible] cuspide [illegible] dis nostri obitum referente illo, cuius in gremio expirau [illegible] es animæ [illegible] stis unanimes, unumq; sub tempus [illegible] inc digressæ, uobis ut spero bene est. N [illegible] mansimus, uestro abitu uitæ cursus, quasi ex am [illegible] no, & prono calle ad diff [illegible] ac perplexus penitus deflexit angustias. [illegible] ic amice n [illegible] m lud [illegible], Is tales [illegible] minans, nec nos differt, nisi ut supplicio longiore confecti, no [illegible] omnium [illegible] res cinerum affecti, & diutius, & sæpius moriamur. Sed ui l bet. Ego enim iam ob [illegible] iam sentire nihil incipio, & usum uersus dolo, non iam dolor, sed consuetudo flebilis ac tura est. Anima [illegible] quædam uene [illegible] o ut uere fama est, ego uerò malis meis pascor, uoluptate quadam [illegible] era, & qui fuerant gemitus cibi sunt, impletumq; est in me, seu Dauidicum illud, fuerunt mihi lachrymæ meæ panes die ac nocte. Siue illud Ouidianum:

Cura, dolorq; animi, lachrymæq; alimenta fuere.

Ego his pastus, inter hæc senui, & illud afflicti senis, in meum redijt caput. Dies mei uelociores cursores fugierunt, & non uiderunt bonum. Quid uis? Prorsus extra me f [illegible] in ueta Metamorphosis, animi habitum, moresq; exui, sola restat effigies. Sic me cele [illegible] ansformauerunt anni, & quidem pauci & mali, sic serenitatem illam, qua me incipiens [illegible] ucleta, & facilis senectus, semper licet apud Poëtam tristis ornauerat, mœstis undiq; nubibus inuoluerunt, nulla usquam de alia re conceptis, quàm de amicorum moribus: in quibus eg [illegible] moriens uiuo, ut si gaudendi materiam sors daret, oblitus, ut arbitror, sim gaudere. Age a [illegible] tem consternatum, sparsumq; animum colligamus, ó charissimi Læli, sic uobiscum enim, quasi cum præsentibus loquor, uereq; uiuentibus, planè, inquam mihi tu Læli, & si ego tibi non Scipio, quantum hoc ipso anno, quod tuæ testantur epistolæ, me defunctum famæ [illegible] dens, fleueras? O' Simonides optime, iure tu mihi Simonides, & sacerdos, & uates, & utrunq; pariter sacer uates, quantum nuper tremere atq; horrere rescripseras, ne superstes mihi heres, quem tibi superstitem precabaris, me nolente factus es uoti compos, clausum meis, apertumq; tuis precibus cœlum fuit. O' curæ hominum inutiles, metus superuacui, spes inanes. Quid timuistis amantissimi? Quid solliciti fuistis? Ecce ego cuius aut fama mortis, aut sola cogitatio, sic præcordia uestra concusserat, quiq; meorum primus omn [illegible] mori optabam, mori ultimus pertimeo, & hoc primum queror, quia quod me literis uestris utercq; monuerat, in se spreuit, infectumq; aërem, & loca morbis infamia declinare. Verum ego hæc nequicquam, dumq; animum exonero, non responsuros arguo, qui utinam [illegible] ami ce te secuti, ut animo semper, sic nunc corpore, & uobiscum fido sub lare latitantes, pel [illegible] dere uoluissent, Romā insigniter, Neapolimq; uastandi. Quod te fecisse gaudeo, tibiq; gratiam habeo, qui tectum meū dignum duxeris, sub quo ijsdem malis, patria laborante que [illegible] ueris: illi autem, quorum mihi fideliter, pro se quisq; consuluit, uti suo ipsi cōsilio uol [illegible] dicam fortasse uerius, nequiuere, durum est fixa conuellere. Et Romæ quidē iure suo, [illegible] cesse nunc mori erat, ossa Lælij debebantur, ubi compacta primum neruis fuerant, & pe [illegible] uestita, sed alterius cinerem Florentiæ debitum, sibi abstulit Neapolis. Sic terrena sui parte Simonides ille noster amor, nostræq; delitiæ iuxta Virgiliū, iacebit peregrini solam [illegible] aliquod amatori Pieridum & cultori. Vtriusq; uerò pars ætherea, cœlū petijt, [illegible] mihi [illegible] suadeo, sic oro, sic cupio, & profectò sic est. Non possunt tales animæ, aliorsum ire, del [illegible] tur enim cœli regnator, altis & mitib. ingenijs. Sed cur, heu, qui nostri collegi ultimus, [illegible] huius asperſum limen intrauerat, primus egreditur, nisi ut multiplicibus argumentis [illegible] gam. Quod ualde si nunc primum intelligere cœpero, tardus sim, nullo agi ordine res humanas. Video amicè, & iuditio damnatæ, depulsæq; animo, ad calamum redeunt qu [illegible] æ, & sunt sane ægri quidam, quibus remedij genus, sua ubertim quæri, quasi mali sensum [illegible] mentis extenuent. Sunt qui fessi, sine suspirijs & læui murmure nō quiescant, quasi [illegible] nar aptiùs sternat ille, ubi strepitus, & tremulæ illæ uoces, pro mollibus plumis [illegible]. M [illegible] quoc [illegible] q; consuetudo antiqua, linguam aut calamum impulere [illegible] recens est, [illegible] xum [illegible], quod dixi, multo quidē nisu fateor, sed & multo rerum turbine stabilit [illegible] æqu [illegible] icere spes, metusq;, gaudia & dolores. Hæc sunt enim ferè quæ constantis [illegible] animo [illegible] gener [illegible] a [illegible] lia interpellant. Instar autem dies, [illegible] nihil a [illegible] nos [illegible] ape [illegible] [illegible] nc [illegible] ant [illegible] strā obnu [illegible] lant, [illegible] cleren [illegible] No [illegible]

summa

[illegible] terroribus, uigentiq; tristitiæ resistendum est. Qua[illegible] his contraria, uel spei a[illegible]xi[illegible], [illegible]la gestiens lætitia, quæ mul[illegible]s attollendo præ[illegible], Deo gratias, nihil nobis his [illegible]po[illegible] a[illegible]it, nihil'q; uidetur allat[illegible] negotij, diu a[illegible]is exul, atq; auersa luminibus [illegible]etum his omissis ad te redeo, nostrumq; Simonidem, quorum mihi tu pene iam [illegible] [illegible]peres studiorum comes, ille licet abscess[illegible]rit, præsens est, nunqua[illegible] p[illegible]entior, quam [illegible]m abs[illegible]. Ante enim [illegible]nem absentiæ prestolabar, quod [illegible]uoniam [illegible]ihi morte preripitur, [illegible] iam reuersurum [illegible]ogito, sed reuersum, fictaq; presentia me con[illegible]olor. Et ego quidem il[illegible]lum, ac te, [illegible] quid mi[illegible] humanitùs inexpletis operibus accedisset, qua[illegible] alterum Var[illegible]m, Tuccamq; alterum, animo prouidebam. Nũc quando hic ordo superis placet, quod illum m[illegible] te de[illegible]reueram, id me illi fieri (ni[illegible] f[illegible]lor) æquum est. Itaq; siquid opusculorum atq; epi[illegible]olarum eius omnis generis imperfectum superest, inter nos uiritim diuide, & postquam nos quoq; nostra sors diuidit, extimatis ingenijs, meam mihi partem m[illegible] ser[illegible]ua. [illegible]ebemus hoc illi fateor, nec tu negas, uiuat ille in cœlo, & in memo[illegible] dū nos u[illegible]imus, post nos autem in memoria posterorum, quibus non me fallit amo[illegible], [illegible] notus fuerit, charus erit. In quo si res æget, falce licet pressus, propriam meam operam uerecunde memoriter polliceor. In eo autem, quod illi læte admodũ acceptanti, post mei Socratis obitu[illegible] il[illegible]d, quod nisi cum uita finiri posse non uideo, opus epistolare deuoueram, nihil m[illegible]uod ad hoc attinet nihil actum est illius morte, nunc est opus ut sileam. Scribere illi amp[illegible]us non possum, sed de illo & scribere, & cogitare, & meminisse, dũ mei ipse me[illegible]nero, nemo certè uetuerit. Proinde nunquam inscriptio prima mutabitur, quod uiuo u[illegible] [illegible]ti uiro o[illegible]im spopondit soluam cine[illegible] arido, soluam nudo nomini, quicquid id erit ad Simonidem meum erit. Quod quandiu seu quantulum sit ignoro, tantum erit haud dubiè, quantum uitæ spatium, quo nil incertius. Certè autem longius esse iam incipit, quàm spe[illegible]au[illegible]r, quamq; optaui, illa etiam ætate, quæ cupidissima est uiuendi, uiuere uolui, sed non so[illegible]lus, [illegible]e probatis ac ueteribus amicis, quibus ut uides, iam ferè omnibus superuiuo, ut citò, uel [illegible]e amicitijs sit uiuendum, inhumanum ac miseriæ genus, uel nouæ quærendæ amicitiæ, anceps ac difficile negotium. Sed ne redeam ad quærelas, quæ in singulis uerbis occursant, passimq; se ingerunt reluctanti, ad aliam, sed confinem stylus transeat materiam, uides puto, ualde enim aut sopitus est, aut cæcus, qui non uidet quo res hominũ fiat in statu. Annum ætatis huius ultimæ M. CCC. XLVIII. luximus, nunc lugendi principium illud fuisse cognoscimus, neq; ex illo cessasse unquam, hanc insolitam & inauditam à sæculis mali uim, huc il[illegible]ue dextra, læuaq; dimicatoris more, promptissimè ferientem, itaque toto sæpius orbe transcurso, cum nulla maneat pars immunis, quasdam bis, terq; repetijt, nonnu[illegible]las anniuersaria tabe pessundedit, Mediolanum urbem Ligurum caput, ac Metropolim, usq; ad inui[illegible]di[illegible]ctenus horum ne[illegible]iam laborũ, & cœli salubritate, ac clementia, & populi frequen[illegible]tia g[illegible]oriantem, sexagesimus ptimus annus, & uacuam fecit, & squalidam. Quo quidem ego diluuio, qui Deo duce tunc aberã, quid amiserim nosti, illi dehinc populo mitior, mihi uel crudelior annus sequens, quod habui optimum in terris, eripuit amicum illum, cui ut simi[illegible]lis n[illegible] hominum erat, sic nulli similis est iactura, nomen uiri ne inuitũ cogat ad lachrymas, nũc [illegible]ebo, neq; tibi opus est nomine, ut quem loquor intelligas. Idem annus sic Veronam exhausit, ut nostra illam ætas, qualem uidit, uisura utiq; iam non sit. O' immite pectus sæui [illegible]ncipis, quem de conditione temporum suorum queri solitum legimus, quod nullis cala[illegible]tibus publicis insignerentur, & commune malum aliquod atq; insignem pestilen[illegible]iam [illegible]e uides, utinã tale aliquid ferox Cai, ne nos talia multa quotidie uideremus, & ut pñs [illegible]inibus parceretur, impios oculos mœstirm spectaculum recreasset. Neq; uero transma[illegible] tantum, sed & nostra prætereo, longanimis ac tristis historia est. Ad summã, uacuus ho[illegible]m, sed criminum plenus est orbis, sic ad paucos tota sceletũ descendit hęreditas, ne mi[illegible]remur, si quo pauciores, & peiores sumus, nam necesse est, hoc mentium u[illegible]us, & [illegible]nc rabiem, & hunc luxum, & hanc sartaginem uitiorum, perpetuis ignibus superiectam, cui nil de[illegible]ur, sed indies aliquid additur, eo seruore funestius, quò feruet angustius. Sed proc[illegible]de, tertius hic annus, ex ordi[illegible]e ab initio malorũ sextusdecimus, multas quidẽ urbium nob[illegible] [illegible]nter quas & Florentiã reinuasit, quã sic presens æstas exercuit, & afflixit, ut parũ sextæ d[illegible] retrocedat estati. Cui accessit ad domesticã cladem, belli furor externi, quod [illegible] [illegible], magna partis utriusq; pernitie, & maiore periculo, nũc maxime dubijs [illegible] en[illegible] hæc [illegible] mala quid Astrol[illegible] somni[illegible] audisti, usq; ad sexa[illegible] [illegible]um, aliqui syderis uim producũt, inde iam his quid durare potuerint, lectiora [illegible]

quibus a [illegible] tamen & tam [illegible] ut promis[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible]trolo[illegible] sed [illegible] [illegible]dunt, [illegible] hodie [illegible] quam [illegible] si bene [illegible]m. [illegible] Marte [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible]rum [illegible] nt, e[illegible]que co[illegible]em ([illegible] [illegible]tius, toto nunc etiam [illegible]ennio durat[illegible]am, di[illegible] [illegible]bis in locis astra illa fui[illegible]e, cum iam to[illegible]ens circos suo[illegible]lu[illegible] ibi fuere, mirum aliud, eisdem ex locis ac syderibus eff[illegible]us, [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]rum enim alterum fateri oportet, u[illegible] sine[illegible]ant [illegible]ile ali[illegible]uid po[illegible] [illegible]niam conditum negare solent, post homi[illegible]u[illegible]memoriam, uis[illegible]que ue [illegible] ferant, quod [illegible] nequeunt, quiescant, & quies[illegible]e alios sinant, ne p[illegible] posse confidant. Nescimus quid in cœlo geritur, quod ipsi quid[illegible] de[illegible] [illegible]riè profitentur, at ex parte, quæ in terris gesta sunt, nouimus, n[illegible] fortè suas, & ip[illegible]rationes, suasque discordias cœlū habet, & iam uel senio delira, uel tur[illegible]ta od[illegible], u[illegible]as suas [illegible]ta sunt sydera, ueræque nunc uagæ, & errantes stellæ, nullis [illegible]bus, aut na[illegible] sic [illegible] Zodiacum Phaëtontea licentia, funestos mortalibus cursos agunt. Et hoc [illegible]uis ineptiæ dicturi sunt, potiùs quàm ignorantiam confessuri, quorum no[illegible] [illegible]dò, sed cæcitatem, uecordiamque omnem, uulgò etiam multa, o[illegible]m, sed nil clariu[illegible] [illegible]sens hæc pestis aperuit, uerecundumque iam esset, aliquando fateri, se nescire q[illegible]o[illegible] nes[illegible] insuper quid nescire, illos, nemo est qui nesciat. Modestiùs hac in parte Medi[illegible] [illegible]xitissimi habiti, sæpè me præsente fassi sunt, artis suæ remedia, ad hoc natu[illegible]æ se[illegible] [illegible]canum non extendi. Possem eis ignorantiam donare, si eam sic in reliquis faterent[illegible] at [illegible]strologi, qui feruntur, omnium ignari potiùs mori uelint, quàm se rei [illegible] hus ig[illegible] cere. Nempe consuetudo & pudor, & peruicacia, & lucellum, & [illegible]ac[illegible]tas insano[illegible] semper ab expectatione pendentium, hi sunt linguæ nodi, ut uerum [illegible]icias ac[illegible] o[illegible] Nemo uolens, nisi modestia uigens cogat, ignorantiam profitetur. Norunt ipsi q[illegible] si dubitant, cœlo suo tot mendacijs aduersante condiscant, nihil est quod uentilant q[illegible]d mercantur, quo uè arida pectora, & siticulosas aures infarciunt, sed id nihil ignot[illegible] a[illegible]e [illegible]i student, ne si emerserit, ipsi etiam nihil sint. Talis enim quisque est, qualibus d[illegible] inter artificium atque artificem multa cognatio est. Hæc pertinatiæ causa ingens. Q[illegible]d sunt uideri metuunt, quod non sunt cupiunt, quia quod sunt, nihil est penitùs, fieri[illegible]que al[illegible]d iam non possunt, usu pessimo compediti, unum hoc possibile arbitrantur, idque e[illegible] quod ess[illegible] nequeunt apparere, frustrà id tamen insensati. Qui ut certè si de mot[illegible]bu[illegible] a[illegible] si uentos ac pluuias, si æstus ac frigora, si procellas maris, si solis, lunæque nunci[illegible] [illegible]pses utiliter sæpè, semperque delectabiliter audiendi sint, sic dum res, casusque ho[illegible] soli Deo cognitos fabulantur, eeu mendaciorum tristium opifices respuendi, æq[illegible] [illegible]mertio non literatorum modò, sed bonorum omnium repellendi. Ipsi uerò pe[illegible] mi, quadam atque obstinatione mirabili possibilia negligunt, impossibiliùs ope[illegible] quinimò usqueadeò depuduit, & cognitu faciliora diffiniunt. Venit ad aures tu[illegible] [illegible]tan, ut nuper expeditione Ticinensi, eum uir ille magnanimus, qui nunc sib[illegible] p[illegible]æ[illegible] [illegible]cess[illegible]s, urbem ualidam, munitamque aggredi statuisset, Astrologi omnes strep[illegible] h[illegible]c noster, ante alios tantæ famæ, ut uulgò futuri præscius, pot[illegible]s qu[illegible]m præsagu[illegible] tur, multis hic diebus paratam profectionem, sublataque signa co[illegible]inuit, expectand[illegible] cens, horæ fatalis aduentum: ea uerò cum uenisset, illo iubente, motæ acies, & toti[illegible] [illegible]lum uiribus itum est, cumque antea multis mensibus, mira cœlum ac terram s[illegible]cc[illegible] bu[illegible]et, eodem ipso die, patefactis subitò cœli ualuis, tanta uis plu[illegible]iæ cœpit, m[illegible]lti[illegible] [illegible]uis post diebus, ac noctibus creuit. Vt campi omnes & hostiles p[illegible]m[illegible], muros, [illegible] cingentia, miro & insolito dilu[illegible]o inundarent, non sine multo dis[illegible]c, ut uictur[illegible] pr[illegible]pe imbrib[illegible]ncerentur, & si postea melioribus auspicijs in aciem reditum, & u[illegible] ac for[illegible]a[illegible]ri[illegible]ius, Dei fretus præsidio, absque astrorum consilio capta urbe, bell[illegible] conf[illegible]m sit. Sanè tunc mendacio infensus, con[illegible]e[illegible]m[illegible], al[illegible]quem uirum ho[illegible] doct[illegible]que pra[illegible]mmunc[illegible] modum, m[illegible]uer[illegible] charissim[illegible], [illegible] fate[illegible] [illegible] A[illegible]log[illegible]s, [illegible]ce argui, q[illegible]d ita in tan[illegible]æ re[illegible] d[illegible]m [illegible] [illegible]m[illegible]em, & tam proximam non ui[illegible]eret [illegible] [illegible]uentos & pluuias, & impressiones alias aëris, & quæ [illegible]

[illegible] est (inquam) nosse quid mihi uni, quidue alte[illegible] post annos plurimos euenturum [illegible], quam quid cœlo & terræ, totiq; rerum, naturæq; impendeat, hac ipsa luce, uel crastina erupturum, cum naturaliter quidem [illegible]sta, supernaturaliter illa contingant, distribuente cuilibet suas sortes Deo. Facilius (inqu[illegible]) haud dubiè, sed h[illegible]c [illegible] ut animi pudorem, media in fronte perlegeres. Scit ipse me uerum loqui, neq; [illegible]rum aliq[illegible] ut opinor neget. Q[illegible]anquam iam inde à dominij præsentis exordio, inter ip[illegible]m & me, qui ea tempestate [illegible] lic eram, de maiori etiam errore certatum esset. Cùm enim tempus anxio prorsus hor[illegible]sco pio delegisset, quo fœlicius tribus illis magnis fratribus, dominationis insignia tradarentur, me [illegible] iniūctum erat, ut in ea solennitate uerba facerem, & orationem meam, & nouo[illegible]um dom[illegible]norum intentionem ac publicam interrupit, dicens, aduenisse horā, quæ præteriri sine mu[illegible]o periculo non posset. Cumq; ego licet ta[illegible]um haud inscius nugarum, tamē ne [illegible]storum numerosæ sententię obstarem, cœpto sermoni finem ante medium pos[illegible]em [illegible] hæsitans, atq; attonito similis, dicens: Adhuc modicæ restare antequam [illegible]o-ret, meq; interim hortari cœpit ut loquerer. Ego subridens, perorasse me, neq; p[illegible] [illegible] aliquid respondi, neq; pulchram aliquam fabellam occursare animo, quam Mediolan[illegible]um populo recitarē, ille æstuans, & sæpe ungulis frontem scalpens, tacitis omnibus quibusdam indigna[illegible]s, ac ridentibus alijs, post paulum exclamauit: Hora est, tum uerò l[illegible]ngæuus quida[illegible]ris uir, cui id negotij datum erat, tres paxillos puros, rectos, candidos, qui no strarum n[illegible] urbium septa sunt arripiens, cuiq; suum lætis uerbis, uotisq; & faustis omnibus in manu posuit. Sed id tanto, in singulis interstitio temporis actum est, ut si uero est rota illa Nigidij, qua Astrologi ignorantiam suam, dum uelare uolunt detegunt, meritò credi posset, diuersam fratribus fati seriem instare. Neq; hercle aliter fuit. Nota est historia [illegible]nté annum exactum, natu maior, & Bononiam nobilem dominij sui patrem, & mox uitam ad huc uirentibus annis amiserit, reliquorum, & prosperitas certior, & uita longior, usq; [illegible]m post decennium producta, nunc maximè floreat. Quod sæpè amico illi aruspici iocab[illegible]is obieci, cum ille quidem arte sua nihil amplius fieri posse, uno semper ore respondeat. [illegible] credo, ædepol, uerè hoc dicat, eumq; ut paulò minùs excusatum habeam, ætas facit, & m[illegible]gnæ familiæ educandæ uiolenta necessitas, quæ ad indigna nonnunquam artificia, magna et[illegible] curuat ingenia. Quam ut eū quoq; in has nugas impegisse arbitrer, uno maximè [illegible] uiri illius adducor. Nam cum ego & sibi amicus, & famæ suæ sæpè idem aliter, atq; aliter secum agerem, quamuis ipse & ætate me multum, & scientia anteiret. Ille semel uelut experrectus, profundoq; erumpēs, in uerba suspirio. Nihil amice (inquit) hac in parte sequo, n[illegible] quod tu. Sed ita uiuere hic oportet. Sensi necessitatis auream cathenam, & mis[illegible]us ex[illegible]tiui. Cæterùm hic est mos, ut ad incœptum regrediar, hic fatendi pudor, ea me[illegible] [illegible]bid[illegible] in nos & fortunas, ut aiunt nostras, nostri animi libertatem ius utrunq; sibi al[illegible] acquirendi, unde [illegible] ut pro honesti studij clara laude neglecta, fuscā fallaciæ & erroris infamiam mereantur, quorum iudicijs, quod falsi inest fraudi. Atq; inscitiæ iudicantis. Siquid autem ueri non scientiæ, sed casui debeas imputare fortuitò. Quid est enim aliud quod Augusti[illegible]o olim adolescentulo, & ob eam causam tunc minimè credituro, post autem nō credit[illegible]o t[illegible]tùm, sed breui etiam alijs persuasuro, perq; omnem uitam aduersario ingenti, atq; eu[illegible] huius uanitatis acerrimo, bonus ille consultor dixit. Vim fortis hoc facere in rerum natur[illegible] usquequaque diffusam. Vnde est enim, quod & diligentissimè cogitata frustrantur, & [illegible] el[illegible]sa, certis sæpè successibus confirmantur, & longo studio non inuenta ueritas, qua[illegible] [illegible]m sese aliud agentibus ingerit. Isti autem, si quod uerum, unum fortè uel alterum e[illegible]ciderit insolentissimè prædicant. Quod assiduè mentiuntur excusant, prædi[illegible]tiq; fidem re-quirentibus irascuntur. Importunum ualdè non erubescere, cuius contrario gl[illegible]eris p[illegible] [illegible] uel errori, uel inopiæ ueniam dare, si uerecundius mentirentur. Impud[illegible] ignor[illegible]tiam, ac superbum mendacium, quis non oderit? Nec ignoro in his redarg[illegible]is, [illegible] sæp[illegible] me scribentem plura etiam loquentem uerba iactasse, quæ mihi fateo [illegible]n[illegible]ctus spes, sed mendacij odium elicuit, iacturamq; ipse meam solor maximis comit[illegible] Qui enim ueri amicus non ho[illegible]dit atque arguit? Frustrà tamen æquè omnes, nil ue[illegible] p[illegible]c[illegible]r, uerbenbis opus es[illegible] legum supplicijs, non doctorum hominum li[illegible] [illegible]e t e[illegible]m, præ[illegible]torum atq; præsentium ignaris, uentura prænoscere, seu ue[illegible] [illegible]ra præn[illegible]clare credentibus. Quorum iam non infœlicitas solùm atq; im[illegible] [illegible]as intellectus, uerique omnis incapacitas nota est, h[illegible] fidem habentium: contra q[illegible] [illegible] ratio, experientia, & non sancti tanti uiri, sed Philosophi etiam graues, totis u[illegible]

minibus

minibus accinguntur. L[illegible] quo Ciceronis, linquo Ambrosij, atque Augustini operosissimos, ualidissimosque [illegible] nesque lo[illegible] ssimas, q[illegible] nec tempus ex[illegible] pit locus, nec req[illegible] antulum le[illegible] cel[illegible]. Nota nempe [illegible] o[illegible], unam Amb[illegible] ip[illegible] o sum scripta e[illegible] ueram nescio, an breuem magis au[illegible] sententiam, ex eo [illegible] o[illegible] quem de obitu Satyri fratris sui scripsit: Philosophi [illegible] de cœlo disputantes, q[illegible] an[illegible] ignorant. Qui h[illegible] c d[illegible] ent irridebunt scio, [illegible] stulti magis, quàm audaces, sed me [illegible] quicquid [illegible] hoc dic[illegible] r, in S[illegible] dici, quo ille plenus hæc dixit. Sed quid [illegible] rsus ago, a[illegible] Spiritum [illegible] ctum [illegible] ritus sancti organum, sanctorum linguas, & calamos non contemnent. Nec re[illegible] e[illegible] ius Esaiam audient, dicentem: Annunciate quæ uentura sunt in futurum, & sc[illegible] a[illegible] estis uos. Nam ut noui Testamenti scriptor[illegible] ignorantiæ, sic Prop[illegible] cias arg[illegible] & ad summam omnia præter Ptolemæum Ægyptium, aut Firm[illegible] um Sicu[illegible] x[illegible] tur, sed ill[illegible] fu[illegible] o[illegible] noceat, nobis prosit, ut quantò illos à uero turp[illegible] us prolapsos c[illegible] mus, tan[illegible] n[illegible] s il[illegible] constantiùs hæreamus. Dem[illegible] ut i[illegible] pro omni iam tempore fi[illegible] inter surdos inutilium plus uerborum effluat, de horum omnium cōminat[illegible] promissis, breue si iudicium meum uis, miro compendio te diuinum faciam, o[illegible] serua [illegible], quid de re qualibet ij nuncient, contrarium enim erit. Qui hoc genere d[illegible] let, rectè illis aduersus, hoc est, rarissimè quidem mendax, semper ferè ue[illegible] detur. Iam quid de promisso malorum fine sperem, puto perspicis, de q[illegible] o ite[illegible] odiosis simulque ridiculis horum uaticinijs, si iuditiū amici simplicioris exposcis. N[illegible] astra, non [illegible] lg[illegible] ra, non exta, non uolucres, non denique sortes ullas, sed solum animum in [illegible] consulens. E[illegible] qua est præsagio meo, fides ita sentio, siquidem ira Dei est, qua [illegible] c m[illegible] tale premitur genus, inquit, fateor iam dudum mea fertur opinio, & tum demum [illegible], dum autem molliti, flexique ad alium uitæ modum erunt animi, aut dignis fracta supplicijs humana durities, quæ ut uides inflexibilem se ostendit, malleoque hactenus, & inc[illegible] e[illegible] ecudit. Quo in statu, remedium aliud, nullum est, n[illegible] ita uiuere, ut parati simus dum [illegible] oeabimur, ne quasi res noua, ac improuisa nos terreat. Quę utique uetus est, & nisi desipimu[illegible] prouisa iampridem nobis esse debuit, præsertim ex quo hanc mundi publicam ruinā, & [illegible] ea, nostros fermè omnes oppressos, & quæcunque nobis in terris fuerant, chariora c[illegible] pc[illegible]. Quorum si quid fortè supererat, ecce non reliquiæ perire, hoc in malis unicum rem[illegible] um probo, teque hortor, ut comprobes. Fuga enim mortis (quod monēti olim scripseram amico, ne muto sententiam) nulla est. Claude oculos præstigijs, aures nugis, uitam medicis, a[illegible] ologos fuge, illi corpora, hi animos lædunt, sospitatorem uerum atque astrificū uenerare [illegible] uarietates naturæ aliquę, causisque latentibus infectus aër, uel si sic penitùs dici placet c[illegible] el la[illegible] io qu[illegible] am, nos mortalibus ignota, persequitur, finis erit: dum decocta corruptio [illegible] digesta solis radijs, uel aliquorsum deriuata, seu consumpta labes, fuerit, horum sane [illegible] e[illegible] rum, uel utrumque, quando sit futurum non cœli spectator, sed creator nouit, uel fort[illegible] aliquis Vir pius ac sapiens, cui hoc ille reuelauerit, nō Saturnus, aut Mars. Iis enim auctori[illegible] us utitur insana garrulitas, hos nobis dominos imponere nititur, & consilia Dei eluden[illegible], quantum in se est, & interimens arbitrij libertatem, quàm deinde fomentis inanibus suscit[illegible] re[illegible] uide[illegible] tur circulatores egregij, dum dicunt dominari astris sapientem, pręclarè in[illegible] ta mendacia uno regunt uerbo, imò uerò mendacia mendacijs accumulant. Nam & id quoque fal[illegible] nec sapiens astris, nec astra sapienti: sed utrisque dominatur Deus, unde uer[illegible] si [illegible] d[illegible] nisi ab astr[illegible] hoc habuit dominator iste astrorum sapiens, u[illegible] sa[illegible] ens esset. O pe[illegible] ple[illegible] ludus rur[illegible] ac fragilis. O malè laudatum diuerbum, quod sane aures [illegible]. Q[illegible] omodo enim astris dominabitur, qui nihil habeat, nisi quod sibi astra concesser[illegible] [illegible] udatarium eius dominum, à quo feudum habet, & nō illi potiùs [illegible] b[illegible] a[illegible] fe[illegible] t. Dominatur s[illegible] sapiens, dum Deo paret, & re[illegible] pi[illegible] s ad illum, ra[illegible] is [illegible] rn[illegible] uitæ cym[illegible] am regi, astris uerò nec potest dominari, nec uult quidem. Vnu[illegible] e[illegible] est a[illegible] orum atque hominum dominator, cuius sapiens non ignarus, atque i[illegible] li ser[illegible] ab[illegible] liber esse [illegible] nte[illegible] tus, non [illegible] icam cœli, sed nec terræ i[illegible] uam [illegible] bitar, dom[illegible] [illegible] est. [illegible] o autem d[illegible] etur a[illegible] is sapiens [illegible] hi u[illegible] unt domin[illegible] que [illegible] uel [illegible] u[illegible] l undecun[illegible] suf[illegible] piat, an n[illegible] ident, an d[illegible] ulant, qu[illegible] mult[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] icn[illegible] sol[illegible] s, [illegible] d[illegible] minus, aut seruiti[illegible] sit exemp[illegible] s. Po[illegible] ta de[illegible] [illegible] meie [illegible] s [illegible] am pau[illegible] ri[illegible] ap[illegible] [illegible] me us. Nisi quod p[illegible]

... experientiæ relinquenda est quisq; mihi pro se magnis in urbibus circunspiciat, atque ... dat quot ibi quotidie sapientes ueri occurrāt. Quisq; recogitet, quot sibi cum sapien... res fuit. Ita tamen, ut quem qu... sapientem, ... non uulgaris fama, hoc ... non uerbis ... horum, aut etiam suis, sed factis, rebusq; ... post numerum con... puto dextrę manus auxilio, non egebit. Non enim ... ut sapientes ... dicos stulti uocant, neq; ut docti quidam, qui ... sapientem dicunt, aliud est ... sapientē esse ... certum, mores ad hanc rem non literæ requiruntur, quæ si bene nisi ... animo accesserint, ornamento quidem, ac ... dio ingenti erunt. Iniquo autē & ... prono, nun ... proderunt, sæpe oberunt ... & multis, & claris argumentis ostendi facile ... nisi uulgò etiam constaret, literatos homines fuisse, qui uel col... malis Resp. euerte... uel graues sando discordias aluerūt armatasq; in necē compulēre acies, uel quo nihil ... diro animas dogmatum ueneno, & uarijs erroribus ... Vo... ergo bona, non ingenium, uita, non oratio sapientem facit. Fuere ... solum dicerent sapientē, qui Catoni honos à nostris, apud Graios uerò ab Ap... tributus est Socrati, Græci ipsi septem numerant. Quā uereatur autem, & qui id dicūt, & de ... dicunt uiderint, certè horum nomina scholis omnia trita sunt. Plures alij fortassè, sed ... & suarum mirarrix rerū, maxima hoc contenta fuit numero, quę ipsum ... qui carperent, ac riderent, multo quidē citius sapiens dicitur quę fit, ... si ocu... quàm multa ijs ipsis, qui sapientiæ nomine gloriantur desint, ut esse incipiāt ... uulgò, puto ipsum pudoris inscium puderet, & diceret pauciores fuit quàm ... sapientes. Mea certè sententia, non dicā Phœnice rarior, atq; anno renascens ... sed rara utiq; auis est sapiens, non gregatim uolat, non ubiq; nidificat, non ... et sedet ramo, non omni uerno tempore nascitur, nempè cuius ortum rariorem Ci... extimat unisle partu, quem inter prodigia numerari sola raritas facit. Vt ergo astris do... hic seu nullus sapiens, seu perrarus, quid faciēt alij, seu quid facient omnes? Quid ... non seruient astris, seruitute non tantùm corporū, sed quæ nulla miserior, animorum, ... tamen ista non tangunt, qui salute hominum spreta, solum de hominibus lucrum ... soli inhiant prædæ, quæ quoniam de liberis non sperarent, nec facere suos possunt ... faciunt stellarum, ut iam diximus, quarum se conscios, & quasi consiliarios dici uolūt, ... inter seruos ac dominos secretorum internuncios spondent. O flagitiū audax permit... o credentium stultus pauor, & quæ audaciæ summa est, ut peccata hominum ex... Dei iustitiam accusant, cum dicunt, ut præclarè ait Augustinus, de cœlo tibi est in... causa peccandi, & Venus hoc fecit, aut Saturnus, aut Mars scilicet, ut homo sine ... caro & sanguis, & superba putredo. Culpandus sit autē cœli & syderum creator, ... & quis est hic nisi Deus noster suauitas, & origo iustitiæ. Iam uero ... m iracundiæ frenum ponam, & qui supra desiturum me promisi, uel hic desinam, atq; ... scriptoribus bis diuellar, si hic quoque ubi naturalis scilicet malorum præsentium ... consilium meum quæris. Nullum mihi certius aliud quàm quod audisti, ubi de ... mortali periclitamur, ac misera uita ad illum confugere, apud quem est torrens uo... & fons uitæ. Nam quid, oro, agat aliud uiator, aquæ modicum rimoso uase colle... labi sentiens, & siti metuens perire, nisi ut rapim eò se uertat, ubi uel perennem ... uel aquæ fontem indeficientis inueniat, hic tamen humanæ plusculum ... preuerim, atque in primis locorum mutationem, ut dimissis ad tempus, ... acrius incubuit sydus, salubriora sectemur, sic procellam portu nauta, ... agricola, sic periculum honesto diuersorio sapiens declinat, omnium licet intre... & si cogatur eligere, mortem ipsam uitio prælaturus. Hoc nimirum mihi consilium ... dederant amici, quid tamen, heu, me miserum, cur consultor alterius ... sui me... sque. In proprios usus uterene glexerunt, si sui quidem erat arb... nec de... tia tenebantur, tu seu humano consilio, seu aliter id quod constat duce fre... linquens Neapolim, & omissa Florentia longiore circuitu me petijsti, quam... uc utraque urbium illarum tranquilla persisteret fœlix ut decuit, pia fuit ele... patriæ me prælatum glorior, tuæque, uel prudentiæ gratulor, uel fortunæ, ... od coràm quoque sum questus, nimis te hinc abitum properasse, & si ... omnia d... rentur, nosti tamen uulgi morem, uel fingit, uel anticipat quę delectant. ... tem, patriæ pietas animum urgebat, nec mei desiderium obstabat, trimestri præ... lenitum, sic inexorabilis abijsti, neque ego uel equitantem arguere, uel me illi posthabitum

poſthabitum indignari poteram, cui me antea prætuliſſes. Sed quoniã etſi non lyn[illegible]los, ac caprinas [illegible]es habet amo[illegible], neſcio quid iſthic nunc etiam reliquiarum metu[illegible] atq; ſcrim[illegible]is ſupe[illegible]e audio, q[illegible] ita eſt, te amice per teipſum precor, ut redeas, aufer [illegible]e m[illegible] ſolicitudinem, cui ſi neſcis ſolito charior factus es. Cur ſi quæris, ipſa raritas c[illegible] eſt, [illegible] qui m monoc[illegible] cha[illegible]or lux, è numero ueterum amicorum, ut dicebam, pene [illegible]s es mei, nam de Bar[illegible] n[illegible]ro quid ſperē dubius ſum, [illegible] modo Pe[illegible]s ac [illegible]ruc[illegible] per ua[illegible]aiur mors. Veni ergo optatus, adeſt ecce anni pars leu[illegible]ſima, cur[illegible]llæ, niſi Pye[illegible]c iucundæ, domus ſaluberrima, & quam ſtylo tibi fortaſſe exprimerem, ni tu illam pl[illegible]o ſces. Adeſt optima, & neſcio an melior optanda ſocietas, nomen ab effectu nactus, B[illegible]e tendius præclariſſimæ huius urbis Cancellarius, & ſtatui publico, & priuatis amic[illegible] honeſtis ſtudijs bené intendens, cuius ueſpertini congreſſus, dum diurnis relaxatus cur[illegible] læta fronte, pio [illegible]mo, inſtructo nauigio ad nos uenit, & nauigationes, confabulati[illegible]esq; ſub noctē, quàm [illegible] aues ſint, quamq; ſincerum & bené falſum, quicquid in homine [illegible] eſt, nuper expertus tenes. Nec non Donatus noſter Apennigena, quē ex Tuſcis col[illegible]bus ereptum, multos iam per annos littus ſeruat Adriacum. Donatus (inquam) noſter & Donatus nobis ſe donanteſ, donatoq; illi antiquo & profeſsionis ſucceſſor & nomin[illegible], q[illegible]o nil ſuauius, nil purius, nil noſtri amantius, nil notius tibi: nolo plures nominare, ſu[illegible] amauis enim nunquam mihi ſolitudo illa ultima, atq; inhumana placuerit, neq; m[illegible]etur qualis ſcribitur fuiſſe Bellerophon ipſe, ſuum cor edens, hominum ueſtigia u[illegible], de quo in ſolitudine mea, olim duobus ſolitariæ uitæ libris, pro ingenij uiribus multa diſſerui, ſemper tamen mihi uir doctus ac ſapiens, paucis egere comitibus uiſus eſt, quippe qui ſibi ip[illegible]e ſi res adigat, comes eſſe, collocutorq; didicerit. Sin uel grauis hic mora, uel autumnal[illegible] temperies ſuſpecta erit, quanquam meo iuditio nullis aquilonibus, aut zephyris ſerena[illegible] purgariq; melius cœlum poteſt, quàm ſerenis frontibus, atq; optatis colloquijs amico[illegible]m, ibimus hic, erisq; tu mihi ſeceſsionis fortaſſé utilis, at profectò delectabilis author ac comes, commigrabimus Iuſtinopolim, ac Tergeſtum, unde mihi fidelibus literis uotiua temperies nunciatur. Ad poſtremum boni hoc ſaltem habiturus eſt reditus tuus, ut quod i[illegible]m dudum cogito Timaui fontem, uatibus celebrem, multis uerò uel doctoribus ignoratum ubi eſt, non ubi quæritur, hoc eſt, non Patauinis in finibus ueſtigemus. Quem errorem peperit Lucani uerſiculus, quo Apono illum iunxit Euganeo, ſed in agro potius Aquileienſi ibi illum Coſmographi certiores locant:

Vnde per ora nouem uaſto cum murmure montis,
It mare præruptum, & pelago premit arua ſonanti.

Vale. Venetijs VII. Idus Septembris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO SVO, S. Epiſt. II.

De illius ſtatu.

CAſus noſtros ſciſti, non dubitem & fleſti, Lælij mei, Simonidisq; noſtri obitum, alterum antequàm hinc iſſes noueras, uerum aures meas percuti cuiuſuis a[illegible]ter[illegible]s, quam tuæ linguæ cuſpidæ maluiſti, alterum ſtatim poſt tuæ domus in limine didiciſti, de quibus, multisq; alijs, quæ præſentem, noſtramq; ſimul, ac mundi to[illegible] re[illegible]nt tempeſtatem, longam tibi mœſtus epiſtolam dictaui, quam ne miſeri cauſa e[illegible] non iam labor, aut tarditas, quamuis uere utraq; cauſa eſt, quàm perdendi metus, hunc[illegible] am laborem, ſicut alium ad ipſum, de quo loquor Lælium, Simonidemq; ipſum perdidi. Quibus cum multa ſcripſiſſem, utriuſq; tepido cinere inuento, una fermè hora, diuer[illegible] cet, è tractu[illegible]s terrarum, ſignatæ uti erant ad me literæ rediêre, quas aſpectu primo [illegible] ſtas, ut era[illegible]ncias ratus, flammis iniectas, charis manibus inferias dedi. De te autem ut quod eſt fatear, Donatum noſtrum, & me ingens pauor arripuit, ne tu quoque poſt [illegible]os abieris, neq; nobis uidetur fieri poſſe, ſi uiueres, ut nihil his ſcriberes, quos ais qu[illegible]m [illegible] penſos, quàmq; ſollicitos linqueris ſcire te credimus. Proinde ſi uiuis, nulla tibi prorſus ex[illegible]ta[illegible] eſt ſin abſumpta ſalus (ut Maro ait) & te chariſsime frater ceſpes habet patriæ, ex cu[illegible]us e[illegible] lanè excuſatione tibi quidem, ut arbitror fœlici, nobis miſer[illegible]uæ ſi quid adhuc gemituum in fundo animæ reſedit, eliciat lo[illegible].

Vale ſi uiuis, ſi defunctus æternum. Venetijs XII. Cal. Octobris.

FRAN

FRAN. PETRARCHA NICOLAO MAGNO REGNI SICI[illegible]AE SENESCALCO, S. Epist. III.

Promissa non præstari conqueritur.

DVdum magne Vir, charumq; decus meū, dicere tibi ali[illegible] sed amor m[illegible] ac suauitas tua, dulcibus semper alloq[illegible]js, uelut m[illegible]a, os le qui parantis præclusêr[illegible]unc tandem ipse me arguo quod talem [illegible], tam excelsum, tam ueri amicū, ego quoq; ueri amicus, aliter [illegible]m uel illum audire deceat, uel me lo[illegible]ui suauiter, magis quam uiriliter, nunc usq; [illegible]actauerim, breue el[illegible] autem uerbis: sed re am[illegible]m quod tibi nunc dixisse uelim. Long[illegible] in tempus est, ex quo te mihi grauissimum, fidis[illegible]umq; refugium, procellosæ uitæ, ac prædu[illegible]e animi solatium statui, [illegible] tu tibi, ut dicis, in omnibus primum, ut ego spero, non ultimum legisti. Ecce inter ea, ut[illegible]ti tui, fratresq; mei o[illegible]imi fermè omnes simul uento citiùs abiêre, Socrates, Zenobius, [illegible]s, Simon d[illegible] & quo[illegible] nouum audio Barbatus, nostri omnes, at qui te propè ut numen a[illegible]quid cole[illegible] me supra hominem amarent. Mitto alios, quos numerare lōgum simul ac flebile e[illegible]. Et q[illegible] putas, ib[illegible]mus & nos nostro ordine, idq; quàm primum, nulla penitùs mora est, cito [illegible], fo[illegible]emur, & quos præmisimus consequemur, nec tua te uitus aut [illegible] ne [illegible]a liberabunt. Soluendum naturæ debitum, moriendum, abeundum, c[illegible] de d[illegible]quentibus, agendumq; iter est patrum, æquè in tua palatia, & in meas [illegible] nes mors [illegible]bit. In huius autem miserrimæ uitæ calle breuissimo, [illegible]us ut uid[illegible] ad [illegible] propinquamus, & imus, & currimus, & uolamus, & præcipuè in his annis ultimo [illegible]s, dux mihi multos ante alios electus, meq; multis, tuo alioquin insigni præ[illegible]rens [illegible]m ad finem, uel nostrum alter, uel ambo uenerimus, quod utiq; fieri oportet, & d[illegible]uit, quantum dolebis, quod nescio quibus alijs curis, fortasse maioribus, nescio a[illegible]rioribus distractus, nihil unquam pro me feceris, cum potueris semper, & sępè pr[illegible]. Et quanquam nullo meo merito, promisso tamē tuo debitor sis, & qui patrimonij a[illegible]plissimi, tuarumq; rerum omnium partem mihi primam, maximamq; meis proximam, [illegible]tiens interposita iusiurandi religione deputaueris, tibi ultima & minima, quam ego [illegible] tuo relinquerem, reseruata, de quo chirographum non unum tuis scriptum digitis, habe[illegible], requisitus tandem, non dicam patrimonij partes illas, aut de tuis omninò rebus quicqua[illegible] quod minimè petebatur, sed ne unicum quidem uerbum, iustum, honorificum, teq; d[illegible]gnum, & tuis in labijs, & in auribus audientium honestissimè soniturum, illi tuo electo, & dilecto præstare nolueris, ipse tecum cogita. Ego mihi peccare in te, & in meipsum ui[illegible]sus sum nisi te neglecti huius tàm decori, & tàm tui officij aduerterem, quod ut differrem hact[illegible]us, quid putas, nisi stupens dolor fecit. Ne uerò amplius differam, dolor [illegible]ndem ui[illegible]ctu[illegible]por, & casu oblatus hic Vir, mei nuper, tui pridem amantissimus impulit, penes quem sic desiderium, & querelam, & suspirium meum omne dep[illegible] quasi in eo cernerem te præsentem, tecumq; de te quærer quod persæpè tacens soleo [illegible] igitur crede, ipsumq; audi obsecro, & nisi tibi inglorium ducis, exaudi, patientia sed armatæ, priusquam incipiat, & uerbis asperioribus. Mitem animum oppone, contra te dici audies. Noli partes extimare, sed causam tu, reus, idemq; & testis, & iudex, de te ipso fer sententiam. Vide quàm conueniens famæ tuæ sit, habuisse tot annis hominem, quem amicum uoces, quemue interdum humilitate infira, magnitudinis immemor, ut maiorem alloqui soleas, & si ipse, ut est lo[illegible], se imparem omnibus fateatur, nihilq; sibi præter somnij tàm longo in tempore con[illegible] tàm claræ nomen amicitiæ, cum amici munus, breui & facili pridem uerbo implesse p[illegible]d. Quid ad tribunal illius, qui non solùm amicis, sed etiam hostibus benefacere præcipit, huic [illegible]s calumniæ responsurus uideris, ego bis te requisiui, utinam uel negasses citò, uel im[illegible] serò licet, aut saltem lentiùs promisisses, ecce nūc tertiæ, & ultimæ preces meæ, quàm [illegible]aces, in te est, nondum sperare de te desiī, si nunc quoque meam spem destituis, tuus e[illegible] nihilominus, nam quem semel dilexi, semper diligo, sed molestus amplius non ero. Vltimum hoc præmisis adijciam. Magnam & insignem amicitiæ laudem fore, sed eam multis & magnis ex rebus constare, Amicum dici facile est, amicum esse difficile. Vale.

Et si nimis familiariter, loquor ignoscito, Pataui III. Idus Octobris.

OO FRAN.

[illegible] [illegible]TRA[illegible]CHA AMICO IN[illegible]OGNIT[illegible] S. Epiſt. III

De ingenio, ac moribus Barbati Sulmonenſis.

BAr[illegible] uix mihi aliud, aut c[illegible]ariu[illegible] fu[illegible]t, aut nunc quoq; d[illegible] nat[illegible] f[illegible], ſed in multis certe[illegible] upatum calamum [illegible] [illegible] im[illegible]pe[illegible]ſci[illegible] ut de illius [illegible] uita & mo[illegible]us act[illegible] [illegible] no[illegible] op[illegible]ſcul[illegible] m aliq[illegible]od, ſeu Pane[illegible]icum ſcri[illegible] ad mem[illegible] [illegible] go uerò [illegible]um carmine di[illegible]um, & te ho[illegible]æ rei aptu[illegible] [illegible]ecátorem, & [illegible]is oti[illegible] [illegible] fateor, & uirtutem eius, ut charißimam ſic mihi n[illegible]ſsim[illegible] go. Nihil m[illegible]us, nihil integrius, nihilq; candidi[illegible]s Sol uidit, nihil ama[illegible]tiu[illegible], liter[illegible]iu[illegible] Q[illegible] ut lauti[illegible]ſsim[illegible] s[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible]r cibi, huius appe[illegible]mus, reliq[illegible]arũ omn[illegible] ne[illegible]lig[illegible]u[illegible] Inanis gl[illegible] in[illegible]olẽtię neſcius ac [illegible]uon[illegible], ad hęc ingenio acer, [illegible] ſtylo d[illegible] na[illegible] ber, & in[illegible] promptus fuit. Hęc ego de homine illo noui. E[illegible] qua mih[illegible] p[illegible]cios futur[illegible] [illegible]or ita eſſe, & multò amplius q̃ uel tẽporis breuitas, uel [illegible] li h[illegible] m[illegible]tas pati q[illegible]eat. [illegible]e autem ille ſic dilexit, ut nullum mihi mortalium, ni[illegible] fallor, non [illegible] anteponeret ſed æquaret. Conuerſationem tamen illius, mea mihi ſors inuid[illegible]t, ex[illegible] ſydus Italiæ, noſ[illegible]q; ſummum æui decus, Siculum regem, dura mors abſ[illegible] R[illegible] non [illegible]bi dura, ſed patriæ, quo agente, ſub iugum amicitiæ miſsi e[illegible]mus, q[illegible] rar[illegible] ab [illegible]em, non m[illegible]gis corporibus quàm animis poteramus. [illegible]le nos [illegible] ctos te[illegible], q[illegible]nipa[illegible]e ſalubri & ualida, quaſi lapis angu[illegible]s mu[illegible] fu[illegible] & [illegible] di[illegible]ctis locis, [illegible] totis concordiæ nexibus reſolutis, regni [illegible]am[illegible] [illegible] c[illegible]ta eſt, [illegible] omni[illegible]us Siculis n[illegible]tum eſſet, quantum ad ſalutem publicam, in un[illegible] ſap[illegible]entia ac [illegible]irtute repoſitum ſit. Illius monte igitur & Barbatus meus Sulm[illegible] repetijt, in[illegible]ant[illegible]um ſeu præſ[illegible]us malorum, & ego admiratione[illegible]la Regiæ maieſtatis ex[illegible] citus, cuius uinculo captus Parthenopen retrahebar, me deinde uel in Gal[illegible]s [illegible] [illegible]am, uel ubi nunc ſum, inter Alpes, Apenninumq; continui ſic effectum, ut de amici[illegible] charitate ac uirtute certißimus, ſuos mores domeſticos ignorarem, quę uiuendi no[illegible] familiæ ſuæ diſciplina, quæ Reip. cura? Deniq; quid egerit duobus ac uiginti [illegible] q[illegible] eum oculis n[illegible]n uidi, quid dixerit aut ſcripſerit, cum haud dubiè exundarit inge[illegible] m[illegible] potuerit, ni[illegible]l habeo comperti, ut ſi quod abeſt ocium adeſſet, de his ſcribere certa re[illegible] de non ualeam, aliud quàm quod audiſti. Quod ad me, tum pro uirili portione a[illegible] nomen eius curæ mihi fu[illegible]ſſe multæ mearum teſtantur epiſtolarum, quæ ad eum ſunt, & iuue[illegible]nile opus epiſtolaris liber, lege carminis aſtrictus, ſibi totus inſcribitur. Tu qui ſub illius magiſterio creuiſti, cui conuictu continuo ac longæuo rerum illius atq; actuum plena n[illegible]a eſt, cui ætas, ocium ingenium ſauet, quod ex me poſcis per teipſum imple, oro fœlic[illegible] quod ualdè noſſe cupio ex te diſcam, quo non ſolum communis mihi tecum amici[illegible] tiam, ſed communis no[illegible]cum patriæ gloriam celebrabis, quæ maiorem niſi amo[illegible] me [illegible] nulla ætate ciuem hab[illegible]o[illegible]s antiqui pace dixerim, ille enim ingenio clarus, [illegible] o [illegible]bus, quamu[illegible] fruſtrà, [illegible]s longæ uitæ maculas, uno breui purgare uerſiculo nixus [illegible] hic autem noſter, & ingenio bonus, & uita melior fuit. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO, S. Epiſt. IIII.

De tædio ſcabiei & Medicorum remedijs.

SAtis, ſuperq; tacuimus, & eſt [illegible]ti[illegible]ndi ſermonis, ſic tranquilli ſilentij uoluptas [illegible] dam, hæc ne nos æquo longius trahat, occurrendum eſt. Non dicam ſcribendi m[illegible] riam defuiſſe, ne mentiar, quãdo enim nobis illa defuerit, quibus cœlum, terra, m[illegible] quæúe in eis ſunt omnia, & in primis homo, mirum naturæ parentis opificium, id[illegible]q; optimũ, peſ[illegible]ũ animal, & nũc propè par angelis, nunc aſpidib. atris immanior, materia exhauſta e[illegible] perq; ſe oculis atq; auribus ingerens, tempus ſolum defuiſſe uere dix[illegible] Affu[illegible]a[illegible] atq; adeſſe, & neſcio quorſum affuturam eſſe, ſqualidam & ar[illegible]tem ſca[illegible] quæ c[illegible]m [illegible] d[illegible] ætati noſtræ, ut perhibent, & tam ſuſpecta eſt, mi[illegible] uer[illegible] a dum pru[illegible] a[illegible]mi, morboſq; diſc[illegible]ſſero, ut ex[illegible]noru[illegible] quiduis incommod[illegible]rum [illegible] ar[illegible]e ſuſpectum, cæterùm hæc peſtis, quintum [illegible]ic iam [illegible]n[illegible]em occupat, ut non [illegible] calamo, ſed [illegible]ibo etiam ereptas manus, ad ſe arandam, fodiendamq; conuert[illegible] mei M[illegible]ici [illegible] quibus quid remedij, quidúe omninò cõſilij ſit, experti [illegible]mus [illegible] [illegible] h[illegible]mi[illegible]um [illegible]um[illegible] & mercimonium fecère, quiq; auxiliarios ſe [illegible]eſsi [illegible] [illegible] m & [illegible] u[illegible]um facti ſunt, omnibus fruſtrà patiente me, [illegible]otiùs qu[illegible] [illegible] aliquid b[illegible] perâre, tentaui ad extremum, ut ſi non Medici ſaltem pro[illegible] dean-

[illegible]

tur, aduentantis æstatis expectan[illegible] censuerunt, dura, grauisq; necessitas, quæ aduersus hostem, non nisi ab hoste [illegible] opem cogit [illegible] sperare. Ego autem neq; Medicis credo, neq; ab æstate spero aliquid, sed a[illegible] quod [illegible] est: Aestatem & uer tu [illegible] ea. Et hoc unum scio, [illegible] progn[illegible] morbi huius habeo, quod cito uel [illegible], uel ipse me deseret [illegible] simul esse non possumus [illegible] me [illegible], non in ista solum [illegible] in omnibus molestijs mei bene prou[illegible] est enim [illegible] uitæ mortalis innumerabiles sunt angores, nullus possit esse longæuus. Audio qui[illegible] esse, qui scabiem [illegible] atem eximiam esse dicant, q[illegible] mihi ab[illegible] [illegible] tantùm patiar, sed o[illegible]. Certè si hæc sanitas est, nemo me sanior [illegible], [illegible] nimia sanitate, ut [illegible] a perscripserim, sed nec multis opus erat, satis est [illegible] silentium, scripsi ecce ali[illegible]. [illegible] uteq; aliquid rescribas. Hosti[illegible] hæc me [illegible] erim forsan abscesserit, nos ad consuetudinem reuertemur. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO SVO, S. E[illegible] V.

De mortalis instabilitate propo[illegible].

DVm nil setium, quòd scriberem adesset, & omninò aliquid scribere mens esset q[illegible]d [illegible]oriæ proximum fuit arripui. Leo noster uerè Calaber, sed ut ipse uult [illegible] [illegible] nobilius sit Græcum esse, quàm [illegible]lum, idem tamen ut apud nos Græ[illegible]it, apud illos puto Italus, quo scilicet utrobiq; peregrina nobilitetur origine. [illegible] quàm) undecunq; magna bellua, me nolente, frustra [illegible] diù ac multum dissua[illegible] [illegible]tior scopulis, ad quos ibat, tuum post abitum hinc abijt, nosti hominem, & me no[illegible] [illegible]or, an ego lætior, haud facilè iudices, itaq; ueritus, ne conuictu assiduo fortassis [illegible]erer (est enim animi ægritudo non minus contagiosa, quàm corporis) abire passus sum, [illegible]uem tenendum, alio quàm precum uinculo opus esset, dato illi uiæ comite comico Terentio [illegible]uo incredibiliter delectari eum, animaduerteram, stupens, quid commune habere posset Graius ille mœstissimus, cum hoc Afro iucundissimo: Sic è contrà, nulla tanta similitudo, quæ non aliquid dissimulet. Abijt ergo sub æstatis exitum, multa me coram, sæpè in Italiam, Latinumq; nomen acerrimè inuectus, uix illum peruenisse diceres, dum ex insperato barba, & crinibus suis horridior, maiorq; ad me redijt epistola, ubi inter multa, ceu terram [illegible] damnatam, modò laudat, atq; amat Italiam, dilectamq; Græciã odit, laudatamq; By[illegible]ium execratur. Et ut se iubeam ad me uenire, tanta rogat instantia, quanta uix Petrus naufra[illegible]ans imperantem fluctibus CHRISTVM orat, ego rideo, mirorq; hãc iuditiorum tantam uertiginem, tam breui temporis spatio, imò ne id quidem miror, scio enim, [illegible] qui radices in sapientia, & uirtute non egerit, nihil esse mobilius, cuius rei causas fortassis al[illegible]as, sed unam haud ineptam ut pagani hominis apud Senecam legisse potes, in co[illegible] [illegible]o L[illegible]biam consolatur. Inuenio (inquit) qui dicant naturalem inesse [illegible]uandam in[illegible]ta[illegible]nem animis, commutandi sedes, & transferendi domicilia, mobilis enim & inquieta homini mens data est, nusquam se tenet, spargitur, & cogitationes suas, in omni nota atque i[illegible] nota dimittit. Vaga & quietis impatiens, & nouitate rerum lætissima. Quod non miraberis, si primam eius originẽ aspexeris, non enim terreno, & graui concreta corpore, sed ex illo cœlesti spiritu descendit, cœlestium autem natura, semper in motu est. Probat hoc de[illegible]nde, superfluo, nam res sensibus clara est, cui hoc tamen adijciam, & rem dicam mirabilem, sed ni fallor ueram, ubi duo illa defuerint, quibus radicatum quæro animu[illegible], ad[illegible] [illegible]am eius non modò non prodesse literis, sed obesse. Dant audaciam, loca [illegible] m[illegible]trant, consumunt uiaticũ, uanos ingerunt cogitatus, quibus ut stimulis mu[illegible] [illegible]q; excitant appetitum, neq; frenant natura uagum animum, sed impellunt, agita[illegible] uoluunt. Id si unquã in ullo homine clarum fuit, in hoc nostro Leone clarissimum e[illegible] Leo Marmaricus dum febrit, caueis lustrandis ardentior, crebriorq; quam hic n[illegible] [illegible]s peragandis, & ut auguror, nisi rationis officiũ pauperies occupasset [illegible]n Leo [illegible] [illegible]e, sed uolucris. Gaudeo hercle uerbis incredulum, rebus admonitum, & [illegible] illud ca[illegible] experientia emolitum. Cæterùm neq; constantiæ suæ fido, neq; uel natur[illegible], uel æ[illegible]atem, & [illegible] ipse aliud spondeat, mutandis moribus aptam reor. Vnum præterea quod rid[illegible]bis pre[illegible]us [illegible]se it, ut pro eo scilicet apud Constantinopolitanum Imperatorẽ literis intercedam, [illegible] nec uisa facies, nec auditũ nomen, Leo tamen, me sic illi ut Romano imp[illegible]tori [illegible] familiarem, quia cupit, etiam opinatur, quasi qui in imperij titulo conue[illegible]m[illegible] [illegible] prop[illegible] iure id quidem, Græci enim Constan[illegible]inopolim [illegible]teram Ro[illegible] [illegible]n[illegible]arem modò antiquæ, sed maiorem corp[illegible] ac diuitijs effect[illegible]m, d[illegible] Quo[illegible] in utroq; uerum esset, sicut in utroq; Sozomeni hoc scribentis, pace[illegible]

falsum

falsum est, certè uiris, armis, at u[illegible] tu[illegible]us, & gl[illegible]re [illegible]ere [illegible] culus non audebit. Po[illegible] autem ne amici uolat[illegible] b[illegible]a mentio [illegible] his in animum te precar[illegible] m[illegible]ricæ partem illam [illegible]d[illegible]æ, qua Vlysses i[illegible] loc[illegible]m qui in [illegible] descriptionem ab Homero factam. A[illegible] de[illegible]o a[illegible] Latinũ uersam, mihi quàmprimũ potes admod[illegible] cu[illegible]q; [illegible] gitis exar[illegible] h[illegible] in præsens. In futur[illegible] autem si me amas, uide[illegible] a[illegible]o studio, mea t[illegible] p[illegible]it, ut Homerus integer biblioth[illegible] huic, ubi p[illegible] Græ[illegible]s habitat, t[illegible] L[illegible]ius a[illegible]edat, nec sum nesci[illegible] quanta tua [illegible] mole rerum [illegible] grauatis humeris, quid imponam, s[illegible] appetens, fidens t[illegible]. Vale Venetijs Cal. Martijs.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NERIO MORAN[illegible] F[illegible]R[illegible]IVIENSI, S. Epist. VI.

De fama mortis [illegible] s[illegible]pius conficta.

STupor t[illegible] fateor tibi, Vir optime, ut multa alia communis est mecum, cum [illegible]m-nibus penè ni[illegible] fallor, siqui fuit qui reculas meas, cogitatu suo dignas iud[illegible]am quis, oro, non stupeat, hominem nulli inuisum, charum omnibus, ut fama est, cumq; non apud Indos aut Seres, extremamùe Taprobanen, sed in Italia, interq; Italo[illegible] a[illegible]n tem, quotidiè mortuum fieri. Vigesimus annus est, ex quo Clementis Imper[illegible]io tunc sedentis, Neapolim profectus, dum ibi aliquantulũ tempus tero, per Li[illegible]ne-tiamq; omnem, atq; Aemyliam, defunctus publicè nunciatus sum, additumq; [illegible]a me [illegible]a Sitilia obijsse, de qua re amicus ille, tũc noster, non mali uir ingenij seu [illegible] [illegible]e texuit, quod audiuisti, qui ut uides, me ad ipsam quam defleuit mort[illegible], tu[illegible] spatio antecessit. Cæterùm carmen ipsum, & uulgatis rumor, sic o[illegible]a o[illegible], [illegible] compleuer[illegible]t, eoq; processum erat, ut me reducem, quasi umbram defu[illegible] nis a[illegible]m[illegible]antes, [illegible]bitantesq; conspicerent, uixq; oculis crederet, cuius contrarium au[illegible] ere [illegible]idissent. Fueruntq; in eo præstigio nonnulli, qui Thomæ in morem, non me prius [illegible] uum crederent, quam manibus attrectassent, & ceu prodigium aut fantasma complexi, [illegible]pus solidum comperissent. Sic uix tandem prius auditus uisui ac tactui, & contrario ces[illegible]t auditui. Mirabar fateor, nam etsi omni ætati mors communis sit, ea tamen erat ętas, quę non quidem mortem, sed plensq; mortalium, cogitationem mortis excludere soleat, ex illo au-tem uix annus præterijt, quo non saltem semel, eadem fama sonuerit. Quæ sic oram [illegible]eme nostri orbis cum ueritate partita est, ut ubi ego adessem, illic ueritas, unde abessem, mendax fama regnaret. Itaq; uiuus in Italia, defunctus in Gallijs, contrà quoq; illic uiuus, hic mor-tuus sum habitus, inq; ipsa Italia, eo fortè quod sublõga est, & Apenini scissa iugis, quid ali-quando sim passus, dixi iam, dum uidelicet, quem pars una pascebat, altera sepelisset. Nun-quam fanè de me tantum famę licuit, quantum nuper, quando hic uiuus, utrobiq; im[illegible] que mortuus opinione hominum fui usque adeò, ut Rom. Pont. Vrbanus V. qui me [illegible] di auidum se dicebat, meq; iam ter uocato Ecclesiasticum mihi, quo delectari, & mo[illegible] nimum posse crediderat beneficium reseruabat, nõ illud modò, sed reliqua, quæ dudum [illegible] nco insuper, & qui ante decennium, hoc quibusdam amicis tunc egentibus nunc d[illegible] ctis cesseram, ambitiosè supplicantibus, famæ credulus, concesserit. Ingens deniq; illa incu-ria, de his paruis ac paucis beneficijs, tumultus fuit, discurrentibus quidem illis, ad confi-ciendas gratiarum literas, uelut ad opimam prædam, totamq; urbe clamore complentibus. nes[illegible] enim, quomodo meum nomen, & cupiditati stimulos, & beneficijs pondus addide-rat. [illegible]re, spei unius perditæ iacturam, eo solor, quod in reliquis importunitatem [illegible]lam tu[illegible] sed coruorum, cibum sibi de aliena morte quærentium, lucri cupiditas, in d[illegible] traxit, uiuentis enim ad beneficia suspirantes, & plumbo aurum permutantes, nil [illegible] sibi [illegible]ter laborem & pudorem. Si quis auaritiæ pudor esset, ac sumptuosas & ridic[illegible] teras quæs[illegible]re, u[illegible]q; il[illegible]os ad inanem prædam, sic nos ad luctũ superuacuũ, falsus rumor [illegible] pulit. Ami[illegible] ti fle[illegible]u, fleruntq; alij, quos Mediolani charos, sollicitosq; mei habeo, [illegible] recentiora p[illegible]teream, hic ad latus Pataui scilicet fletu sum, ubi penè debuerat, si uerum [illegible] morient[illegible] s[illegible]pirium exaudiri. Sic ut incœptum sequar, cùm ut ait Apostolus: Datum si[illegible] m[illegible]us semel mori, horum me circulatorum artes, ac mendacia sæp[illegible]us mori cogunt. H[illegible] ille igitur, quem dicebam, tuus, simulq; meus, & multorum stupor, quo enim de fonte, quæ-so, [illegible]odeunt hæc figmenta. Seu quid sibi artifices isti uolũt? An fortè adeò null[illegible]s sum [illegible] [illegible]q; [illegible]minis, ut ex æ[illegible]uo mea uita, & mors lateat, unde i[illegible]itur ista solli[illegible]do? Q[illegible] ista [illegible]u[illegible]itas. Q[illegible]ærend[illegible] anxiè, rem tàm fuscã, tamq; humilẽ. Solet nempe [illegible]amæ fla[illegible] a [illegible]nere [illegible]c[illegible]i clara, a[illegible] ex[illegible]sa c[illegible]nt[illegible]ere, an fortè potius c[illegible]ntrà est, [illegible]s quædam, nec dum mihi certi cognitus fulgor efficiat. Quod si ita est, ut [illegible]

fam-

fama loquitur, & ad summam, si pusillus atque abditus, quid in medium trahor? Si magnus atque conspicuus, quid in luce non uideor. Si obscuritas, [illegible] tanta est, unde hic tantus famæ la[illegible]r? Si claritas, unde erro[illegible] prorsus, & inso[illegible] de [illegible] homine tot men d[illegible] de [illegible]ogni to tot sermon[illegible] in Hisp[illegible] Scip[illegible] Africani [illegible]ata mors, & [illegible] Romanum exercitum in discrimen ultimum addu[illegible]xit, [illegible] uissimus [illegible] fama [illegible] fecerat, er[illegible] Vir maximus, atque incomparab[illegible] ego [illegible]lus atque humilis, [illegible] us suis ci[illegible]s, latensque [illegible] midabilis, ego amicis [illegible] pectus nemini sine ma[illegible]o ut perhib[illegible] sine hoste. Denique ex me nihil, ex illo tunc [illegible], Hispaniæ atque Africæ fortuna pendebat, quod illi tamen unicum fuit, mihi crebru, atque anniuersarium est malum, minus dico, scis tu, ut annus idem, bis hanc famam peperit, bis extinxit. Verum commenti huius ultimi, & auctorem nouimus, & causam committimus, reliquorum stupor adhuc integer manet. An forte quædam peruers[illegible] animi uolupras est. Ea sibi fingentis auidiùs, quæ magis exhorreat, non cogitando solùm, se[illegible] loquendo etiam, ac uulgando, quod minimè u[illegible]m uelit, & hoc esse suspicemur. Vnde ego ille hostium expers, [illegible]rum d[illegible]es, sæpè [illegible]r exanimis, ab his, qui me maximè uiuum optant. Certè nisi fallor, nullus est h[illegible]num, [illegible]ui haud damnosa uita, aut mors utilis mea sit. Ipse hæres meus, si tamen is erit, quem cupio qu[illegible]úe dispolui, plusculum ex uita mea sperat, ut arbitror, quàm ex morte. Nouit [illegible] nim [illegible]ntiæ mihi plurimum, ac pietatis, at unde testari liceat, patrimonij parum esse, meque [illegible]te sibi in dies aliquid, obeunte autem nihil, aut minimum prouenturum uidet. Sed [illegible] huic fortè latentior causa est, fierique potest, ne sic hostibus caream, ut multi putant, imò habeam, quos mihi non spes, non metus, non offensa (hæ sunt quidem odiorum ca[illegible]) at quo nil peius, nil occultius liuor fecit. Quæ haud dubiè multis immeriti, & inopi[illegible]tij radix fuit, dum quibus charos se sperabant, odiosos rebus ipsis experti sunt. Ecce a[illegible], ut ad uerum ratiocinando peruenimus, ita est, digito fundum uulneris attigi. Figunt hæc [illegible]ullis iniurijs lacessiti, nihil ex me timentes aut sperantes, sed gratis odientes, atque op[illegible]es, ut malè mihi sit, nec morte peius aliquid opinātes, falso quidem. Nam morte bona [illegible] est melius, ipsi uerò inter bonam siue optimam, ac pessimam non discernunt, tantū ut d[illegible]m[illegible]dio auferat, & infectos, tumentesque oculos, graui hoc forte, etiam clariore quàm cupia[illegible]t obiecto liberem, quod si ritè optarent, mecum herclè, optarent, mecumque sentirent. Nam [illegible]uis nouit, oro te, uiuere ne in longūm æuum, an mori hodie magis expediat? Si diu uiuere fœlicem faceret, fuisset quod nemo unquam dixit, aut credidit, fœlicissimus omnium Mathusalem, non quantitas uitæ, sed qualitas extimanda est, nec longitudo annorum, sed actuum claritudo, & præcipuè finis attenditur, unde fit, ut sicut dubius sum, an melius uiuere [illegible]t, an mori. Sic profectò non dubitē, tutissimum atque optimum benè mori. Isti quibus [illegible] omnis, quia omnis mala mors est. Vnum hoc ut moriar uolunt, id quoniam noto se[illegible]ocedit, anticipant, quodque iniustè cupiunt impudenter fingunt, & conflati à se ru[illegible] sonitu, pro uero nuncio fruuntur, ac more sedentium in Orchestra, scænicis, quæ uri[illegible] noruit spectaculis delectantur. His ego quid faciam, nisi ut prono ac uolenti animo, [illegible]r incutiam, quo in horas promptior, alacriorque sit, ad omnia, quæ liuorem illis adaugeant, & dolorem, & quid scimus, an agente illo, qui fons & principium uitæ est, & de qu[illegible] scribitur: Si iniquitatē aspexi in corde meo, nōn exaudiet Dominus. Inter ini[illegible]uissima illorum uota, uiuacior sim futurus, ut sic illos torqueam diutiùs; certè longior illis [illegible]ltem uidebitur, quàm finiri expetunt, hoc unum genus supplicij non euadent. Et quamuis q[illegible]òd [illegible] sæpè factum fingunt, semel fieri tandem sit necesse, quòd tamen totiens falsum fuit, & [illegible] esse cœperit, falsum poterit uideri, ut qui uiuus, uerè dicor mortuus, uerè mort[illegible] u[illegible]dar, & tam multis erroribus uni fides cōtrario sit errori. Atque ita, qui intemp[illegible] lætitiam, ex me quærunt, uerè obstent, falsoque pleni uix ueri gaudij sint ca[illegible]ces, [illegible]e quoniam hæc pestis, quotidie ingrescit, non potero, quidem scio, superstes esse o[illegible]us his me uoce mactant bus, at forsitan multis ero, & proculdubiò multis sum. Cur, [illegible]so igitur laborat, & [illegible]erilibus f[illegible]cis, mendacia uana disseminant? Non possunt uenenatis linguis omnibus ac sibilis, unum mihi momētum dati temporis eripere, non est enim im[illegible]ietas pietate pot[illegible]ior, nec possunt piæ preces amicorum, uitæ tempus augere, nec impia hostium uerba minuere, agant tamen per me licet, fingant, prædicent, mentiantur, nil in re[illegible]ur, utrumque autem mea sors casura [illegible], ipsi interim gratis sese cruciant, e[illegible] illos, d[illegible] h[illegible], & [illegible]ueo, & torquebo: nunquam tamen torturus amarius, quàm p[illegible] mor[illegible] [illegible]dem uiuam. Siquid enim Ciceroni, magnisque & ante, & post e[illegible]m u[illegible] [illegible] hæc nostra quæ dicitur, uita mors est, de quo dicto nuper ad Ioan[illegible]em no[illegible] [illegible] non quid mihi tantum, sed quid [illegible] uisum esset, expressi. Proinde [illegible] ut

FRAN. PETRARCHA ROBERTO COMITI DE Batifolle, s. Epist. VI.

Incogniti amicitiam ambit.

ET tui nomen his claritas inclyte Vir, & amici communis charitas me cogit, ut hunc calamum alio tendentem ad te solà, mihi notum fama, quod non soleo, transmitterem. De te certe multa quidem & magnifica, & iocunda de te, tuisque studijs, & moribus, audio, pro quibus tibi, patriæque tuæ gratulor, nemo mihi unquam loca sylvestria seu deserta dixerit, ubi tales oriantur uiri, qualium urbes magnæ steriles, atque effœtæ sunt. Gratulor aërijs atque umbrosis, & roscidis Apennini collibus, qui te nostri tulerint ætati, sed ut uerum fatear, illos tibi, teque illis inuideo, tuique simul, & illorum desiderio teneor, rapiorque. Te mihi quidem uirtus animi, illos loci situs reddit optabiles, & quod ortus meus, quamuis impari sydere ijsdem quoque uicinus est collibus: at quoniam occupatio uotis obstat, tu me istinc, siquis tàm paruæ rei usus est, iure tuo utere, meque si non prorsus indignus uideor, habeto in animo præsente, inter opaca montium conuexa, & patrij amnis herbosam ripam, thorosque gramineos, nec dum malis urbium morbus infecti gurgitis alueum, inter densas & uirides syluas testudines, frondea submouentes solem, inter riuos, fonresque prælucidos, leonis rabiem temperantes. Ego te hic inter aurata palatia, ac templa marmorea, inter Patauina, Taruisinaque flumina, sinumque intimum maris Adriaci præsentissimum habeo. Vale fœlix, condisce etiam non uisa diligere. Venetijs IX. Calend. Augusti.

FRAN. PETRARCHA ROBERTO COMITI DE Batifolle, s. Epist. VII.

Patriam cur non inhabitet.

SPem de te conceptā Vir clarissime, miris mihi modis auxit Epistolæ tuæ stylus. Nempè quem militariter eruditū alijs crediderim, anxiè doctum, mihi iam eredo, sic Philosophicis ac Poëticis cuncta ibi plena sunt floribus, quid ni ergo, magis, magisque tibi gratuler, ac patriæ, regique montium Apennino ingenia parienti, & suis uberrimis fontibus, & suis uiridiora frondibus, & suis uerticibus altiora? Scribere tibi, fateor, haesitabundus inceperam, non quod usquam omninò aliquid bonorum atque illustrium familiaritate dulcius habeam in uita, sed ueritus, dum fortunam, dumque ætatem tuam cogito te ab his publicè iam desertis studijs abhorrentem, nec satis, aut famæ fisus, multa mentiri solitæ, aut amantis iuditio, quod antiquo prouerbio cæcitatis arguitur. Ecce iam cui scribam scio, itaque securus, atque alacer scribo, nec uerba perdere metuens, quæ apud Nasonē leuis iactura, sed apud silentij auidos grauis est, imò uerò magnum, gratumque de tuis responsionibus, tuisque colloquijs lucrum sperans. Sanè quæ de mei desiderio, deque expectatione nō tua tantùm, sed locorum dulcisonis atque honestis blanditijs multa dixisti, uera esse non dubitem, facit hoc non meæ uirtutis illius, sed tuæ nobilitatis extimatio. Proinde si per occupationes aliquando licuerit, tuum hoc recens, simulque meum uetus desiderium, ut impleam dabo operam. Quod sequitur libentius tacuissem. Nam amaritusculum gustu est, sed nihil uiri talis ore prolatum, negligi fas reor. Ad admirationem igitur illam tuam, quæ sæpè multorum fuit, quid ita patriam fugiam, deseramque, uno breui, sed è medio cordis erumpente suspirio respondisse uelim. O' patriæ uenerator, & quando ita uis amator mei, ignotique cultor hominis. Non ego illam, sed me illa deseruit, quem & aliquando complecti uisa est: & si gloriari humiliter tecum sinis, non tantùm urbes Italæ, sed transalpinæ etiam, barbaricæque, nunc maximè precibus irritis euocant, & expectant, non quod ego sic merear, noloque me, sed quia id mihi cœlitus datum est. Quo uno forsan inutili & uentoso bono, multa ut possum uariarum rerum soler incommoda. Vale, & ignosce uaniloquio, non hoc dicere uolui, sed cogit dolor, mœstam sarcinā fidenter in amica aure deposui. Patauij VIII. Idus Oct.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PRIOR GAMALDVLENS, s. Epist. VIII.

PRo benigna illa, & plena ueræ charitatis epistola, in qua quidem illa scripsisti, non quæ ego audire, sed quæ tu loqui & scribere dignus eras, meritas grates ago, ad laborem ueniendi ad me, ut tuam me ad eremum ducas, quem tua sibi sumit humilitas, quia nec tibi conueniens, nec debitus mihi est, acceptum habeo, & per uidè apud me est, ac si ueneris, uenisti enim meliore tui parte, non dubito uenturus totus, nisi obstaret. Mihi autem satis est, sic ueniam, sic affectum talem animum reperire, inter hoc mihi,

mihi, quæso, tribuito, & mihi utilius, & facilius tibi, ut CHRISTVM quotiens ad mensam eius accesseris, pro me ores, det quod superest uitæ, tuto, fœliciterque agere, delicta iuuentutis meæ, & ignorantias meas ne meminerit. Deinum ex hoc carcere caduci corporis egressuro, longumque iter & ambiguum aditur, uel ipse mihi obuius sit, & sæpe uocatus, tunc respondeat, ecce adsum, uel angelorum aliquem suorum præcipue Michaelem adesse mihi iubeat, qui per ipsas hostium insidias, plano calle dirigat infœlicem animam, suis diffidentem meritis, & de sola Dei sui misericordia præsumentem. Vale. Patauii VIII. Idus Octobris.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER III.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO, S. Epist. I.

De Astrologorum nugis.

PRæsentiam tuam animo meo gratam, & speraui semper, & sciui & quantum tibi placuit sensi. Illa uerò quod minimè noueram, & fausta erat, quandoquidem his mensibus paucissimis, nimiumque uelocibus, quibus in hac quæ mea dicitur, tua domo moram trahere tibi mens fuit, inducias, bona fide mea, uideor ita buisse cum fortuna, nil nisi lætum te præsente ausa. Mirabar ipse, quid ita rumorum infœlicium iaculis semper expositas aures meas, tristioris nunquam cuspis, nulla percelleret, mecumque tacitus quærebam, quid nunc agit hostis mea? Fessa'ne an oblita mei est? An tandem patientiæ uicta succubuit? Nihil horum, nunc intelligo. Causa erat occultior, longeque alia breuis, & insolitæ quietis, an forsan erubuit sub oculis tanti amici, mecum moribus suis uti, dumque sibi non parceret, mihi propter te pepercit? Illud uerius putem, sæuitiam hanc, & dolos quibus largiter affluit, non uerecundiam qua penitùs caret, aut misericordiam fuisse. Non enim tali subnixum comite ferire ausa distulit, dum abires, nec prius inuaderet, ultrò te illi obuium dares, neu mihi uel strato dexteram, uel nutanti humerũ offeres. Non parcebat igitur, sed hærebat, & nocendi tempus obseruans, interim sagittas cruenta cote mortiferas acuebat. Itaque uix dum funem solueras, dum repentè ex insidijs hostis erumpens, solum atque incautum, teque animo ac suspirijs prosequentem, uulnere perculit inopino, strauissetque illicò, ni complexus propositum constitissem, quod uix serum ueris ac solidis conflatum sententijs, quasi unum fluctuantis uitæ gubernaculum, tempestatibus multis fessus arripiti, & Deo præstante non deseram, mortem scilicet, & mortalia quælibet æquanimiter ferenda mortalibus. Cæterùm me sic sæpè olim, sic nouissimè mea me pupugit sors immitis. O`quid loquor, aut ubi sum. Quæ mentem insania mutat? Neque enim hoc iam illi conuenit, cui à Marone tribuitur, quàm mihi, quem contra notissimam ueritatem, contraque meam quoque sententiam, loqui cogit dolor, atque ita fortunam accusare, quasi me claua percusserit, aut cuspide uinxerit Panthasilea uel Orythia. Magna quidem pars quærelarum humanarum, non iniusta materia, sed stulta est, illud ergo consultius ac rectius, & fateri, & credere, nil hominibus siue iusto licet abdito Dei iudicio euenire, neque fortunam immeritam & incognitam lacerare. Sed ad id inceptam reuertor historiam. Igitur te digresso, sacerdos ille, cui literas ad meum Lælium perferendas dederam, ea ipsa hora rediens, intactas retulit, non fuit uerbis opus, aspectus ipse, pro nuncio fuit, literas ipse meas mœstus arripio, manum atque anulum recognosco, & quid, inquam rei est? Quid hæ sibi uolunt literæ? Quid huc redeunt? Quid incomitatæ? Quid intactæ saltem redeunt? Quid Lælius meus agit? Vbi est? Ad hæc ipse defixis in terram oculis tacebat, sensi ad quod longo & frequenti usu, ualde sensibilis factus sum, ut damna mea antè etiam, quàm mihi nuncientur intelligam, tantus amicus ille perierat, uno certe præierat, secuturus uerius sequentem, & cursu continuo properantem. Obijt ergo Lælius meus, uir ingenio,

 & elo-

&eloquio, & [illegible] de amicitia loqui superuacuum, sic omnibus [illegible] est. Erat autem hic [illegible]us ac tr[illegible]mus nostræ annus amicitiæ, pro breuitate uitæ longum satis, pro uiuendi desiderio breue tempus. Ecce autem manu adhibita, dum adhuc recens uulnus foueo, [illegible] repet[illegible] a cuspide [illegible] ro uulnus i[illegible], [illegible] de nostro [illegible]um referente illo, cuius in gremio expirauit [illegible] fo[illegible]ce animæ, [illegible]umque h[illegible] fuis unanimes, unumque sub tempus hinc digressæ, uobis ut spero bene est. Nobis qui remansimus, uestro abitu uitæ cursus, quasi ex ameno, & prono calle ad di[illegible] [illegible]ras ac perplexus penitus deflexit angustias. Sic amice n[illegible] [illegible] ludit mors, lætales [illegible] eminans, nec nos differt, nisi ut supplicio longiore confecti, nostrorumque omnium spectatores cinerum affecti, & diutiùs, & sæpiùs moriamur. Sed ut libet. Ego enim iam obtorpui, iam sentire nihil incipio, & usum uersus dolor, non iam dolor, sed consuetudo flebilis ac [illegible]tura est. Animalia quædam ueneno uiuere fama est, ego uerò malis meis pascor, uoluptate quadam e[illegible]era, & qui fuerant gemitus cibi sunt, impletumque est in me, seu Dauidicum illud, fuerunt mihi lachrymæ meæ panes die ac nocte. Siue illud Ouidianum:

Cura, dolorque animi, lachrymæque alimenta fuere.

Ego his pastus, inter hæc senui, & illud afflicti senis, in meum rediit caput. Dies mei uelociores cursores fugierunt, & non uiderunt bonum. Quid uis? Prorsus extra me sum insueta Metamorphosis, animi habitum, moresque exui, sola restat effigies. Sic me celeres transformauerunt anni, & quidem pauci & mali, sic serenitatem illam, qua me incipiens ad[illegible]lgia, & facilis senectus, semper licet apud Poëtam tristis ornauerat, mœstis undique nubibus inuoluerunt, nulla usquam de alia re conceptis, quàm de amicorum moribus: in quibus ego moriens uiuo, ut si gaudendi materiam sors daret, oblitus, ut arbitror, sim gaudere. Age autem consternatum, sparsumque animum colligamus, ó charissimi Læli, sic uobiscum e[illegible]m, quasi cum præsentibus loquor, uereque uiuentibus, planè, inquam mihi tu Læli, & si ego tibi non Scipio, quantum hoc ipso anno, quod tuæ testantur epistolæ, me defunctum famæ credens, fleiteras? O' Simonides optime, iure tu mihi Simonides, & sacerdos, & uates [illegible] & utrunque pariter sacer uates, quantum nuper tremere atque horrere te scripseras, ne super[illegible] mihi heres, quem tibi superstitem precabaris, me nolente factus es uoti compos, clausum meis, apertumque tuis precibus cœlum fuit. O' curæ hominum inutiles, metus superuacui, spes inanes. Quid timuistis amantissimi? Quid sollicitì fuistis? Ecce ego cuius aut [illegible]ama mortis, aut sola cogitatio, sic præcordia uestra concusserat, quique meorum primus omnium mori optabam, mori ultimus per metuo, & hoc primũ queror, quia quod me literis uestrũ uterque monuerat, in se spreuit, infectumque aërem, & loca morbis infamia declinare. Verum ego hæc nequicquam, dumque animum exonero, non responsuros arguo, qui utinam o amice te secuti, ut animo semper, [illegible]e nunc corpore, & uobiscum fido sub lare latitantes, p[illegible] cædere uoluissent, Romã insigniter, Neapolimque uastanti. Quod te fecisse gaudeo, tibique gratiam habeo, qui tectum meũ dignum duxeris, sub quo iisdem malis, patria laborante quieueris: illi autem, quorum mihi fideliter, pro se quisque consuluit, uni suo ipsi cõsilio uol[illegible]e, dicam fortassè uerius, nequiuere, durum est fixa conuellere. Et Romæ quidẽ iure suo, [illegible] necesse nunc mori erat, ossa Læliį debebantur, ubi compacta primum neruis fuerant, & pelle uestita, sed alterius cinerem Florentiæ debitum, sibi abstulit Neapolis. Sic terrena sui parte Simonides ille noster amor, nostræque deliciæ iuxta Virgiliũ, iacebit peregrini solamẽ busti aliquod amatori Pieridum & cultori. Vtriusque uerò pars æthcrea, cœlũ petiit, sic mihi persuadeo, sic oro, sic cupio, & profectò sic est. Non possunt tales animæ, aliorsum ire, delectatur enim cœli regnator, alnis & mitib. ingeniis. Sed cur, heu, qui nostri collegi ultim[illegible] [illegible]æ huius aspersum limen intrauerat, primus egreditur, nisi ut multiplicibus argumentis intelligam. Quod ualdè si nunc primum intelligere cœpero, tardus sim, nullo agi ordine res humanas. Video amicè, & iuditio damnatæ, depulsæque animo, ad calamum redeunt querelæ, & sunt sanè ægri quidam, qui[illegible]us remedii genus, sua ubertim quæri, quasi mali se[illegible]sum lamentis extenuent. Sunt qui fessi, sine suspiriis & læui murmure nõ quiescant, quasi puluinar aptiùs sternat ille, ubi strepitus, & tremulæ illæ uoces, pro mollibus plumis sint. Mihi quocunque consuetudo antiqua, linguam aut calamum impulerit [illegible]ositum recens est, [illegible] [illegible]xum [illegible]im [illegible] quod dixi, multo quidẽ nisu fateor, sed & multo rerum turbine stabiliũ ex æq[illegible]ere spes, metusque, gaudia & dolores. Hæc sunt enim ferè, quę constantes quoque animo[illegible] cr[illegible] co[illegible]lia interpellant. Instat autem dies, [illegible]tro nihil ad nos ita pert[illegible], quæ nunc [illegible]am nostrã obnubilant, [illegible]erea[illegible]t. [illegible]o[illegible]nteri[illegible] re[illegible]

summa

[illegible] terroribus, urgentiq; tristitiæ resistendum est. Quod his contraria, uel spes [illegible] illa gestiens lætitia, quæ mihi [illegible] attollendo præcipitat, Deo gratias, nihil nobis his temporib. attulit, nihilq; uidetur allaturum negotij, diu a nostris exul, atq; auersa luminibus. Cæterùm his omissis ad te redeo, nostrumq; Simonidem, qui [illegible] mihi [illegible] pene iam [illegible] [illegible] peres studiorum comes, ille licet abscesserit, præsens est, [illegible] quæ præsentior, quàm dum absuit. Ante enim finem absentiæ præstolabar, quo [illegible] quoniam mihi morte præripitur, non iam reuersurum cogito, sed reuersum, fictaq; præsentia me consolor. Et ego quidem illum, ac te, [illegible] quid mihi humanitùs inexpletis operibus accedisset, quasi alterum Varium, Tuccamq; alterum, animo prouidebam. Nũc quando hic ordo superis placet, quod illum mihi fore decreueram, id me illi fieri, [illegible] fallor, æquum est. Itaq; siquid opusculorum atq; epistolarum eius omnis generis imperfectum superest, inter nos uiritim diuide, & postquàm nos quoq; nostra sors diuidit, extimatis ingenijs, meam mihi partem [illegible] ser ua. Debemus hoc illi fateor, nec tu negas, uiuat ille in cœlo, & in memo[illegible] at dũ nos uiuimus, post nos autem in memoria posterorum, quibus non me [illegible] notus fuerit, charus erit. In quo si res æget, fasce licet pressus, propriam meam operam uerecunde memoriter polliceor. In eo autem, quod illi læte admodũ acceptanti, post mei Socratis o[illegible] tum, totum illud, quod nisi cum uita finiri posse non uideo, opus epistolare de[illegible]oueram, nihil mut[illegible] Quod ad hoc attinet nihil actum est illius morte, nunc est opus ut sileam. Scribere illi amplius non possum, sed de illo & scribere, & cogitare, & meminisse, dũ mei ipse meminero, nemo certe uetuerit. Proinde nunquam inscriptio prima mutabitur, quod uiuo ui renti uiro olim spopondit soluam cineri arido, soluam nudo nomini, quicquid [illegible] erit ad Simonidem meum erit. Quod quandiù seu quantulum sit ignoro, tantum erit haud dubie, quantum uitæ spatium, quo nil incertius. Certè autem longius esse iam incipit, quàm sperauit, quamq; optaui, illa etiam ætate, quæ cupidissima est uiuendi, uiuere uolui, sed non solus, [illegible] ne probatis ac ueteribus amicis, quibus ut uides, iam ferè omnibus superuiuo, ut cito, uel [illegible] ne amicitijs sit uiuendum, inhumanum ac miseriæ genus, uel nouæ quærendæ amicitiæ, anceps ac difficile negotium. Sed ne redeam ad quærelas, quæ in singulis uerbis occursant, passimq; se ingerunt reluctanti, ad aliam, sed confinem stylus transeat materiam, uides puto, ualde enim aut sopitus est, aut cæcus, qui non uidet quo res hominũ sint in statu. Annum ætatis huius ultimæ M. CCC. XLVIII. luximus, nunc lugendi principium illud fuisse cognoscimus, neq; ex illo cessasse unquam, hanc insolitam & inauditam à sæculis mali uim, hũc illũc dextra, læuaq; dimicatoris more, promptissimè ferientem, itaque roto sæpius orbe transcurso, cum nulla maneat pars immunis, quasdam bis, terq; repetijt, nonnullas anniuersaria tabe pessundedit, Mediolanum urbem Ligurum caput, ac Metropolim, usq; ad inuidiam hactenus horum nescia laborũ, & cœli salubritate, ac clementia, & populi frequentia gloriantem, sexagesimusprimus annus, & uacuam fecit, & squalidam. Quo quidem ego diluuio, qui Deo duce tunc aberã, quid amiserim nosti, illi dehinc populo mitior, mihi uel crudelior annus sequens, quod habui optimum in terris, eripuit amicum illum, cui ut similis nulli hominum erat, sic nulli similis est iactura, nomen uiri ne inuitũ cogat ad lachrymas, nũc silebo, neq; tibi opus est nomine, ut quem loquor intelligas. Idem annus sic Veronam exhausit, ut nostra illam ætas, qualem uidit, uisura utiq; iam non sit. O' immite pectus sæui principis, quem de conditione temporum suorum queri solitum legimus, quod nullis calamitatibus publicis insignerentur, & commune malum aliquod atq; insignem pestilentiam optare uides, utinã tale aliquid ferox Cai, ne nos talia multa quotidie uideremus, & ut pijs hominibus parceretur, impios oculos mœstum spectaculum recreasset. Neq; uerò transmarina tantum, sed & nostra prætereo, longanimis ac tristis historia est. Ad summã, uacuus hominum, sed criminum plenus est orbis, sic ad paucos tota scelerũ descendit [illegible], ne mi remur, si quo pauciores, & peiores sumus, nam necesse est, hoc mentium uirus, & hanc rabiem, & hunc luxum, & hanc sartaginem uitiorum, perpetuis ignibus superiectam, cui nil demitur, sed indies aliquid additur, eo feruore funestius, quò ferueat angustius. Sed procede, tertius hic annus, ex ordine ab initio malorũ sextusdecimus, multas quidẽ urbium nobilium, inter quas & Florentiã reinuasit, quã sic præsens æstas exercuit, & afflixit, ut parũ sextedecimæ retro cedat æstati. Cui accessit ad domesticã cladem, belli furor externi, quod uaria cum Pisanis gestum, magna partis utriusq; pernitie, & maiore periculo, nũc maximè dubijs [illegible] et euentibus. Inter hæc mala quid Astrolog[illegible] somni[illegible] audi[illegible] i, u[illegible] q; ad sexa[illegible] annum, [illegible] syderis uim producũt, inde iam his qui durare potuerint, lætiora [illegible]

quibus [illegible] r,in dubio [illegible] cetur tamen & [illegible] es, ut prom [illegible] um cilc no [illegible] populum dico [illegible] do [illegible] olo [illegible] uaticinan [illegible], & qualitercunque sunt [illegible] prom [illegible] dim [illegible] quam [illegible] rit [illegible] bene [illegible] rom [illegible] um. Proinde nunc Martem & [illegible] syderum nundinan [illegible] ciunt, eamque coniunctionem (ut eorum [illegible] ar [illegible] crb [illegible] a [illegible] us, toto nunc etiam biennio duraturam, dicunt: mirum [illegible] ualde [illegible] his in locis astra illa fuerint, cum iam tot [illegible] circos suos [illegible] coelum [illegible] ibi fuere, mirum aliud, eisdem ex locis ac syderibus eff [illegible] rum enim alterum fateri oportet, uel [illegible] negant simile aliquid posi [illegible] niam conditum negare solent, post hominum memoriam, uisum, le [illegible] mque uel [illegible] ferant, quod si nequeunt, quiescant, & quiescere alios sinant, neque [illegible] talre [illegible] posse confidant. Nescimus quid in coelo geritur, quod ipsi quidem impudenter [illegible] rie profitentur, at ex parte, quæ in terris gesta sunt, nouimus, nisi forte [illegible] & ipsi [illegible] tiones, suasque discordias coelum habet, & iam uel senio delira, uel turbata od [illegible] as suas obl[illegible] ta sunt sydera, uerærque nunc uagæ, & errantes stellæ, nullis leg[ibus], aut naturæ frctus extra Zodiacum Phaëtontea licentia, funestos mortalibus cursos agunt. Et hoc [illegible] uis ineptiæ dicturi sunt, potius quam ignorantiam confessuri, quorum n[illegible] do, sed cæcitatem, uecordiamque omnem, uulgò etiam multa, olim, sed nil clari[illegible] sens hæc pestis aperuit, uerecundumque iam esset, aliquando fateri, se nescire quod nesciunt, insuper quid nescire, illos, nemo est qui nesciat. Modestiùs hac in parte Medici qu[illegible] pe ritissimi habiti, sæpè me præsente fassi sunt, artis suæ remedia, ad hoc natu [illegible] ferni [illegible] tanum non extendi. Possem eis ignorantiam donare, si eam sic in reliquis fate[rentur], at A strologi, qui feruntur, omnium ignari potiùs mori uelint, quàm se rei illius ignorantes [dicere]. Nempe consuetudo & pudor, & peruicacia, & lucellum, & facilitas insanorum [illegible] semper ab expectatione pendentium, hi sunt linguæ nodi, ut uerum elicias acul[illegible] Nemo uolens, nisi modestia urgens cogat, ignorantiam profiteri[illegible]. Noluntipsi [illegible] si dubitant, coelo suo tot mendacijs aduersante condiscant, nihil est quod uentilant quod mercantur, quoue arida pectora, & siticulosas aures infarciunt, sed id nihil ignotum [illegible] ri student, ne si emerserit, ipsi etiam nihil sint. Talis enim quisque est, qualibus del[illegible] inter artificium atque artificem multa cognatio est. Hæc pertinatiæ causa ingens. Quod sunt uideri metuunt, quod non sunt cupiunt, quia quod sunt, nihil est penitus, fierique [illegible] iam non possunt, usu pessimo compediti, unum hoc possibile arbitrantur, idque e[illegible] quod e[illegible] equeunt apparere, frustrà id tamen insensati. Qui ut certè si de motibus a[illegible] fluentos ac pluuias, si æstus ac frigora, si procellas maris, si solis, lunæque nuncie[illegible] pses, utiliter sæpè, semperque delectabiliter audiendi sint, sic dum res, casusque hom[illegible] soli Deo cognitos fabulantur, ceu mendaciorum tristium opifices respuendi, atque c[om]mertio non literatorum modò, sed bonorum omnium repellendi. Ipsi uerò peruer[illegible] mi, quadam atque obstinatione mirabili possibilia negligunt, impossibiliùs opera[illegible] quinimò usqueadeò depuduit, & cognitu faciliora diffiniunt. Venit ad aures tuas [illegible] tan, ut nuper expeditione Ticinensi, cum uir ille magnanimus, qui nunc sibi præ[s]idet, [illegible] c[illegible]s, urbem ualidam, munitamque aggredi statuisset, Astrologi omnes strepu[illegible] hic [illegible]er, ante alios tantæ famæ, ut uulgò futuri præscius, potius qu[à]m præsa[illegible] tur, multis hic diebus paratam profectionem, sublataque signa continuit, expectandum di cens, horæ fatalis aduentum: ea uerò cum uenisset, illo iubente, motæ acies, & totis [illegible] bel lum uiribus itum est, cumque antea multis mensibus, mira coelum ac terram [illegible] buisset, eodem ipso die, patefactis subitò coeli ualuis, tanta uis pluuiæ cœpit, mul[illegible] [illegible]uis po[st] diebus, ac noctibus creuit. Vt campi omnes & hostiles primum, muros, castra cingentia, miro [illegible] dum[illegible] inundarent, non sine multo discrimine, ut uictum armis, propè imbribus [illegible] incerentur, & [illegible] postea melioribus auspicijs in aciem reditum, & uirtute [illegible] Viri [illegible], Dei fretus præsidio, absque astrorum coni[illegible] capta urbe, bel[illegible] con[illegible] sit. Sanè tunc mendacio infensus, cor[illegible]um, al[illegible] quin uirum bonu[m] do[illegible] ra[illegible] om[illegible] nem modum, mihi uero charissimum [illegible] fateor c[illegible] [illegible] ol[illegible] ce argui, quid ita in tantæ rei iuditio [illegible] t, ut t[illegible] m[illegible] nem, & tam proximam non [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]entos & pluuias, & impressiones alias aeris, & quæ [illegible]

Facilius ergo est (inquam) nosse quid mihi uni, quidue alte[illegible] post annos plurimos euenturum sit, quam quid cœlo & terræ, totiq; rerum, naturæq; impendeat, hac ipsa luce, uel crastina erupturum, cum naturaliter quidem [illegible]a, supernaturaliter [illegible]la contingant distribuente cuilibet suas sortes Deo. Facilius inqu[illegible] haud dubiè, sed hoc in d[illegible] a[illegible] pudore media in fronte perlegeres. Scit ipse me uerum loqui, neq; [illegible] aliquid ut o[illegible]or neger. Quanquàm iam inde à dominij præsentis exordio, inter ip[illegible]m & me, qui ea tempestate illic eram, de maiori etiam errore cer[illegible]atum esset. Cùm enim tempus anxio prorsus hor[illegible] [illegible]o pio delegisset, quo fœ[illegible]cius tribus [illegible]is magnis fratribus, dominationis insignia tradere[illegible]ur, me cui iniũctum erat, ut in ea solennitate uerba facerem, & orationem meam, & nouorum dominorum intentionem ac publicam interru[illegible]t, dicens, aduenisse horã, quæ præteriri sine multo periculo non posset. Cumq; ego licet t[illegible]m haud inscius nugarum, tamẽ ne [illegible]ltorum numerosæ sententię obstarem, cœpto sermoni finem ante medium p[illegible]em [illegible] le hæsitans, atq; attonito similis, dicens: Adhuc modicæ restare antequam [illegible], meq; interim hortari cœpit ut loquerer. Ego subridens, perorasse me, neq; p[illegible] h[illegible] esse aliquid respondi, neq; pulchram aliquam fabellam occursare animo, quam Mediola[illegible] [illegible]m populo recitarẽ, ille æstuans, & sæpe ung[illegible]lis frontem scalpens, tacitis omnibu[illegible] [illegible]ibu[illegible]m indignantibus, ac ridentibus alijs, post paulum exclamauit: Hora est, tum ue[illegible] [illegible]ng[illegible]uus quidam m[illegible]taris uir, cui id negotij datum erat, tres paxillos puros, rectos, candidos, qui nostrarum nunc uibium septa sunt arripiens, cuiq; suum lætis uerbis, uotisq; & faustis ominibus in manũ posuit. Sed id tanto, in singulis interstitio temporis actum est, u[illegible] uero e[illegible] [illegible]a illa Nigidij, qua Astrologi ignorantiam suam, dum uelare uolunt detegunt, merito [illegible] posset, diuersam fratribus fati seriem inflare. Neq; hercle aliter fuit. Nota est historia [illegible] annum exactum, natu maior, & Bononiam nobilem dominij sui patrem, & mox ui[illegible]m ad huc uirentibus annis amiserit, reliquorum, & prosperitas certior, & uita longior, us[illegible]am post decennium producta, nunc maximè floreat. Quod sæpè amico illi aruspici [illegible] obieci, cum ille quidem arte sua nihil amplius fieri posse, uno semper ore responderat. [illegible]do, ædepol, uerè hoc dicat, eumq; ut paulò minùs excusatum habeam, ætas facit, & [illegible]gnæ familiæ educandæ uiolenta necessitas, quæ ad indigna nonnunquam artificia, mag[illegible]a e[illegible] curuat ingenia. Quam ut eũ quoq; in has nugas impegisse arbitrer, uno maximè respo[illegible]o uiri illius adducor. Nam cum ego & sibi amicus, & famæ suæ sæpè idem aliter, atq; aliter f[illegible] cum agerem, quamuis ipse & ætate me multum, & scientia anteiret. Ille semel uelut expe[illegible] rectus, profundoq; erumpẽs, in uerba suspirio. Nihil amice (inquit) hac in parte sentio, n[illegible] quod tu. Sed ita uiuere hic oportet. Sensi necessitatis auream cathenam, & mis[illegible]us ex[illegible] silui. Ceterùm hic est mos, ut ad inceptum regrediar, hic fatendi pudor, ea ment[illegible] libido, in nos & fortunas, ut aiunt nostras, nostri animi libertatem ius utrunq; sibi al[illegible]quid acq[illegible]rendi, unde fit ut pro honesti studij clara laude neglecta, fuscã fallaciæ & erroris infamiam mereantur, quorum iudicijs, quod falsi inest fraudi. Atq; inscitiæ iudicantis. Siquid autem ueri non scientiæ, sed casui debeas imputare fortuito. Quid est enim aliud quod Augu[illegible]no olim adolescentulo, & ob eam causam tunc minimè credituro, post autem nõ credituro tantùm, sed breui etiam alijs persuasuro, perq; omnem uitam aduersario ingenti, atq; euersori huius uanitatis acerrimo, bonus ille consultor dixit. Vim sortis hoc facere in rerum na[illegible]r[illegible] usquequaque diffusam. Vnde est enim, quod & diligentissimè cogitata frustrantur, & [illegible] elapsa, certis sæpè successibus confirmantur, & longo studio non inuenta ueritas, qu[illegible] ludum sese aliud agentibus ingerit. Isti autem, si quod uerum, unum forte uel alterum c[illegible]ciderit insolentissimè prædicant. Quod assiduè mentiuntur excusant, præd[illegible]tiq; [illegible]em requirentibus irascuntur. Importunum ualdè non erubescere, cuius contrario gl[illegible]ieris [illegible]sem uel errori, uel inopiæ ueniam dare, si uerecundius mentirentur. Impudentem ignora[illegible]tiam, ac superbum mendacium, quia non oderit? Nec ignoro in his redargu[illegible]endis, multa sæpè me scribentem plura etiam loquentem uerba iactasse, quæ mihi fateor non pro[illegible]ctus spes, sed mendacij odium elicuit, iacturamq; ipse meam solor maximis comit[illegible] Quis enim ueri amicus non ho[illegible]dit atque arguit? Frustrà tamen æquè omnes, ni[illegible] [illegible]s proficiunt, uerberibus opus est [illegible] legum supplicijs, non doctorum hominum l[illegible] [illegible]xum est enim, præ[illegible]itorum atq; præsentium ignaris, uent[illegible]a prænos[illegible]re, sc[illegible] ue[illegible] q[illegible] præcognita præn[illegible]are credentibus. Quorum iam non i[illegible] fœlicitas [illegible]q; in[illegible] sed [illegible]as intel[illegible]ctus, ueriq; omnis incapacitas nota est, [illegible] fidem habenti m[illegible] contra q[illegible] ueritas, & ratio, experientia, & non sancti tantum uiri, sed Philosophi etiam grauissimi, totis u[illegible]

minibus accinguntur. L[illegible] uo Ciceronis, inq[illegible] Ambrosij atq; Augustini operosissimos, ual[illegible] [illegible] nesq; [illegible], q[illegible] nec tempus ex[illegible] re[illegible] locus, nec [illegible] tulum leg[illegible] proce[illegible]. Nota nempe sunt o[illegible], unam Ambro[illegible] qu[illegible] seorsum scripta e[illegible], ueram nescio, an breuem magis audiant se[illegible] quem de obitu Satyri fratris sui scripsit: Philosophi inquit de cœlo disputantes, [illegible] ant. Quid hic d[illegible], irride[illegible] unt scio, sunt enim non multi magis, quàm a[illegible] ces, sed meminerint qu[illegible] in hunc d[illegible], in [illegible] Dei, quo ille plenus hæc dixit. Sed quid [illegible] sus ago, an q[illegible] Spiritum sanctum spern[illegible] Spiritus sancti organum, sanctorum linguas, & calamos n[illegible] contemnent. Nec reue[illegible] Esaiam audient, dicentem: Annunciate [illegible] ue[illegible] sunt [illegible], & sci[illegible] a dij estis uos. Nam ut noui Testamenti scripto[illegible], Ignorantiæ, sic Prophetas ar[illegible] uunt [illegible], & a[illegible] summa[illegible] omnia præter Ptolemæum [illegible] egyptium, aut Firm[illegible] um Siculũ exec[illegible] ntur, sed [illegible] orũ su[illegible] oceat, nobis prosit, ut quantò illos à uero turp[illegible] us prolapsos c[illegible] mus, tantò nos ill[illegible] ntiùs hæreamus. Demum ut ijs pro omni iam tempore f[illegible] is sit, [illegible] mihi inter surdos inutilium plus uerborum effluat, de horum omnium cõminationibus ac promissis, breue si iuditium meum uis, miro compendio te diuinum faciam, obserua igitur, quid de re qualibet ij nuncient, contrarium enim erit. Qui hoc genere d[illegible] ler, rectè illis aduersus, hoc est, rarissimè quidem mendax, semper ferè ue[illegible] endetur. Iam quid de promisso malorum fine sperem, puto perspicis, de quo it[illegible] ectis odios[illegible], simulq; ridiculis horum uaticinijs, si iuditiũ amici simplicioris exposc[illegible]. Non astra, non fulgura, non exta, non uolucres, non deniq; sortes ullas, sed solum animum in silentio consulentis. Et siqua est præsagio meo, fides ita sentio, siquidem ira Dei est, qua nunc mortale premitur genus, inquit, fateor iam dudum mea fertur opinio, & tum demum finietur, dum autem molliti, flexiq; ad alium uitæ modum cruni animi, aut dignis fracta sup[illegible] icijs humana durities, quæ ut uides inflexibilem se ostendit, malleoq; hactenus, & incude recudit. Quo in statu, remedium aliud, nullum est, nisi ita uiuere, ut parati simus dum uocabimur, ne quasi res noua, ac improuisa nos terreat. Quę utiq; uetus est, & nisi desipimus [illegible] uisa iampridem nobis esse debuit, præsertim ex quo hanc mundi publicam ruinã, & [illegible] ea, nostros ferme omnes oppressos, & quæcunq; nobis in terris fuerant, chariora cõ[illegible] s. Quorum si quid forte supererat, ecce non reliquiæ periere, hoc in malis unicum reme[illegible] um probo, rec[illegible] hortor, ut comprobes. Fuga enim mortis (quod monẽti olim scripseram a[illegible] co, ne muto sententiam) nulla est. Claude oculos præstigijs, aures nugis, uitam medicis, a[illegible] o-logos fuge, illi corpora, hi animos lædunt, sospitatorem uerum atq; astrificũ uenerare. Sin uarietates naturæ aliquę, causisq; latentibus infectus aër, uel si sic penitùs dici placet [illegible] el la[illegible] q[illegible], nos mortalibus ignota, persequ[illegible] r, finis erit: dum decocta corruptio[illegible] di-ge[illegible] a so[illegible] ijs, uel aliquorsum deriuata, seu consumpta labes, fuerit, horum sanè ue[illegible] te-rum, uel utrunq;, quando sit futurum non cœli spectator, sed creator nouit, uel fortass[illegible] ali-q[illegible] s Vir pius a[illegible] sapiens, cui hoc ille reuelauerit, nõ Saturnus, aut Mars. Iis enim auctoribus ut[illegible] r insa[illegible] garrulitas, hos nobis dominos imponere nititur, & consilia Dei eludens, quantum in se est, & interimens arbitrij libertatem, quàm deinde fomentis inanibus susci[illegible] e sibi uidentur circulatores egregij, dum dicunt dominari astris sapientem, pręclarè infinita men-d[illegible] uno regunt uerbo, imò uerò mendacia mendacijs accumulant. Nam & id quoq; fal-[illegible] nec sapiens astris, nec astra sapienti: sed utrisq; dominatur Deus, unde uero si id esse [illegible], ni[illegible] ab astris hoc habuit dominator iste astrorum sapiens, ut sapicos esset. O perple-x[illegible], ludus turp[illegible] s ac fragilis. O malè laudatum diu uerbum, qu[illegible] d sanè aures re[illegible]. Q[illegible] odo e[illegible] astris dominabitur, qui nihil habeat, nisi quod sibi astra concesserin[illegible]. Quę [illegible] unquam feu[illegible] atarium eius dominum, à quo feudum habet, & nõ illi potius obnoxium a[illegible] ubiect[illegible] fecit. Dominatur sibi Sapiens, dum Deo paret, & respiciens ad illum, rationis [illegible] bernac[illegible], [illegible] e cym[illegible] m regit, astris uerò nec pote[illegible] dominari, ne[illegible] uult quidem. Vnus e-[illegible] rum atq; homin[illegible] m dominator, cui [illegible] s sapiens non ignatus, atque illi seruire, ab [illegible] liber e[illegible] e c[illegible] ntentus, non dicam cœli, sed nec terræ ipsius quàm inhabitat, dominũ quę-[illegible] illi sat[illegible] est. Esto autem dominetur astri[illegible] sapiens [illegible] uolunt dominiq; ist[illegible] d, uel [illegible] stris, [illegible] de [illegible] un[illegible] [illegible] iat, an n[illegible] u[illegible], an d[illegible] ula[illegible] multi sunt [illegible] [illegible] en[illegible] s, aut dominus, aut seru[illegible] io sit exemptus. Po[illegible] mul[illegible] a de [illegible] [illegible] mere [illegible] s o[illegible] enderẽ [illegible] àm pauci semper f[illegible] erint sapient[illegible] q[illegible] mq; [illegible] ud [illegible]. [illegible] s est nume[illegible] [illegible] rei hu[illegible]

frot experientiæ relinquenda est quisque mihi pro se magis in urbibus circunspiciat, atque intendat quot sibi quotidie sapientes ueri occurrāt. Quisque recogitet, quot sibi cum sapientibus res fuit. Ita tamen, ut quem quærimus sapientem, ut [illegible] merito, non uulgaris fama, hoc est, non uerbis aliorum, aut etiam suis, sed factis, rebusque [illegible] ex[illegible]et p[illegible] numerum conficiat, puto dexteræ manus auxilio, non egebit. Non enim [illegible] ac[illegible]o, ut sapientes causidicos stulti uocant, neque ut docti quidam, qui [illegible] em dicunt, aliud est enim sapientē esse quam [illegible]sertum, mores ad hanc rem, non literæ requiruntur, quæ si bene instituto animo accesserint, ornamento quidem ac [illegible]dio ingenti erunt. Iniquo autē & in malū prono, nunquam proderunt, sæpe oberunt. I[illegible]que & multis, & claris argumentis ostendi facile esset, nisi uulgò etiam constaret, literatos homines fuisse, qui uel [illegible] ijs malis Resp. euerterunt, uel graues fando discordias aluerūt, armatasque in necē compulēre acies, uel qu[illegible] nihil potuit fieri peius, diro animas dogmatum ueneno, & uarijs erroribus i[illegible] o[illegible]. Voluntas ergo bona, non ingenium, uita, non oratio sapientem facit. Fuere [illegible] qui n[illegible] [illegible] qui u[illegible] solum dicerent sapientē, qui Catoni honos à nostris, apud Græcos uero ab Ap[illegible]ne tributus est Socrati, Græci ipsi septem numerant. Quā uere autem, & qui id dicut. & de quibus dicunt uiderint, certè horum nomina scholis omnia trita sunt. Plures alij fortasse, sed gens lo[illegible]uacissima, & suarum miratrix rerū, maxima hoc contenta fuit numero, quē ipsum non d[illegible] qui carperent, ac riderent, multo quidē citius sapiens dicitur quę fit, [illegible] si oculis cerni posset, quàm multa ijs ipsis, qui sapientiæ nomine gloriantur desint, ut esse incipiāt qu[illegible]d dicūtur uulgò, puto ipsum pudoris inscium puderet, & diceret pauciores fuit quàm fama loquitur sapientes. Mea certè sententia, non dicā Phœnice rarior, atque anno renascens qu[illegible]ge[illegible]o, sed rara utique auis est sapiens, non gregatim uolat, non ubique nidificat, non quo[illegible]bet sedet ramo, non omni uerno tempore nascitur, nempe cuius ortum rariorem Cicero extimat unile partu, quem inter prodigia numerari sola raritas facit. Vt ergo astris dominetur, hic seu nullus sapiens, seu perrarus, quid faciēt alij, seu quid facient omnes? Quid porro nisi seruient astris, seruitute non tantùm corporū, sed quæ nulla miserior, animorum, hos tamen ista non tangunt, qui salute hominum spreta, solum de hominibus lucrum captant, soli inhiant prædæ, quæ quoniam de liberis non sperarent, nec facere suos possunt seruos, faciunt stellarum, ut iam diximus, quarum se conscios, & quasi consiliarios dici uolūt, seque inter seruos ac dominos secretorum internuncios spondent. O flagitiū audax permittentium, o credentium stultus pauor, & quæ audaciæ summa est, ut peccata hominum excusent, Dei iustitiam accusant, cum dicunt, ut præclarè ait Augustinus, de cœlo tibi est ineuitabilis causa peccandi, & Venus hoc fecit, aut Saturnus, aut Mars scilicet, ut homo sine culpa sit caro & sanguis, & superba putredo. Culpandus sit autē cœli & syderum creator, & ordinator, & quis est hic nisi Deus noster suauitas, & origo iustitiæ? Iam uero ut raptanti stylum iracundiæ frenum ponam, & qui supra desiturum me promisi, uel hic desinam, atque à circumscriptoribus his diuellar, si hic quoque ubi naturalis scilicet malorum præsentium causa sit, consilium meum quæris. Nullum mihi certius aliud quàm quod audisti, ubi de hac mortali periclitamur, ac misera uita ad illum confugere, apud quem est torrens uoluptatis, & fons uitæ. Nam quid, oro, agat aliud uiator, aquæ modicum rimoso uase collectum, labi sentiens, & siti metuens perire, nisi ut raptim eò se uertat, ubi uel perennem riuum, uel aquæ fontem indeficientis inueniat, hic tamen humanæ plusculum cautionis haud spreuerim, atque in primis locorum mutationem, ut dimissis ad tempus, q[illegible] [illegible]fiferum aerius incubuit sydus, salubriora sectemur, sic procellam portu nauta, te[illegible] imbrem uirat agricola, sic periculum honesto diuersorio sapiens declinat, omnium licet intrepidus, & si cogatur eligere, mortem ipsam uitio prælaturus. Hoc nimirum mihi consilium duo [illegible] dederant amici, quid tamen, heu, me miserum, cur consultor alterius [illegible]àm sui melior quisque. In proprios usus uere neglexerunt, si sui quidem erat arbit[illegible] nec dec[illegible]e[illegible]ti uiolentia tenebantur, tu seu humano consilio, seu aliter id quod con[illegible] duce [illegible]e[illegible]tus Deo linquens Neapolim, & omissa Florentia longiore circuitu me petijsti, quam[illegible]uis adhuc utraque urbium illarum tranquilla persisteret fœlix ut decuit, pia fuit electio, qua patriæ me prælatum glorior, tuæque, uel prudentiæ gratulor, uel fortunæ illud queror quod coràm quoque sum questus, nimis te hinc abitum properasse, & si enim pu[illegible]gata [illegible] omnia dicerentur, nosti tamen uulgi morem, uel fingit, uel anticipat quę delectant. Se[illegible] si autem, patriæ pietas animum urgebat, nec mei desiderium obstabat, trimestri præsen[illegible] iam lenium, sic inexorabilis abijsti, neque ego uel equitantem arguere, uel me illi posthabitum

posthabitum ind gnari po[illegible]m,cui me antea prætul isses.Sed quoniã etsi non lynceos oculos,ac aprinas aures habet amor,nescio quid isthic nunc etiam reliquiarum metus atq; di scrim[illegible]is supercesse audio,quod [illegible] ita est,te amice per teipsum precor,ut redeas,aufer hanc mihi sollicitud[illegible]em,cui [illegible] cis solito charior factus es. Cur si quæris, ipsa raritas causa est, nulli quàm mono[illegible] charior lux,è numero ueterum amicorum, ut dicebam, penè unus es mihi,nam de Barb[illegible] nostro quid sperẽ dubius sum,si modò Pelignos ac Brucios peruagatur mors.Veni er[illegible] optatus,adest ecce anni pars leu[illegible]ima, cu[illegible] lae, nisi Pyeri[illegible] iucundæ,domus saluberrima,& quam st[illegible]io tibi fortasse exprimerem,ni tu illam plene noscés. Adest optima,& nescio an melior optanda societas,nomen ab effectu nactus, Beneintendius præclarissimæ huius urbis Cancellarius, & statui publico, & priuatis amicitijs,& honestis studijs benè intendens,cuius uespertin[illegible] congressus, dum diurnis relaxatus curis, læta fronte,pro[illegible]mo,instructo nauigio ad nos uenit, & nauigationes, confabulationesq; sub noctẽ,quàm [illegible] aues sint,quamq; sincerum & benè salsum,quicquid in homine [illegible] est, nuper expertus tenes. Nec non Donatus noster Apennigena, quẽ ex Tuscis collibus ereptum,multos iam per annos littus seruat Adriacum.Donatus(inquam)noster & Donatus nobis se donante, donatoq; illi antiquo & professionis successor & nominis, quo nil suauius,nil purius,nil nostri amantius,nil notius tibi:nolo plures nominare,su[illegible]uamuis enim nunquam mihi solitudo illa ultima,atq; inhumana placuerit, neq; m[illegible]etue qualis scribitur fuisse Bellerophon ipse,suum cor edens, hominum uestigia u[illegible]ns, [illegible]e quo in solitudine mea,olim duobus solitariæ uitæ libris,pro ingenij uiribus multa disseruí, semper tamen mihi uir doctus ac sapiens,paucis egere comitibus uisus est,quippe qui sibi ipse si res adigat,comes esse,collocutorq; didicerit. Sin uel grauis hic mora , uel autumnalis intemperies suspecta erit, quanquam meo iuditio nullis aquilonibus, aut zephyris serenari, purgariq; melius cœlum potest,quàm serenis frontibus,atq; optatis colloquijs amicorum, ibimus hic,eris q; tu mihi secessionis fortasse utilis, at profectò delectabilis autbor ac comes,commigrabimus Iustinopolim,ac Tergestum , unde mihi fidelibus literis uotiua temperies nunciatur. Ad postremum boni hoc saltem habiturus est reditus tuus, ut quod iamdudum cogito Timaui fontem,uatibus celebrem , multis uerò uel doctoribus ignoratum ubi est,non ubi quæritur,hoc est,non Patauinis in finibus uestigemus. Quem errorem peperit Lucani uersiculus,quo Apono illum iunxit Euganeo,sed in agro potius Aquileiensi ibi illum Cosmographi certiores locant:

Vnde per ora nouem uasto cum murmure montis,
It mare præruptum,& pelago premit arua sonanti.

Vale. Venetijs VII. Idus Septembris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO SVO, S. Epist. II.

De illius statu.

Casus nostros scisti, non dubitem & flesti, Lælij mei, Simonidisq; nostri obitum, alterum antequàm hinc isses noueras,uerum aures meas percuti cuiusuis alterius, quam tuæ linguæ cuspidæ maluisti,alterum statim post tuæ domus in limine didicisti,de quibus,multisq; alijs,quæ præsentem,nostramq; simul, ac mundi totius resp[illegible]unt rempestatem , longam tibi mœstus epistolam dictaui, quam ne miseri causa est, non tam labor,aut tarditas, quamuis uere utraq; causa est,quàm perdendi metus,huius etiam laborem,sicut alium ad ipsum, de quo loquor Lælium, Simonidemq; ipsum perdidi. Quibus cum multa scripsissem,utriusq; tepido cinere inuento,una ferme hora, diuersi licet,è tractu [illegible] terrarum,signatæ uti erant ad me literæ redière, quas aspectu primo infaustas,ut era[illegible]ncias ratus, flammis iniectas,charis manibus in ferias dedi. De te autem,uc quod est fa[illegible]ar,Donatum nostrum , & me ingens pauor arripuit, ne tu quoque post illos abieris,neq; nobis uidetur fieri posse,si uiueres,ut nihil his scriberes. quos ais quam suspensos,quàmq; sollicitos linqueris scire te credimus. Proinde si uiuis,nulla tibi prorsus excusatio est,[illegible] absumpta salus(ut Maro ait)& re charissime frater cespes habet patriæ,ex [illegible]atus [illegible] planè excusatione tibi quidem,ut arbitror fœlici,nobis misera [illegible]uæ [illegible] quid adhuc gemituum in fundo animæ resedit , eliciat lo[illegible].

Vale si uiuis,si defunctus æternum. Venetijs XII. Cal. Octobris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NICOLAO MAGNO REGNI SICILIAE SENESCALCO, S. Epist. III.

Promissa non praestari conqueritur.

DVdum magne Vir, charumq́ decus meũ, dicere [illegible] uolui, sed amor meus, ac suauitas tua, dulcibus semper alloquijs, uelut m[illegible]a, [illegible]s loqui parantis præclusêre. Nunc tandem ipse me argu[illegible] quòd talem [illegible]in, tam excelsum tàm ueri amicũ, ego quoq; uerè amicus, aliter quàm uel illum au[illegible]re deceat, uel me [illegible] qui suauiter, magis quam uiriliter, nunc usq; tractauerim, breue est autem uerbis: sed re am[illegible]lum quòd tibi nunc dixisse uelim. Long[illegible]n tempus est, ex quo te mihi grauissimum, fidissimumq; refugium, procellosæ uitæ, ac prædu[illegible] animi solatium statui, [illegible]u tibi, ut dicis, in omnibus primum, ut ego spero, non ultimum legisti. Ecce inter ea, u[illegible]ti [illegible]tr[illegible]sq; mei optimi fermè omnes [illegible]mul uenro citiùs abiêre, Socrates, Zenobiu[illegible], [illegible]s, Sim[illegible] & quod nouum audio Barbatus, nostri omnes, at qui te prope ut numen al[illegible] [illegible] me supra hominem amarent. Mitto alios, quos numerare lõgum simul ac flebile [illegible]. L[illegible] putas, ibimus & nos nostro ordine, idq; quàm primum, nulla penitùs m[illegible]a est, cit[illegible] forsan hodie m[illegible]riemur, & quos præmisimus consequemur, nec tua te [illegible]tus aut [illegible] nec [illegible] stu[illegible]ia liberabunt. Soluendum naturæ debitum, moriendum, abeun[illegible]m, cedend[illegible] [illegible]equentibus, agendumq; iter est patrum, æquè in tua palatia, & in meas solitudines mors intrabit. In huius autem miserrimæ uitæ calle breuissimo, [illegible]uius ut uides ad exitum propinquamus, & imus, & currimus, & uolamus, & præcipuè in his annis ultimo p[illegible] ximis, dux mihi multos ante alios electus, meq; multis, tuo alioquin insigni præferens iu[illegible]gio, cum ad finem, uel nostrum alter, uel ambo uenerimus, quod utiq; fieri oportet, & di[illegible]ri nequit, quantum dolebis, quod nescio quibus alijs curis, fortassè maioribus, nescio an [illegible] pul[illegible]rioribus distractus, nihil unquam pro me feceris, cum potueris semper, & sępè pr[illegible] [illegible]. Et quanquam nullo meo merito, promisso tamẽ tuo debitor sis, & qui patrimonij [illegible] pli[illegible]imi, tuarumq; rerum omnium partem mihi primam, maximamq; meis proxima [illegible] tiens interposita iusiurandi religione deputaueris, tibi ultima & minima, quam ego [illegible] tuo relinquerem, reseruata, de quo chirographum non unum tuis scriptum digitis, hab[illegible] requisitus tandem, non dicam patrimonij partes illas, aut de tuis omninò rebus quicqua[illegible] quod minimè petebatur, sed ne unicum quidem uerbum, iustum, honorificum, teq; dignum, & tuis in labijs, & in auribus audientium honestissimè soniturum, illi tuo electo, & dilecto prælitare nolueris, ipse tecum cogita. Ego mihi peccare in te, & in meipsum uisus sum nisi te neglecti huius tàm decori, & tàm tui officij aduerterem, quod ut differrem hact[illegible]us, quid putas, nisi stupens dolor fecit. Ne uerò amplius differam, dolore tandem uictus stupor, & casu oblatus hic Vir, mei nuper, tui pridem amantissimus impulit, penes quem sic desiderium, & querelam, & suspirium meum omne dep[illegible], quasi in eo cernerem te præsentem, tecumq; de te quærer quod persæpè tacens soleo [illegible] igitur crede, ipsumq; audi obsecro, & nisi tibi inglorium ducis, exaudi, patientia sed armare, priusquam incipiat, & uerbis asperioribus. Mirem animum oppone, contra te dici audies. Noli partes extimare, sed causam tu, reus, idemq; & testis, & iudex, de te ipso fer sententiam. Vide quàm conueniens famæ tuæ sit, habuisse tot annis hominem, quem amicum uoces, quemue interdum humilitate insita, magnitudinis immemor, ut maiorem alloqui soleas, & si ipse, ut est l[illegible]è, se imparem omnibus fateatur, nihilq; sibi præter somnij tàm longo in tempore con[illegible], tàm claræ nomen amicitiæ, cum amici munus, breui & facili pridem uerbo implesse po[illegible]ueris. Quid ad tribunal illius, qui non solùm amicis, sed etiam hostibus benefacere præcipit, huic lis calumniæ responsurus uideris, ego his te requisiui, utinam uel negasses citò, uel implesses serò licet, aut saltem lentiùs promisisses, ecce nũc tertiæ, & ultimæ preces meæ, quàm efficaces, in te est, nondum sperare de te desij, si nunc quoque meam spem destituis, tuus ero nihilominus, nam quem semel dilexi, semper diligo, sed molestus amplius non ero. Vltimum hoc præmissis adijciam. Magnam & insignem amicitiæ laudem fore, sed eam multis & magnis ex rebus constare, Amicum dici facile est, amicum esse difficile. Vale.

Et si nimis familiariter, loquor ignoscito, Pataui III. Idus Octobris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO INCOGNIT [illegible]. Epist. III.

[illegible] ingenio, ac moribus Barbati Sulmonensis.

BArbati mei [illegible] uix mihi aliud, aut charius fuit, aut nunc quoque d[illegible] n[illegible]t hu[illegible] forsitan, sed in multis certè occupatum calamum auertis rogas [illegible] reposcis, ut de illius uiri uita & moribus, ac[illegible]usque [illegible] mihi not[illegible] ali[illegible]od, seu Pane[illegible] cum scr[illegible] ad mem[illegible] lt[illegible] carm ne d[illegible]m, & te h[illegible] rei aptu[illegible] recat[illegible]rem, & m[illegible] tal[illegible] m eiu[illegible] ut c[illegible]ausimam sic m[illegible] not[illegible]simam non n[illegible]go. Nihil mitius, nihil integrius, nihilque cand[illegible] sol uidit, nihil amantius, literarū. Q[illegible]bu[illegible] ut lautissimis uel[illegible]batur [illegible]bis, huius appet[illegible]simus, reliquarū omniū negligēs uo[illegible]pt[illegible] Inanis gl[illegible]s insc[illegible]lētię nescius ac liuoris, ad hęc ingenio acer & stylo dulcis & doctri na uber, & in[illegible] promptus fuit. Hęc ego de homine illo noui. [illegible] si qua mihi fid[illegible] apud posteros futura [illegible] tot ira e[illegible]e, & multò amplius q̄ uel tēporis breuitas, uel styli h[illegible] humanitas pati q[illegible]at. Me autem ille sic dilexit, ut nullum mihi mortalium, ni[illegible] fallor, non dicam anteponeret sed æ[illegible]uaret. Conuersationem tamen [illegible]lius, mea mihi fors inuidit, ex quo il[illegible]d sydus Itali[illegible], nostrique luminum æui decus, Siculūm regem, dura mors ab[illegible]t R[illegible]m, non [illegible] dur[illegible], sed patriæ, quo agente, sub iugum amicitiæ missi e[illegible]a[illegible]us, qu[illegible] pa[illegible]rari ab in[illegible]em, non magis corporibus quàm animis poteramus. I[illegible]e nos iu[illegible]ctos tenuisset, q[illegible]age sa[illegible]bri & ualida, quasi lapis angu[illegible]s mul[illegible] ne[illegible] Quo sublato, & nos d[illegible] & totis concordiæ nexibus resolutis, regni ruina miser[illegible] consecuta e[illegible], ut omnibus Si[illegible]ulis notum esset, quantum ad salutem publicam, in unius uiri sapientia ac uir[illegible]ute repositum sit. Illius monte igitur & Barbatus meus Sulmo[illegible]em suum repetij, [illegible]ullan[illegible]um seu p[illegible]scius malorum, & ego admiratione [illegible]la Regiæ maiestatis expl[illegible]citus, cuius uinculo captus Parthenopen retrahebar, me deinde uel in Gallijs ubi t[illegible]ce[illegible]ram, uel ubi nunc sum, inter Alpes, Apenninumque continui sic effectum, ut de amici optimi charitate ac u[illegible]ute certissimus, suos mores domesticos ignorarem, quę uiuendi norma, [illegible] fam[illegible] suæ [illegible]plina, quæ Reip. cura. Denique quid egerit duobus ac uiginti annis, quibus eum ocul[illegible]n uidi, quid dixerit aut scripserit, cum haud dubiè exundanti ingenio, m[illegible]ta potue[illegible]t, [illegible] h[illegible]beo comperti, ut si quod abest ocium adesset, de his scribere certa rerum fide [illegible]on u[illegible]am, aliud quàm quod audisti. Quod ad me, tum pro uirili portione atti[illegible]et, nomen eius [illegible]æ mihi fu[illegible]e multæ mearum testantur epistolarum, quæ ad eum sunt, & iuue[illegible]n[illegible]le opus e[illegible]tolaris liber, lege carminis astrictus, sibi totus inscribitur. Tu qui sub illius ma[illegible]gi[illegible]erio creuisti, cui conuictu continuo ac longæuo rerum illius atque actuum plena notitia est, cui ætas, ocium ingenium sauet, quod ex me poscis per teipsum imple, oro fœlici[illegible] q[illegible]od ualdè nosse cupio ex te discam, quo non solum communis mihi tecum amici[illegible]tiam, sed communis [illegible]cum patriæ gloriam celebrabis, quæ maiorem nisi amor m[illegible]t, nu[illegible]la ætate ciuem hab[illegible]nis antiqui pace dixerim, ille enim ingenio clarus, fuscus [illegible]o ribu[illegible], quamuis frustrà, [illegible]as longæ uitæ maculas, uno breui purgare uersiculo nixu[illegible]t, hic autem noster, & ingenio bonus, & ui[illegible] melior fuit. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO, S. Epist. IIII.

De tædio scabiei & Medicorum remedijs.

SAtis, superque tacuimus, & est ut iu[illegible]ndi sermonis, sic tranquilli silentij uoluptas quę[illegible]dam, hæc ne nos æquo longius trahat, occurrendum est. Non dicam scribendi m[illegible]teriam defuisse, ne mentiar, quādo enim nobis illa defuerit, quibus cœlum, terra, m[illegible]re, quæue in eis sunt omnia, & in primis homo, mirum naturæ parentis opificium, id[illegible]que optimū, pessimū animal & nūc prope par angelis, nunc aspidib. atris immanior, materia [illegible] exhausta est semperque se oculis atque auribus ingerens, tempus solum defuisse uerè dixeri[illegible] Affuisse au[illegible]em atque adesse & nescio quorsum affuturam esse, squalidam & arctem scabiem, qu[illegible] cum [illegible]ni d[illegible]cili[illegible] ætati nostræ, ut perhibent, & tam suspecta est, mihi uerò a[illegible] d[illegible]u[illegible] anim[illegible], morbosque discussle[illegible], ut externorum qui[illegible]uis incommodorum que[illegible]ar[illegible] su[illegible]ectum, cæter[illegible]n h[illegible]c pestis, qu[illegible]tum sic iam [illegible]ensem oc[illegible]upat, ut non solum [illegible] sed [illegible]o etiam ereptas manus, ad se arandam, fodiendamque conuertit. A[illegible]ci [illegible] qu[illegible]us [illegible]d remed[illegible]j, quidúe omninò cō[illegible]ilij sit, experti [illegible]s, q[illegible]a[illegible]li[illegible]um, [illegible]dum [illegible] & mercimonium fecēre, quique auxiliat[illegible]os se [illegible]si, sp[illegible]res [illegible]æ [illegible]ud[illegible]um facti sunt, omnibus frustrà patiente me, potiùs qu[illegible] p[illegible], [illegible] quid hinc sperāte, tentatis ad extremum, ut etsi non Medici sal[illegible]em [illegible]ideantur[illegible].

tur, aduentantis æstatis expecta... dura, grauisque necessitas, quæ aduersus hostem, non nisi ab ho... cogit, ... sperare. Ego autem neque Medicos credo, neque ab æstate spero aliqui... de qu... tum est: Ach atem & uer tu plasmasti ea. Et hoc unum scio, cer... numque ... habeo, quod cito uel e... cum, uel ipse me deseret ... simul est ... Tum ... me solo, non in ista solum, ... in omnibus molestijs mei ... bene pro... mortalis innumerabiles sint angores, nullus possit ... longæ... A... s esse, ... senectutem eximiam ... se dicant, ... m mihi al... tantum ... ptabo. Certè in hæc ... nas est, nemo me sa... ut p... sanitate, ubi hæc pauca perscripserim, sed nec mihi ... opus ... entum, ... ecce aliquid: Tuque aliquid rescribas. Hoste hæc ... iterum forsan ... erit, ... ad consuetudinem reuertemur. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO S. D. S. Ep. V.

De mortalis instabilitate propositi.

DVm nil serium, quod scriberem adesset, & omnino al... aliud scribe... quod memoriæ proximum fuit arripui, Leo noster ... Calaber, sed ut ipse uult ... us ... uasi nobilius sit Græ... esse, quàm It... idem tamen ut apud nos Græcus ut, apud illos puto Italus, quo scilicet utrobique peregrina nobilitetur origine. Hinc ... inquàm) undecunque magna bellua, me nolente, frustra ... diu ac multum distracta ... sur... ior scopulis, ad quos ibat, tuum post abitum hinc abijt, nostri hominem, & me nostri ... is tristior, an ego lætior, haud facilè iudices, itaque uetitus, ne conuictu assiduo fortassis inficerer (est enim animi ægritudo non minus contagiosa, quàm corporis) abire passus ... ad quem tenendum, alio quàm precum uinculo opus esset, dato illi uiæ comite comico Terentio, quo incredibiliter delectari cum, animaduerteram, stupens, quid commune habere possei Graius ille mœstissimus, cum hoc Afro iucundissimo: Sic è contra, nulla tam a similitudo, quæ non aliquid dissimulet. Abijt ergo sub æstatis exitum, multa me coram, ... in Italiam, Latinumque nomen acertime inuectus, uix illum peruenisse diceres, dum ex insperato barba, & crinibus suis horridior, maiorque ad me redijt epistola, ubi inter multa, ceu terram cœlestem damnatam, modò laudat, atque amat Italiam, dilectamque Græciã odit, laudatamque Byzantium execratur. Et ut se iubeam ad me uenire, tanta rogat instantia, quanta uix Petrus naufragans imperantem fluctibus CHRISTVM orat, ego rideo, miror hãc iuditiorum tantam uertiginem, tam breui temporis spatio, imò ne id quidem miror, scio enim, animo qui radices in sapientia, & uirtute non egerit, nihil esse mobilius, cuius rei causas fortassè alias, sed unam haud ineptam ut pagani hominis apud Senecam legisse potes, in co li... quo Elbiam consolatur. Inuenio (inquit) qui dicant naturalem inesse quandam irritationem animis, commutandi sedes, & transferendi domicilia, mobilis ... & inquieta homini mens data est, nusquam se tenet, spargitur, & cogitationes suas, in omni nota atque ignota dimittit. Vaga & quietis impatiens, & nouitate rerum lætissima. Quod non mirabaris, si primam eius originem aspexeris, non enim terreno, & graui concreta corpore, sed ex illo cœlesti spiritu descendit, cœlestium autem natura, semper in motu est. Probat hoc deinde, superfluo, nam res sensibus clara est, cui hoc tamen adijciam, & rem dicam mirabilem, sed ni fallor ueram, ubi duo illa defuerint, quibus radicatum quæro animum ad constantiam eius non modò non prodesse literas, sed obesse. Dant audaciam, loca ed... monstrant, consumunt uiaticũ, uarios ingerunt cogitatus, quibus ut stimulis ... excitant appetitum, neque frenant natura uagum animum, sed impellunt, agitant, ... uoluunt. Id si unquã in ullo homine clarum fuit, in hoc nostro Leone clariss... mum ... Leo Marmaticus dum febrit, caueis lustrandis ardentior, crebriorque qua... hic noster ... peragandis, & ut augur, nisi rationis officiũ pauperies occupa... Leo ... ille, sed uolucris. Gaudeo hercle ... incredulum, rebus admonitum, & ... put, experientia emolitum. Cæterùm neque constantiæ suæ fido, neque uel natur... & ... ipse aliud spondeat, mutandis moribus aptam reor. Vnum præterea quod ... cibus infert, ut pro eo scilicet apud Constantinopolitanum Imperatorẽ literis intercedam, cuius mihi nec uisa facies, nec auditũ nomen, Leo tamen, me sic illi ut Romano imperatori ... familiarem, quia cupit, etiam opinatur, quasi qui in imperij titulo conue... prop... iure id quidem, Græci enim Constantinopolim alteram Romam ... non ... parem modò antiquæ, sed maiorem corp... ac diuitijs effectam, dic... Quod ... in utroque uerum esset, sicut in utroque Sozomeni hoc scribentis, pac...

 Falsum

falsum est, [illegible], & glor[illegible] [illegible]cere quamuis imp[illegible]ens [illegible] culus non aud[illegible] amici u[illegible] [illegible]rb[illegible] mentio [illegible] bis in animum, [illegible] [illegible]icæ partem [illegible] [illegible], qua Vlysses it ad [illegible] & locorum qui in u[illegible] [illegible] descriptionem [illegible] Home[illegible] factam. Ab h[illegible] ca[illegible], de quo agimu[illegible] [illegible] Latinu uer[illegible] [illegible] pu[illegible] potes admod[illegible], eun[illegible] tuis digitis exar[illegible] m[illegible], h[illegible] in præ[illegible]ns. In f[illegible]tem si me[illegible]mas, unde [illegible] an tuo studio, mea impen[illegible] fit, ut Homerus int[illegible] bibliothe[illegible], ubi p[illegible] Græcus habitat, tandem Latinus a[illegible]cedat, nec tum nescius, quanta tu[illegible] mole rerum prægrauatis humeris, quid imponam, sui appetens, fidens tui. Vale Venetijs Cal. Martijs.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NERIO MORANDO F[illegible]R[illegible]IVIENSI, S. Epist. VI.

De fama mortis suæ sæpius conficta.

STupor tu[illegible] fateor tibi, Vir optime, ut multa alia communis est mecum, cum [illegible] m[illegible]nibus pene n[illegible] fallor, siqui sunt qui reculas meas, cogitatu suo dignas iud[illegible] quis, o[illegible] non stupeat, hominem nulli inuisum, charu[illegible] omnibus, ut fama est, cum[illegible] non apud I[illegible]dos aut Seres, extremamue Taprobanen, sed in Italia, interq; Ital[illegible] a[illegible] tem, quotidie mor[illegible]uum fieri. Vigesimus annus est, ex quo Clementis Impe[illegible] Pet[illegible] tunc sedentis, Neapolim profectus, dum ibi aliquantulū tempus tero, per Li[illegible] Venetiamq; omnem, atq; Aemyliam, defunctus publicè nunciatus sum, addi[illegible]umq; [illegible]o, me [illegible]tra Sicilia obijsse, de qua re amicus ille, tūc noster, non mali uir ingenij [illegible] ami[illegible] [illegible]le texuit, quod audiuisti, qui ut uides, me ad ipsam quam defleuit mortem, in c[illegible] qum [illegible] spatio antecelsit. Cæterùm carmen ipsum & uulgaris rumor, sic ora omnium, aures [illegible] compleuerat, eoq; processum erat, ut me reducem, quasi umbram defuncti hominis admirantes, dubitantesq; conspicerent, uixq; oculis crederet, cuius contrarium auribus credidissent. Fueruntq; in eo præstigio nonnulli, qui Thomæ in morem, non me prius uiuum crederent, quàm manibus attrectassent, & ceu prodigium aut fantasma complexi, corpus solidum comperissent. Sic uix tandem prius auditus uisui ac tactui, & contrario cessit auditui. Mirabar fateor, nam etsi omni ætati mors communis sit, ea tamen erat ętas, quę [illegible] quidem mortem, sed plerisq; mortalium, cogitationem mortis excludere soleat, ex illo autem [illegible]ix annus præterijt, quo non saltem semel, eadem fama sonuerit. Quæ sic oram ferme nostri orbis cum ueritate partita est, ut ubi ego adessem, illic ueritas, unde abessem, me[illegible] dax fama regnaret. Itaq; uiuus in Italia, defunctus in Gallijs, contrà quoq; illic uiuus, hic mortuus sum habitus, inq; ipsa Italia, eo fortè quod sublōga est, & Apēnini scissa iugis, quid aliquando sim passus, dixi iam, dum uidelicet, quem pars una pascebat, altera sepelisset. Nunquam sanè de me tantum famę licuit, quantum nuper, quando hic uiuus, utrobiq; im[illegible] que mortuus opinione hominum fui usque adeò, ut Rom. Pont. Vrbanus V. qui me u[illegible] di auidum se dicebat, meq; iam ter uocato Ecclesiasticum mihi, quo delectari, & meu[illegible] animum posse crediderat beneficium reseruabat, nō illud modò, sed reliqua, quæ dudum teneo insuper, & qui ante decennium, hoc quibusdam amicis tunc egentibus nunc defunctis cesseram, ambitiosè supplicantibus, famæ credulus, concesserit. Ingens deniq; illa incuria, de his paruis ac paucis benefi[illegible]ijs, tumultus fuit, discurrentibus quidem illis, ad conficiendas gratiarum literas, uelut ad opimam prædam, totamq; urbe clamore complentibus. nes[illegible] enim, quomodo meum nomen, & cupiditati stimulos, & beneficijs pondus addiderat. [illegible]n re, spei unius perditæ iacturam, eo solor, quod in reliquis importunitatem il[illegible] [illegible] sed coruorum, cibum sibi de aliena morte quærentium, lucri cupiditas, in dam[illegible] traxi[illegible] [illegible]uentis enim ad beneficia suspirantes, & plumbo aurum permutantes, nil [illegible]n[illegible] neu[illegible] sib[illegible] præter laborem & pudorem. Si quis auaritiæ pudor esset, ac sumptuosas & ridiculas literas quæsiere, utq; il[illegible]os ad inanem prædam, sic nos ad luctū superuacuū, falsus rumor impul[illegible]t. Amici mœsti fletu, fleruntq; alij, quos Mediolani charos, sollicitosq; mei habeo, & [illegible] recentiora prętercam, hic ad latus Pataui scilicet fletu sum, ubi penè debuerat, si uerum esset, morientis suspirium exaudiri. Sic ut incœptum sequar, cùm ut ait Apostolus: Datum sit hominibus semel mori, horum me circulatorum artes, ac mendacia sæpius mori cogunt. Hinc ille igit[illegible]ur, quem dicebam, tuus, simulq; meus, & multorum [illegible]upor, quo enim de fonte, quæso, [illegible]deunt hæc fi[illegible]menta. Seu quid [illegible]bi artifices isti uolū[illegible] An fortè adeò null[illegible]m, obscun[illegible]s, ut ex [illegible]quo mea ui[illegible], & mors lateat, unde [illegible]ur ista solli[illegible]do. Q[illegible]m [illegible]tas. Q[illegible]eren[illegible] rem [illegible]m fuscā, tamq; humilē. Solet nemp[illegible]mæ fla[illegible]a co[illegible]nere [illegible] ex[illegible]sa c[illegible]ntingere, an fortè potius contrà est, [illegible] hoc [illegible] q[illegible] dum mihi certè cognitus fulgor efficiat. Quod si ita est, ut quid [illegible]o

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fama loquitur, & ad summam, si pusillus atque abditus, quid in medium trahor? Si magnus atque conspicuus, quid in luce non uideor. Si obscuritas [illegible] tanta est, unde hic tantus famæ [illegible] claritas, unde error [illegible] de [illegible] homine tot mendacia uel de incognito tot sermo [illegible] Hi[illegible] Africani [illegible] mor[illegible] & rediit. Romanum exer[illegible] in [illegible] gauisimus. Si famæ fidem fecerat, erat ille Vir maximus, atque incompara[illegible] atque humilis, ille hostibus suis cla[illegible]s, latèque formidabilis, ego amicis [illegible] pectus nemini sine maleuolo ut perhibe[illegible] sine hoste. Denique ex me nihil, ex illo [illegible] Hispaniæ atque Africæ fortuna pendebat, quod illi tamen unicum fuit, mihi crebru, atque anniuersarium est malum, minus dico, scis tu, ut annus idem, bis hanc famam peperit, bis extinxit. Verum comme[illegible] huius ultimi, & auctorem nouimus, [illegible] ulam committimus, reliquorum stupor adhuc integer manet. An fortè quædam [illegible] peruersi[illegible] mi uoluptas est. Ea sibi fingentis audiùs, quæ magis exhorreat, non cogitando solùm, sed loquendo etiam, ac uul[illegible]o, quod minimè uerum uelit, & hoc esse suspicemur. Vnde ego ille hostium expers, [illegible] sæpè fingor exanimis, ab his, qui me maximè uiuum optant. Certè nisi fallor, nullus est h[illegible]num, cui haud damnosa uita, aut mors utilis mea sit. Ipse hæres meus, si tamen is erit, quem cupio, quemue disposui, pluseulum ex uita mea sperat, ut arbitror, quàm ex morte. Nouit [illegible]nim beneuolentiæ mihi plurimum, ac pietatis, at unde testari liceat, patrimonij parum esse, meque superstite sibi indies aliquid, obeunte autem nihil, aut minimum prouenturum uidet. Sed in [illegible]alo huic fortè latentior causa est, fieri que potest, ne sic hostibus caream, ut multi putan[illegible]ò habeam, quos mihi non spes, non metus, non offensa (hæ sunt quidem odiorum cau[illegible] at quo nil peius, nil occultius liuor fecit. Quæ haud dubiè multis immeriti, & inopi[illegible] radix fuit, dum quibus charos se sperabant, odiosos rebus ipsis experti sunt. Ecce amice, ut ad uerum ratiocinando peruenimus, ita est, digito fundum uulner[illegible] attigi. Fingunt hæc nullis iniurijs lacessiti, nihil ex me timentes aut sperantes, sed gratis odientes, atque optantes, ut malè mihi sit, nec morte peius aliquid opinãtes, falso quidem. Nam morte bona nihil est melius, ipsi uerò inter bonam siue optimam, ac pessimam non discernunt, tantũ ut de medio auferat, & infectos, tumentesque oculos, grauis hoc fortè, etiam clariore quàm cupiant obiecto liberem, quod si rite optarent, mecum herclè, optarent, mecumque sentirent. Nam quis nouit, oro te, uiuere ne in longũm æuum, an mori hodie magis expediat? Si diu uiuere fœlicem faceret, fuisset quod nemo unquam dixit, aut credidit, fœlicissimus omniũ Mathusalem, non quantitas uitæ, sed qualitas extimanda est, nec longitudo annorum, sed actuum claritudo, & præcipuè finis attenditur, unde fit, ut sicut dubius sum, an melius uiuere sit, an mori. Sic profectò non dubitẽ, tutissimum atque optimum benè mori. Isti quibus æqua omnis, quia omnis mala mors est. Vnum hoc ut moriar uolunt, id quoniam noto segnius procedit, anticipant, quodque iniustè cupiunt impudenter fingunt, & conflati a se ru[illegible]ris sonitu, pro uero nuncio fruuntur, ac more sedentium in Orchestra, scænicis, quæ utique falsa norunt spectaculis delectantur. His ego quid faciam, nisi ut prono ac uolenti animo, calcar incuriam, quo in horas promptior, alacriorque sit, ad omnia, quæ liuorem illis adaugeant, & dolorem, & quid scimus, an agente illo, qui fons & principium uitæ est, & de quo scribitur: Si iniquitatẽ aspexi in corde meo, nõ exaudiet Dominus. Inter iniquissima illorum uota, uiuacior sim futurus, ut sic illos torqueam diutiùs; certè longior illis saltem uidebitur, quàm finiti expetunt, hoc unum genus supplicij non euadent. Et quamuis quòd hi sæpè factum fingunt, semel fieri tandem sit necesse, quòd tamen totiens falsum fuit, [illegible] cùm uerum esse cœperit, falsum poterit uideri, ut qui uiuus, uerè dicor mortuus, uerè mo[illegible]uus credar, & tam multis erroribus uni fide[illegible] cõtrario sit errori. Atque ita, qui intemp[illegible]iam que lætitiam, ex me quærunt, uerè obstent, falsoque pleni uix ueri gaudij sint capaces, [illegible]de quoniam hæc pestis, quotidie integrescit, non potero, quidem scio, superstes esse o[illegible]us his me uoce mactantibus, at forsitan multis ero, & proculdubiò multis sum. Cur [illegible]tæso igitur laborat, & sterilibus sulcis, mendacia uana disseminant? Non possunt uenenatis linguis omnibus ac [illegible]bilis, unum mihi momẽtum dati temporis eripere, non est enim impietas pietate potentior, nec possunt piæ preces amicorum, uitæ tempus augere, ne[illegible] pia hostium uerba minuere, agant tamen per me licet, fingant, prædicent, mentiantur, nil in re mutabitur, utrumque autem mea sors casura [illegible], ipsi interim gratis sese cruciant, ego illos, du[illegible] hi[illegible]m, & torqueo, & torquebo: nunquam tamen torturus amarius, quàm post mortem [illegible] spero quidem uiuam. Siquid enim Ciceroni, magnisque & ante, & post eum ui[illegible] hæc nostra quæ dicitur, uita mors est, de quo dicto nu[illegible] ad Ioannem nostrum [illegible]tis, non quid mihi tantum, sed quid alijs usum esset, expressi. Proinde [illegible]

uus uerè & inuidiæ subductus ueris iaculis e sepulchri arce liuida corda transfi[illegible]am [illegible] fore, ut qui [illegible]ltum uiuo [illegible] magis ac magis [illegible] de[illegible]nt sepult[illegible], cum [illegible] possint qu[illegible] m[illegible] fuerint uiuum malint. Hæc a[illegible]s inuidi[illegible]m ira d[illegible]. Ad te redeo, n[illegible] tuæ pars, in qua quo[illegible] ni[illegible] uir bo[illegible], ac d[illegible] potest, iplere ad u[illegible] ext[illegible], magni[illegible] hortatis, qua unice [illegible]tatus sum, nisi in eo qu[illegible]d [illegible] p[illegible]positi, tu du[illegible] & [illegible] tuis, im[illegible]ns, & cæcitatis [illegible]bi con[illegible], amic[illegible]ore nimi perfud[illegible]. Ergo [illegible]ùs ducẽ uelim [illegible] tenuis CHRISTO duce, ambo p[illegible]er, quòd uiæ restat cum Apo[illegible] pręterita obliuiscentes, & in ea, quæ antè sunt extenti, quoniã aduesperascit, nec ul[illegible]us est iam torpori locus, alacriter transigemus. Vale mi Neri, fœlix & mei memor. Venetijs VI[illegible]. Cal. Maias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVLIELMO R[illegible] AT[illegible] PHYSIC. S. Epist. VII.

Dehortatio, studio eloquentiæ.

DVlci[illegible] & ualidis uncis ac laqueis, me in amicitiam tuam me trahis, & coge[illegible]mili argumentorum nexus inijcis mihi, frustrà id quidem, cogi nequeo, nemo uolens cogitur, uolo ego, & pulsanti ultro amicitiæ fores pando, & in limine obuius animi te ulnis amplector, uirtus, fides, & instantia id meretur tua. Non potest excludi, qui admitti tam honestè, tamq; obnixè postulat, qui amicus, & meus e[illegible]tis, & Donati mei est. Quicquid illi es, mihi etiam sis oportet, omnia mihi cum illo u[illegible]mo ut nia ut essent, utriq; placitum, & non uerbis sæpè fallentibus, sed rebus ipsis, anim[illegible] conuentum est, atq; in primis quod est optimum amici. Pluribus hoc loco agerem, larga enim & amœna materia est, ni uererer, ne loquendo te ad eloquentiæ studium excitarem, unde te ut iam hinc, amicè tecum loquar, maximè dehortari uelim. Sine medicos loqui, longè fallitur, quicunque meditantis eloquium profuturum ægro somniat, cui præter curam, aut leuamen morbi, omnia grauia, & molesta sunt. Expertus loquor. Memini olim me in Vrbe Mediolanensium, dura quidem, & difficili uexatum ægritudine, ab omnibus qui in pretio ibi erant Medicis, bis quotidie uisitatum, sic uolebat enim, is qui poterat, quosdam licet amor nostri, cunctos tamen superioris imperium urgebat. Erant inter cæteros duo dispares, non tam arte, quàm moribus, alter enim ad grabatuli mei spondam tacitus accedebat, & uenarum tumultu digitis explorato, quæ in rem essent, cum familiaribus amicis extra thalamum agebat, inde ad me rediens, bono animo ut essem hortabatur, abibatq;, hunc ergo ut patrem ut sospitatorem meum intuebar. Alter ubi assederat, quasi actis radicibus obtundebat fessum uerbis caput, quantum poterat, quippè imò quidem plus multò, quàm poterat eloquentiæ intentus miros, & inextricabiles texebat apologos: unde sępè pręter ueros angores, noui aliquid simulandum esset. Nunc amicum sanus licet, æger odetam, exclusurus, nisi fam[illegible]e parcerem, erat enim mihi gratia hominis fides, consabulatio tædiosa. Dices autem, hominibus forsitan, cæteris aliter uideatur, crede mihi, nemo ęger diligit concionantem medicum, sed curantem sanos, securos, oc[illegible]s, compta & dulcis mulcet oratio, quod ipsum unq; medici non est, certè ægris, pauidis, occupatis, omnis uerbositas odiosa est. Nemo med[illegible]ducit eloquentiæ appetens, sed salutis, ad hanc herbis non uerbis opus est, odoribus [illegible] coloribus, physicis demum non rheto[illegible]s argumentis, cura corporum uobis imposita est, curare animos aut mouere, Philosophis ueris atq; oratoribus linquere. Si utrumq; tentabitis, neu[illegible]um ritè complebitis, diuersa sunt enim, longeq; distantia, & quæ uno simul ingenio ex[illegible] perdifficile sit cui alterum satis est, ad quod ipse in [illegible]mni studio peruenirem, quàm sit ar[illegible] raritas probat. Quid autem quæso, ad professionem medici rhetorũ flores? Quid Dia[illegible]corũ nodi? Quid Grammaticum hyperbaton? Quid ænigmata poëtarum. Ad naturam [illegible]ei, non ad arti[illegible] initium respexit Maro, ubi describens Medicinam, ut omnem inde loquacitatem excluderet, mutam artem dixit. Contra opinionem multorum loquar, ut s[illegible]leo, cùm m[illegible]lta necessaria sint Medico, artificiosa quidem eloquentia non modò non nec[illegible] sana sc[illegible] d[illegible]sa est. Nempe quæ Medicum distrahit, ægrum premit. Quid ergo efficax o[illegible] pe[illegible] p[illegible]q; remedium. Hæc sunt Medici. Oratio autem breuis, grauis, sobria, pauca sic[illegible]ba, [illegible] d[illegible], quæ [illegible] de[illegible]is trepidum cor confirmẽt, nec cerebrum languentis exagitent, [illegible] lab[illegible]rata, simplicia, puro animi de fonte cadentia, non artis plena, sed fidei, quodq; [illegible]m arrnet spei bonæ, ita dico, donec sine periculoso mendacio fieri potest. Alioquin [illegible]tæ huius abscindere, curãq; uitæ melioris ingerere, satiùs quàm promissis inanibus, [illegible] a[illegible]e [illegible]cautum eousq; deducere, ubi mortis in limine uita simul, & spes cor[illegible]uat. [illegible]dem atq; u[illegible]s spes est, quæ sic corpori prodest, ut non obsit animæ, b[illegible] d[illegible] me [illegible] æger [illegible], quando illum scientia doctum credet, experientia ag[illegible]

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tia sinceritum, & charitate ac fide insignem. P... us q... m sermone, dum professionis suæ memoriam cogitabit, hoc est, non p... dere ... spo... ... m ... deri. Hæc ni fallor ergo spem ... atque attollit, hæc auctoritati Medico tribuunt au... dicere soletis, ut audio, ... curatione de quo plures ... erat. Verba supplen... medico, nihil spei conferunt, nihil rei. Dici nequeat, qu... hominum ... aut perorantibus ... Hæc iam multa familiariter ...

FRAN. PETRARCHA B. NAVENTVRAE BAFR... S. Epist. VIII.

Vna hora duas mihi gratissimas literas tuas attulit, quas diuturnis inde temporibus digressæ, unum hic in tempus coiere. His ut ... illico tecum fui, quamuis enim ut est animus, amicitiarum tenax, & uulgarium negligens curarum, non tecum modò quotidie, cum his paucis, qui mihi iam reliquos mea sors fecit, sed cum ... quos abstulit creberrime, ne cui mirum uideatur, non posse in me ... quod mo... sequit, semper tamen atque omnibus præsens locis, ipsis in literis ... Sic ... faciem docta manus exprimere, non scribendo minus, quam pingendo ... Quibus ego nuc literis hoc respõsum uelim, & si desiderio tui angar, ... loca amœna, & salubria comm... gaudeo, ex diuerso autem, naturæ donum hominum peruersitate confundi, cœli ... serenitatem belli fumo, & puluere deformari doleo, ... hoc ut arbitror, ... qua ... mortalis, nostrum iter impediat, neue nos patriæ cœlestis immemores, ... forte ... rum redeat amœnitas. Speculator æthereus ut torporem nobis excutiat, nunc nos blandis, & nunc duris agens stimulis, dulcia amaris, læta tristibus, secura sollicitis miscet ... temperat. Libros quos quærimus, illic ... on esse mirer, nam & ego dum id tibi imponere, tentabam potius quàm sperabam, sed iuuabat experiri, an quod interdum accidit spem successus excederet. Inquisitionem quidem hanc librorum, quamuis sæpe irritam omittere nescio, tam dulce est sperare quod cupias, habebimus uerò quos poterimus, neque pulchræ imagini, fœdus torpor obstiterit, reliquos pariter optabimus atque ita progrediemur, his contenti, quos nobis nostra sors tribuit, legendique impetu ac discendi ardore mortalitatis reco... ... solabimur. At quod ibi etiam amicos mihi esse ais, & miror, glorior, una enim pars ... est, cui ignotissimum me putabam: uide autem ne amico & fauenti, mendatio nunc ... fuscum nomen ornaueris. Postremò quod de patriæ, meoque statu queris, accipe: Nullus est malorum finis, nulla nisi in misericordia Dei spes, sine hos, qui quæ cupiunt fingunt, sibi, iam adesse, & quæcunque somniauerint uidisse se credunt, paululum forsitan sese minor sed adhuc ingens atque horrifica sæuit pestis, undique aures fletus, & querelæ, undique oculos tepentia funera, urnæque ferunt patentes, quodque in capta urbe ait Maro, crudelis ubique luctus ubique pauor, & plurima mortis imago, & quocunque te uertas, adhuc latè feruente moeas ... Quarum me rerum, fateor, nõ uictus, sed fastidium domi tenet, sæpe solitos congressus ... amicitiæ requirentem. Et de domesticis hactenus. Bellum uerò nunquam grauius ... nunquam funestius, quod finitum sperabamus ingeminat, & in dies inferni, ut ita dicã, ... excitum inardescit. Sic de cœlo ira Dei culpis hominum, de terris hominum rabies dæmon... calcar ... & confuso laborum, ac terrorum puluere mundi callem, & multa nube m... rum, purum iubar usque huius, implicuit atque inuoluit, utque omissis totius humani generis malis, quæ non dicã ... sparsim flere, sed simul omnia cogitare difficile est, omissa quæ nos propiùs premit, infœlicis Italiæ tempestate, ipsam nostrarũ ægritudinẽ medullarum, atque intestinum ulcus attingam. Dicã, quod nõdum forsitan audieris, ... maiori dolore, an pudore sim dicturus, exuima. Siquidem per hos dies, Venetorum ... de more annuo, Cyprũ atque Alexandriam petens, dum Aerethreis nuper fidis ac ... hostilibus esset depulsa littoribus, ad oppidum cui Scythiæ nomen est, in extremo ... us, qua minorem scilicet Asiam, & minorem prospectat Armeniã, manus iuuenum nostrorum, iustissimo quidem odio, nefanæ rebellionis accensa, sed ut res docuit plus ... habitura, quàm consilij, aquandi seu proposito, seu prætextu in terrã egressa, cũque ... one prohiberetur, bipartito agmine muros aggressa est, tanto ardore, ut iam ca... ... quàm Alexandrinarum nauium ductor inuaserat, nam & arte præualidis ... manibus inque humiles preces uersa supplicum more pretentis manibus, spem salutis in dedi... ne rep... eret. Den... actum erat, ubi repentè pars altera, quam classis Cypriæ dux age... Cyprum ... tens, sed in Cypro nata, paucis armatis, imò inermibus Græculis, ... inspectis, leporino ac degenere, & indigno metu, sine uulnere, sine ferro ... tu terga uertisset. In qua fuga primo attonitis nouitate rei, uinxitque ... uidebatur, deinde resumpto animo erumpentibus oppidanis, nostrorum

 quidam

q[illegible]am gladio alij [illegible]dis absumpti [illegible] Vates [illegible], [illegible]uis pericre, ita ho[illegible] aliorum [illegible] ita, propt[illegible] pair[illegible] esse [illegible] uetus, n[illegible]uo d[illegible] mulat[illegible]m est. Quod si p[illegible] aut don[illegible] man[illegible] illuc [illegible] n[illegible] tum l[illegible]cis [illegible] el[illegible] anni momentum, [illegible] e[illegible] ær[illegible] c tibi ami[illegible], & [illegible] nescir[illegible]. Quæ [illegible]em mihi, illius qui c[illegible]a d[illegible] ulis u[illegible] passim in[illegible]gnantis p[illegible] in [illegible] sq; [illegible] in malis, [illegible] boni co[illegible]to, ut sicut [illegible] au[illegible] in Samn[illegible]s, Aul[illegible]licium in P[illegible], Manci[illegible] probrum in Num[illegible], c[illegible]um suorum mortes in M[illegible]ridatem, Auli [illegible]dus, & fœ[illegible]am fugam in lugu[illegible]am ul[illegible]a est Roma. Ita hæc urbs, ante alias nunc amica iu[illegible]tiæ, m[illegible]ltip[illegible]icaris iniurijs exacerbata, & ob id natiuæ [illegible]arumper o[illegible]ita dulcedinis, cr[illegible]entæ pe[illegible]diæ [illegible]rix, acrior, potentiorq; consurgat [illegible] illos [illegible]triæ pro[illegible]tores, [illegible]os Venet[illegible] u-tabamus. Quid [illegible]on dies longior mutatiq; cœli qualitas potest? Creten[illegible] tamen [illegible]i-mus n[illegible] præ[illegible] ta[illegible]tùm nostr[illegible], se[illegible] antiquo tam poëtico, quàm Apostolico test[illegible] fames, fefell[illegible]t n[illegible] a[illegible]ectus exterior, pectorum latebras introspic[illegible]re non est mort[illegible], [illegible]tus habitu ac nom[illegible]us Veneti, proposito atq; ani[illegible]is hostes erāt, quos un[illegible]s ac m[illegible], malè perder[illegible] men[illegible]orum, & nequitiæ ultor CHRISTVS. Iam [illegible]od ul[illegible]um d[illegible]e [illegible]tis breue est, non potest mihi priuatim benè esse, cum publicæ male [illegible]t, ut tamen [illegible]x [illegible] [illegible]stus, sic ego peccator ex spe uiuo, uenit. Vnde non timebatur excidium, ue[illegible] non speratur auxilium. Misit nobis rex tartareus proditorem, mittet rex cœlestis ul[illegible]m [illegible]simo enim bello, dux fortissimus quæritur, ne quid nescias, noster ille Fabritius Veron[illegible] nul[illegible]i nostrorum temporum bellicis artibus secundus, hoc unum in consilijs omnibu[illegible] n[illegible]e agitur, in quod quidem tua patria uti opera dignatur mea. quod esse me illi amic[illegible]mum no[illegible]um est. Proinde cum Laurentius noster Dux illustris & cognomine Celsus, & re cel[illegible] illum per literas reipublicæ uerbis arcesseret, ego meas iussus addidi, quod facil[illegible]us a[illegible] monitu, & priuat[illegible] fulta consilio, publica cum flectat autoritas, quem [illegible] dedisse dext[illegible] [illegible]seris, cum illo duce confidito, nostrum limen & uictoriam subijsse. De reliquo autem, [illegible] animi ægritudine liber sim, corpore ualeo, & si morem nosti. Vsurpo enim per con[illegible] illud Hannibal[illegible]s, caloris ac frigoris patientia par, haud aliter hercle est, uerum ille [illegible] ego neutrum pati possum. Aestas me conficit, siquid deest, hyems perficit, utraq; h[illegible] adeò, ut altera rediens, desideriū ferat alterius: sic in rebus humanis, semper odi[illegible]u[illegible]d est. Quando, & præteritum quoq; dum aderat odiosum fuit, futurumq; cum uener[illegible]di[illegible]sum erit. Sola rerum, uel memoria, uel expectatio dulcis est, ut facilè iudices, quant[illegible]t ex-timanda, quæ nisi absentia non delectant. O iucunda, semperq; eadem cœlestis habita[illegible]o, ubi nec præteritum aliquid, nec futurum, sed præsentia cuncta sunt, ubi nil requiritur, n[illegible]e ratur, sed gaudetur de uero, & præsenti bono. Vbi quòd semel placuit semper placet [illegible] perq; est placiturum immutabile atq; æternum, quod fruentis desiderium, sic len[illegible], [illegible] minuat [illegible]c [illegible]mplet ut non finiat, sic refrigerat ut accendat, cui demum non satiet[illegible] pit, aut surrepere unquam potest, non defectus, non alternatio, non sollici[illegible]udo, uel [illegible] ulla met[illegible]r. Fœlix uiator, qui illuc tandem m[illegible]sericordia duce, peruenit. Nos h[illegible]mus adhuc, ubi diuersa sunt omnia, mil[illegible] ri quidem, nisi animum spes, & patientia solarentur. Vale. Venetijs VIII. Idus Decembris.

FRANC

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARUM DE REBUS SENILIBUS,

LIBER IIII.

FRAN. PETRARCHA MUCHINO VERBMIO [illegible] Epist. I.

BENE habet, non [illegible] per quod uerebar, sed interdum quod sperabam accidit: [illegible] enim, quodq; est optimum incruenta [illegible] ctoria est. Nulla tanta prosperitas belli est, qu[illegible] [illegible] posit, hæc nullo sanguine empta est, nec m[illegible] [illegible] ris est pretij. Armatam prima pugnæ in [illegible] diderim, qua conspecta cecidere animi host[illegible], & cōscientiæ [illegible] spide, iniusta acies fusa est. Alioquin quo modo [illegible] armati [illegible] lo uisu territi terga uertissent? Erant intus in [illegible] p[illegible] ex memoria scelerum diffidentia & metus, magnas partes in [illegible] stris hostium habebatis, poterat quorundam fortass[illegible] [illegible] ctoria clarior uideri, si multo cruore rutilantior fui[illegible]. Ad me[illegible] [illegible] fœlicior, utiliorq; Reipublicæ, nec tibi gloriosior, nec mirabilior in seipsa, nulla est e[illegible] nim t[illegible]m instructa acies, quæ non in cursu rapido, atque impressione præualida, & obstin[illegible] tis in mortem animis, uinci queat. Sine ferro & sanguine uincere, ea demū uictoria uera e[illegible], quæ hostem subigit, ciuem seruat. Non est in lucro ponenda, multorum morte ciuium, p[illegible] ta mors hostium. Scitum est illud inclyti ducis. Malle se unum Ciuem seruare, quàm m[illegible] hostes occidere. Nempè hostis aut uinctus, aut placatus in amicitiam trahi potest, at pere[illegible] ptus ad uitam ciuis retrahi non potest. Ego quidem multa circumspiciens, & a[illegible] m[illegible] m[illegible] metuens, te in arma proficiscentem, multa monueram, uictor[illegible]m certe [illegible] neque tam facilem, neque tam celerem. Itaque non minus mihi negotij supe[illegible] e præl[illegible] b[illegible]m, neq; pauci [illegible] post uictoriam, uel in bello scribenda mihi, quàm ante belli p[illegible] ip[illegible] opin[illegible]ar. Gratiam habeo Cretensium conscientiæ, ac pauori, qui me hoc labore [illegible] Ex [illegible]mnibus equidem quæ tunc scripsi, unum tibi præcipuum descerpsi[illegible], ut cum Met[illegible] de uincendi celeritate contenderes, & hostes bello igitur, & Metellum ueloc[illegible]te supe[illegible] [illegible]d ad te attinet, Romano more, & Romano certè animo in bellum ibas, paratus (sc[illegible] [illegible]it Cicero) aut uincere, aut mori. Contrà, illi autem te conspecto indigenarum more c[illegible] [illegible]rum, cita [illegible]rmidine, circumuenienti magniq; metus telo saucij, atque confixi, quasi ad Dictamum notam [illegible], & uulneribus salutarem herbam, ad uictoris misericordiam confugerunt. Sic tui fama nominis, sic notissima Venetorum uirtus ac potentia, nec mi[illegible]us n[illegible] clementia, bellu[illegible] grauem mira facilitate confecit. Cæterùm ut prospera, & prona cun[illegible] cum [illegible]bus sic cum improbis, perfidisq; militibus difficultatem, ac periculi plu[illegible] [illegible] qui c[illegible]piditate atque inuidia excæcati, non exercitum modo ad rebellionem uerbis accendere, sed te quoque suum ducem, sub quo tàm fœliciter militassent, ferro aggredi au[illegible] [illegible]ndo forsitan uic[illegible]sse te, sine periculo gloriari posses. Quem tu motum ma[illegible] [illegible]us profectò terribilem, magnis te maiorem probans, multa uirtute atque c[illegible] [illegible]pressisti, priuatæq; dissimulatorum iniuriæ læsam Remp. ultus es, iusto suppl[illegible] [illegible], quiete illicò rebus reddita, & exercitu ad obsequium reuocato. In hoc quoqu[illegible] [illegible]cè ut in multis incomparabiles illos duces, Africanum Maiorem, ac Iul. Cæsarem [illegible] Itaque cum omnia, & si magna atque memorabilia, breuia tamen atque uel[illegible]ia [illegible] [illegible]on est æquum scripturam rebus [illegible]sis, de quibus texitur longiorem esse. Sicut aut[illegible] [illegible] scribere necesse non fuit, sic debitum uisum est, hinc tuæ uirtuti, hinc f[illegible]rtu[illegible]æ p[illegible] [illegible]ulari, teq; cum uictoria redeuntem [illegible]etis ac triumphalibus uerbis accipere. [illegible] ue[illegible] [illegible]elle Cretice, seu tu noster Scipio Veronensis, seruator ciuium, uictor hostium, [illegible] sontium m[illegible]itiæ restaurator. Tu nobi[illegible] [illegible]onam sine sang[illegible] gloriosam [illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible] liter[illegible] [illegible]co[illegible]umen, tu rei bellicæ suas [illegible] [illegible]p[illegible]is c[illegible], [illegible] p[illegible] pa[illegible] [illegible], & [illegible] ita regna restituis. Qu[illegible] meri[illegible]s, & si pri[illegible] [illegible]æ, & si niuei cornipedes, atque aurei currus, & [illegible]

præmia antiqua ui[illegible]ibus, ui[illegible] utem [illegible] ama[illegible] in animis quo nullum angustius theatrum, nulla [illegible] arx ce[illegible] gl[illegible] mé [illegible]is. Vale, teq; quam primum tuorum oculis ex[illegible] refer. Venetijs IIII. Iunias.

FRAN. PE[illegible] A PETR[illegible] NONIENS[illegible] RI, S. Epist. II.

E[illegible] præs[illegible] corpore proximus, pene [illegible] strepitum, plausumq; pe[illegible] fumum [illegible] haurias ludorum, [illegible] si quid [illegible] effluent, nocte, [illegible] commeant [illegible] uox [illegible]pleat. Credo tam[illegible] pide me[illegible] perceptu[illegible], quæ cupidius spectat[illegible], n[illegible] hanc tibi [illegible] herrimam u[illegible]luptatem mor[illegible] corpori inuidisset. Nam quod oro te pulchrius, siue quod [illegible] spectaculum fingi potest, quam i[illegible]issimam ciuitatem non de uicinorum iniurijs, no de [illegible]tatibus ciuium, aut rapinis ut reliquas, sed de sola iustitia gaud[illegible] cernere? Augu[illegible]issima Venetorum urbs quæ una hodie libertatis ac pacis, & iustitiæ domus est, unum bonorũ refugium, unus portus, quem bene uiuere cupientium tyrannicis undiq; ac bellicis tempestatibus qua[illegible] petant, urbs auri diues, sed ditior fama, potens opibus, sed uirtute potentior, solidis [illegible]ta marmoribus, sed solidiore etiam fundamento ciuilis concordiæ stabilita, sal[illegible]is cincta fluctibus, sed salsioribus uita consilijs. Non credas de recepta Cretæ insula, quæ uetusta ie nominis, ingens licet, tamen ingentibus animis parua res est, & parua præter uirtutem omnia quamuis maxima uideantur, sed de euentu, qualem esse decuit, hoc est, non de sua, [illegible] de iustitiæ uictoria glorietur ac gaudeat. Nam quid magnum uiris fortibu[illegible] ac potentia[illegible] du[illegible]e, atq; ijs terra, mariq; militiæ magistris, uicisse inermes Græculos, & nequi[illegible]uam? Ma[illegible]m est, quod nostra etiam nunc æ[illegible]te, tam citò fortitudini fraus cedit, & u[illegible]tibus [illegible] umbunt, quodq; nunc etiam Deus curat atq; aspicit res humanas. Ego [illegible]minus [illegible] & non muto. Et rursus: Ego (inquit) sum qui sum. Non esset autem ue[illegible] ac plane, si qua ei mutatio inesset, quod fuit idipsum est, neq; à casu hoc illi nomẽ tribuit Psalmista. Quod insuper fuit, quodq; est, idipsum erit semper, imò quidem neque fuit, neq; erit, illi proprie conuenit, sed est tantum, simili modo, & quód sciuit scit, quod uoluit uult, qu[illegible]d potuit potest: id si cui unquam dubium fuisset, eò quód uel culpis hominum manifestis, uel occulto Dei iuditio negligi, quandoq; mortalia uisa essent, ecce, ut nuper incruentæ, facil[illegible]q; uictoriæ mira celeritas declarauit, quæ tanta fuit, ut perfectum antequam cœptum bellum, quod de illis olim Romæ, nũc de Cretensibus Venetijs audirem. Hinc ergo gaudium, hinc triumphus. Longum neq; occupati atque humilis styli est, totam sacræ seriem lætitię, uerbis amplecti, rerum summam accipe: Cum ad I[illegible]. Non. Iunij anni huius M. CCC. LX[illegible]II. hora fermè diei sexta, forte ad fenestrã starem, maria alta prospectans, essetq; una frater olim meus, nunc pater amantissimus Patracensis Archiepiscopus, qui autumni principio, ad [illegible]dem propriam transiturus, propter immotam fortunæ fauoribus charitatem, hic in do[illegible] sua, quæ mea dicitur, hanc agit æstatem, subitò longarum una nauium, quas Galeas u[illegible] ramis circum[illegible]ulta frondentibus, portus, ostia, remis subit, inopino prospectu, nostrum [illegible] loqu[illegible]m interrumpens, illicet auguriũ cœpimus, læti aliquid rumoris illam uehere, sic [illegible]n[illegible]s u[illegible]da [illegible]angebãt uelis, nautæ alacres, & frondibus coronati iuuenes, læto uultu, uexi[illegible]sq; super uerticem agitans, è prora ipsa uictricem, sed adhuc ignarã rei patriam salutabant. Iam peregrin[illegible]e nauis aduentum, signo dato, summæ turris excubitor nunciat, itaq; nullius imperio, sed noscendi desiderio, ad littus è tota urbe concursum erat. Cum uerò iam propior facta, & subiecta oculi[illegible] res esset, aduertimus signa hostium, de puppe pendentia, nihilq; iam dub[illegible] supererat, quin uictorię nuncia nauis esset. Necdum tamen belli, sed prçlij cuiuspiam, aut captæ ur[illegible] ali[illegible] s[illegible] uict[illegible], sperabamus, neq; quod erat, capiebant animi. At[illegible]n terram c[illegible] rei[illegible] u[illegible] in [illegible]ilio fecêre, supra spem, supraq; fidem læta omnia, uicti e nim, cæ[illegible] & [illegible], ciues uinculis eruti, urbes ad obsequium reuersæ, re im[illegible] tum C[illegible] [illegible] uictricia, pactum deniq; sine cæde bellum, & pax parta cu[illegible] gloria. Qu[illegible] Laurentius uerè Celsus, Vir nisi me forsitan amor fal[illegible], & ma[illegible]ne animi, [illegible] morum, & uirtutum studio, superq; omnia singula[illegible] iet[illegible] amore pa[illegible] mem[illegible]andus, sciens nil ritè, nilq; fœliciter fieri, nisi sumptum fuerit à re[illegible] princi[illegible]m in laudes Dei, & gratiarũ actiones toto cũ populo se conuertit, per q[illegible] u[illegible] omnem, [illegible] conspectius, in basilica beati Marci Euangelistę, qua nulla ut reor u[illegible] pu[illegible] fa[illegible] qu[illegible]tum fieri per hominẽ Deo potest sacris celeberrimis, & [illegible] esi[illegible]ne [illegible]nte & circa templum habita, ubi non solum populus, clerusq; omnis affu[illegible]d prçla[illegible] n[illegible] sus aliquis, uel uidẽdi amor, uel uulgata deuotio de[illegible]ebat. Per [illegible] ac spectacula [illegible] op[illegible]

[illegible]merare, quot ludorum species, quæ formæ, q[illegible] p[illegible] quæ solennitas, quis ordo. Ve[illegible] in re tali tarum ualde & m[illegible]le, nullus [illegible]m tumultus, nulla confusio, nullus rancor, sed omnia plena lætitiæ, plena gratiæ, plen[illegible]cordiæ atque amoris. L[illegible] ma[illegible]ficentia regnum suum tenu[illegible] modestia ac so[illegible]tas exular[illegible] sed in sua illam urbe, & [illegible] sua festiuitate regnantem re[illegible]rent, [illegible]renarentq;. Multos qui[illegible] fest[illegible]s dies, u[illegible]o apparatu celebritas hæc deduxit, du[illegible]bus tandem tota [illegible] claud[illegible] Q[illegible] n[illegible] propria nomina La[illegible]a non habeo d[illegible]am tamen ut in [illegible]as [illegible], alter [illegible]cursus, ut ar[illegible] dici [illegible]est. In altero enim re[illegible] in[illegible]re singuli singulis hinc inde c[illegible]runt, uterq; ludus eque[illegible] pinnis, [illegible] q[illegible]d hastis & clypeis dec[illegible]rent[illegible] fer[illegible]cis ex[illegible] u[illegible] eff[illegible], quand[illegible] imaginem re[illegible] præsentant. At secund[illegible] armatus, & d[illegible] quaedam, [illegible]ue in illo qu[illegible] ele[illegible] tiæ plurimum, periculi m[illegible]mum, in hoc [illegible] artificio par discrimen [illegible] non [illegible] proprie bal[illegible]ud[illegible]um Galli uocant, quòd nomen primo ma[illegible] conuenit, i[illegible] hoc [illegible]rtatur. Cæterum in utroque, quod narrari alteri u[illegible]x me cred[illegible] præb[illegible] em[illegible] nunc oculis meis credo, magna [illegible]ira prorsus industria, non ut mund[illegible] [illegible] tic[illegible] atque æquoreæ, sed militaris ac Martiæ gentis eminuit. Ea equitand[illegible] [illegible]ndorum ars armorum, ea demum æstus, & laborum patientia, quæ quibuslibet acrimis [illegible]cirær bellatoribus satis esset: uterq; ludus in platea illa, cui nescio an terrarum orbis parem habeat, ante ipsam marmoream [illegible]rque auream templi faciem exhibitus, & priori quidem [illegible]udo, nemo externus interfuit, [illegible]tuor & uiginti nobiles adolescentes, forma, habitu & ætate conspicu[illegible] hanc sibi partem lætitiæ delegêre, accersito Ferraria Thoma Bambasio, qui ut p[illegible]ssenis b[illegible]ter notus fiat, siquid ego apud illos, aut notitiæ sum habiturus, aut fidei, talis est hodie in u[illegible]uersa Venetia, qualis quondam Romæ Roscius, mihi uerò tàm charus, tamq; fam[illegible]ris, quàm Tullio ille fuit, etsi ut in altera quidem harum amicitiarum parte potio[illegible], in altera multa insit imparitas. Cæterùm huius ductu, & consilio, ludus hic actus, & p[illegible] tanto est ordine, ut non homines currere, sed uolare angelos iudicares. M[illegible] spectac[illegible] tot ephœbos, ostro atque auro uestitos cernere, tot Aeripedes ac fulgentes phaleris e[illegible], sic r[illegible]entes frenis, sic urgentes stimulis, ut uix terram pedibus tangere ui[illegible]ntur. Atque ita sui ducis edictum præsentibus animis obseruantes, ut hoc ad terminum prop[illegible]qu[illegible], ille claust[illegible]is erumperet, ille autem se cursui præpararet, quá alternation[illegible] hac, & [illegible]mma omnium paritate, in circulos re digesta, unus, isq; perpetuus cursus erat, dum unius fini[illegible] principium esset alterius, & desinente ultimo, rursum primus inciperet, ita ut cum multi tota luce currerent, serò unum diceres concurrisse. Et uicissim nunc hastarum fragmina cœlo uolitantia, nunc uento crepitantia cerneres, signa purpurea, nec dictù facile, nec credibile est auditu, quæ'nam ibi indies hominum frequentia. Nullus sexus, nulla ætas, nullus status de[illegible] [illegible]am Dux ipse, cum immenso procerum comitatu, frõtem templi supra uestibulum occup[illegible]rat, unde marmoreo è suggestu essent, cuncta sub pedibus, locus est, ubi q[illegible]atuor illi æ[illegible]nei & au[illegible]ati equi stant, antiqui operis ac præclari, quisquis ille fuit artificis, ex alto pene uiuis adimentes, ac ped[illegible]bus ol[illegible] repentes, neúe æstiuus sol, pronus ad ue[illegible]peram, aut castore offendere, aut fulgore diuersicoloris auleis usquequaque pendentibus prouisu[illegible]n era[illegible] Illic ego rogatus, quæ crebra dignatio ducis est, ad dexteram eius sedi, uerum bidu[illegible] spectaculo contentus, de reliquo occupationem nulli incognitam excusaui. Infrà uerò nihil uacui, non (ut aiunt) milij granum in terram cadere potuisset, platea ingens templum ipsum, tu[illegible] [illegible]cta, porticus, fenestræ: non tantùm plena, sed conferta omnia & condensa. Inext[illegible] atque incredibilis populi multitudo terræ faciem tegebat, & subiecta oculis urbis [illegible]mæ, numerosa simul, & culta fœcunditas, festi lætitia [illegible]inabat, ut nihil penitùs pl[illegible] [illegible] tanta iucunditate suspicius aspectu, & contemplatio[illegible]e iucundius, erat ad dexteram, [illegible]is [illegible]morem pulpiti contextum trabibus solarium, ob idipsum tumultuario oper[illegible] ubi ex omni flore nobilitatis, honestissimæ electæ quadringentæ, matronæ in[illegible]gne[illegible]ue ornatu spectabiles Meri[illegible]num, & quotidianis quoq; conuiuijs matutin[illegible] ac se[illegible]um ornamentum consessu [illegible]ereo præbuêre. Interuenêre præterea quod de[illegible] [illegible]o tegi negat in has terras, casu n[illegible]per aduecti è Britanniæ partibus, nobilissim[illegible] da[illegible] uiri, comitesq; & consanguinei Regis sui, quos recenti uictoria exultantes pereg[illegible] [illegible]uc[illegible]ina contraxerat, qui[illegible] sese interim laborari æquoreo ue[illegible]tabât. Hunc [illegible]ul[illegible] [illegible]um [illegible] equestris illa decursio finem habuit, cuius præmium [illegible]ol[illegible]s hon[illegible] fuit. Isq; [illegible]æ[illegible]nus omnibus, ut cum uictor quisq; nemo uictus meritò [illegible] p[illegible]t. [illegible] quod neque tàm pari euentu & periculo maiore agi[illegible]nd[illegible] [illegible]te u[illegible] ra[illegible]næ erat, alia statuta sunt præmia, corona magni ponderis puro ex[illegible], gem[illegible]q; fulgen-

fulgentibus [illegible] de [illegible] hic [illegible] arg[illegible] i ope[illegible] se me[illegible] retur qui [illegible] locum gloriæ m[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] ari quo[illegible] ac u[illegible] scrip[illegible] bull[illegible] æ testimon[illegible] igne, per fin[illegible] antesque proui[illegible] erat, qu[illegible] ac [illegible] ad [illegible] em illum [illegible] m cocursum [illegible] qui tal[illegible] a- her[illegible] autem mul[illegible] on diuersarum m[illegible] um [illegible] d fin[illegible] rum [illegible] us & m[illegible] d[illegible] is fidu[illegible] a esset, & spes [illegible] udi[illegible] q; ia[illegible] al[illegible] set, h[illegible] a[illegible] Nonas Au[illegible] sti cœ[illegible] s, quatuor d[illegible] is a[illegible] t[illegible] a c[illegible] ce, ut po[illegible] ur[illegible] m, [illegible] tale memoria [illegible] m[illegible] epe[illegible] Ad [illegible], & ducis & pr[illegible] erum, [illegible] exte[illegible] militarium uirorum [illegible] is, q[illegible] dux [illegible] fuerat, uictori[illegible] q; post De[illegible] ac [illegible] æ auctor erat, concordi[illegible] o, primus hon[illegible] i obtigit, secundus aduenæ Ferraria profecto. Hic [illegible] idus, sed non gaudijs prosperisque successibus, hic & epistolæ finis sit, qua[illegible] or, ut quod mon[illegible] us eripuit [illegible] ulis tuis, auribusque re- st[illegible] uam, & ut noris ex ordine, quid [illegible] p[illegible] d nos gentur, ut[illegible] intelligas, inter maritimos c[illegible] m ui[illegible], constare mu[illegible] iam, & magnificentiam, & excelsos animos, contemptumque auri gl[illegible] æ appetitum. Vale Venetijs IIII. Idus Augusti.

FRA[illegible] PETRARCHA PETRO BONONIENSI, S. Epist. III.

De famulorum pernicacia.

VEnit ad me uidendum socrus tua, uenerabilis matrona, c[illegible] il aliud su[illegible] agaretur, quàm quod filiam te dignam genuit, abundè erat, ut non solum admittenda, sed amplectenda animo, & colenda [illegible] er, ac dignis honoribus prosequẽda. Quid te longiùs traham? Famulos meos, seu domesticos hostes, nosti quanquam quid [illegible] s i[illegible] famauerim, qui optimi omnium dici uolũt, & fortassè famulorum optimi, se[illegible] profect[illegible] essimi hominum sunt: ita ut cum quidam mihi illos inuideant, ego eos, quasi inte[illegible] rium malum, & uisceribus infusum uirus exhorreã. Famulos igitur nosti omnes, nulli[illegible] scriptionibus opus est, professi seruitium, imperiumque exercent, imò tyrannidem importunam, atque indignam, mitto alia, non epistolæ, sed an[illegible] alium materiam. Centies non dicam iussi, sed oraui, ut siquis ad me ueniat, dum diuino deditus officio sum, nisi uel persona admodum insignis, uel aliquid magnæ rei sit, expectare iubeant, sed dum studio intentus, neque passim omnes accipiant, neque excludant, sed discretione, si qua esset, uti uelint hominum, & causarum. At dum mensæ, aut lectulo partem dedi, confestim introëat quisquis [illegible], nam & utrique breuiandi causas afferri cupio, & utrunque repetere, post colloquium licet. In[illegible] s sanè ut in reliquis omnibus eius, quod me uelle norunt, contrarium faciunt, seu hæc illorum perfidia, seu mea sors est, seu ijsdem fortè quibus se sciunt, me quoque uictum pa[illegible] [illegible] bus ijsdem, subditumque rebus putant, somno scilicet ac uentri, quamuis hanc suspit[illegible] nec sermo meus, nec ut reor uita recipiat. Sed ad hodiernæ seriem reuertor historię. E[illegible] hora d[illegible] ei sexta, & eg[illegible] æstiuo de more, in cubiculum concesseram, quod nocti defuerat, à m[illegible] die exacturus. Hæc ab illo primo [illegible] ostri gene[illegible] is, non tàm familiæ suæ utili, quàm famo[illegible] a [illegible] ente, nobis superant, fames, sitis, lassitudo, & somnus, siue hic breuis, siue ille perpetuus o- [illegible] or mors, uix dum ergo, ut perhibent, hanc quotidianam mortis imaginem somnum, oculis carpere orsus eram, dum hanc, illam tuam quam inhabito domum, adijt me uidendi aui[illegible] [illegible] em nec uidit hactenus, & non uisum amat. Responderunt ij custodes mei egre[illegible] ij, [illegible] tum me, neque mendacissimum genus hoc mentiti sunt, sed nec lætheus ille, nec [illegible] is somnus erat. Quid faceret fessa mulier ac grandæua, utrunque enim augu[illegible] [illegible] d [illegible] cil us fe[illegible] anti[illegible] p[illegible] a cominbus, & magna in urbe semper plena, p[illegible] pu[illegible] nunc adu[illegible] arum turbi[illegible] penitu[illegible] dantis. Quas hi[illegible] c dies, atque utinam non specta[illegible] uidendæque pulcherrimæ urbis d[illegible] num, sed indulgentiæ annuæ pia spes & cum CH[illegible] ST[illegible] ad cœlum mentibus ascendendi cura compulerit. Abijt ergo, fortunam suam ac[illegible] sans, qu[illegible] d me cern[illegible] re nequiu[illegible] et. Ego autem expertectus, quid egerim, quid remed[illegible] p[illegible] quid putas, ni[illegible] i ut tacitus indignarer nempè [illegible] unt, assueta non cruciant, imò [illegible] ici[illegible] sed parciùs, callum habet consuetudo, durum certè, non imperuium d[illegible] [illegible] ri illam facere mens fuit, sed facilius Adriæ in æstu pisciculum, quam h[illegible] m[illegible] em [illegible] at[illegible] a[illegible] u be reperias, hac præsertim die. Hæc ti[illegible] precor meis [illegible] dic[illegible] ne ap[illegible] d ea[illegible] rt[illegible] uel [illegible] ites qu[illegible] d seruilis nequ[illegible] fu[illegible] t, mihi [illegible] [illegible] & Va[illegible] Vene[illegible] in die Asc[illegible] nis ad [illegible] pe[illegible] m-

[illegible] *ue[illegible]usam fi[illegible]toribus* [illegible]

I[illegible] inter o[illegible]uscula quæ [illegible] adolesc[illegible] exciderunt carmē est tumultua-[illegible] arden[illegible] recen[illegible] uetustum [illegible] un[illegible] & [illegible]enè meo iuditio, iam [illegible] quod aduersu[illegible] ma[illegible] inuidum, [illegible] ego autem scripsi illic c[illegible] a cum, [illegible]mmam gloriam [illegible] rar[illegible] ret[illegible] c pa rem in Italia certè, nec comitem pat[illegible]et, præter paucas [illegible] pro re[illegible] erit[illegible], sed pro aurium uoluptate del[illegible]gerat, literarum ferè omnium [illegible] u[illegible] ut p[illegible] eam defenderem, [illegible] ille mordacius carpebat cuiq; [illegible] ætate [illegible] deditus [illegible]ram, cumq; inter poëtas l[illegible]tos, nostr[illegible]rum primus ut decuit V[illegible]gilius, styl[illegible]us, ac fi[illegible]num, quæ apud illu[illegible] quos cre[illegible]ræ f[illegible]tmentu[illegible] in[illegible]idisset, [illegible]uas ille m[illegible]mè execrari so[illegible]tus dicere [illegible] carum al[illegible]uas prætereundo attigi q[illegible]as [illegible]rbo il[illegible], qu[illegible] as [illegible]o obuolutas ost[illegible]nderem, simulq; suam sibi ignorantiam detegerem, inq; [illegible] ut uel coactus agnosceret, quam turpe est, uiro ingenioso, damnare quo[illegible] at[illegible] post tantum tempus quærend[illegible] materia orta est, atq; humiliter uestigand[illegible] nus ad uirtutem, ac scientiam gradus, quid'nam dimoto, quod circumfusum uero [illegible] oriarum [illegible]lo, illę sibi uelint fabulę. dignus es fateor, cui omnia patescant. Dignus eg[illegible], q[illegible] honest[illegible]o desiderio manum dem. Quod mehercle, si quantum animi, tantum esset ocij, l[illegible]ter a[illegible]cederet iuuaretq; de re[illegible]uijs iuuenilium studiorum meorum, iuuenilem tuam [illegible] adiuuare. Vereor autem si quæ olim iuuenis (iam enim mihi hæc longè alijs int[illegible]nto, pridem in te[illegible]m abierunt) de his, horumq; similibu[illegible] gitare cōsueueram, loqui in[illegible]iam, ne me[illegible]moria re[illegible]etendis, nec tempus describendis s[illegible]ret rebus: sin aliorum opiniones, c[illegible]nie-cturasq; sequi uelim, ingens rerum series aperitur, & tàm uaga, tàm discolor, ut pro monstro sit, scriptorum tanta diuersitas ac libertas. Nam & ingeniorum infinita dissimilitudo est, nullus [illegible]utem, qui nouorum dogmatum castiget audaciam, & res ipsas tales, quæ multos ac [illegible]a-rios, capiant intellectus. Qui si & ueri sint, & litera illos fert, quamuis ijs, q[illegible]i fabulas con[illegible]derunt, nunquam fortassis in mentem uenerint, non erunt repudiandi. Nam quis int[illegible]r tot ambages rerum, quid in re qualibet studiosè abdita ueri insit, sic uaticinari audeat [illegible] ind[illegible]bitanter affirmat, hoc illos, ante annorum millia sensisse non aliud, satis est unum aliquem ex uerbis, aut multos sensus elici: ueros tamen, licet plures aut totidem, & eosdem aut pauciores, nec eosdem omnes, & horum nullum prorsus habuerit, qui repertor fuit. Neq; enim tàm facilè quid cuiq; uisum, quam quid uerum sciri potest? Qualia multa de Moyse in confessionum libris disputat Augustinus. Ego autem, quando id rogas, & me fessum inclinata iam die, de hospitio cogitantem, ad matutina negotia retrahis, dicam breuiter, nō quod uerissimum, electissimumq; esse contendam, sed quod illa ætate, quam nūc degis, cum eisdem quibus tu nunc curis, ac l[illegible]dijs exercerer, uarieq; ut fert ætas illa, modò huc opinionibus agerer modò illuc, nunc hoc, nunc illud occurreret, cogitanti sępius occursabat, quod ꝑ cum coæuis meis, quantum non fatigandæ memoriæ præstò est, sæpius fabulabar. Accipe uerò nunc, in manus epistolam illam, unde tibi hæc scrutandi animus fuit, simul, & quod ibi scriptum memini. Aspice Virgilium, quem contra illum maledicum defendebam, & quē con[illegible] diuino illo in opere, quod sibi ultimum est, omnibus Castalio de fonte gustantibus, p[illegible]mum atq; præcipuum est, altius aliquid sensisse, quàm quòd loquitur, idq; non modò [illegible] tant[illegible]um communis habet opinio, sed Poëtæ ipsius epistola. Quædam ad Augustu[illegible] [illegible]rem [illegible]cripta testatur, ubi se rem maximā, & præter id, quòd apparet studij mul[illegible] [illegible]d[illegible]t ingre[illegible]um. Multa præterea, neq; enim cuncta memoriter teneo, sed q[illegible] ma[illegible]o, clarè innuant. Cæterùm q[illegible]a ut ego ipse tunc asserui, nec dictum mu[illegible], [illegible]rè nul[illegible] hunc Poëtam uersus, sine tegmine est, ne infinitam atq; inextricabilem [illegible]rdiar t[illegible] id ueniam quod quæsisti, & [illegible]uid addidero, liberalem calamum laudab[illegible] [illegible]ud occupatum excusabis. [illegible]m in pri[illegible]s atr[illegible]s fratres, quibus imperitatem di[illegible] Aeo[illegible]um, uenti sunt fratres, ideò, quia [illegible] eode parente geniti hoc est ex aere. Atri ue[illegible] [illegible]pter turbines & procellas, & puluere[illegible] & imbres, & grand[illegible]ne, & nimbo[illegible], quos tec[illegible] fla[illegible]us, [illegible]tres isti agitant. Fratres ergo, [illegible] turbidi ac di[illegible]cordes inuicem, inq; ipsum pa[illegible]rem [illegible]ebelles. Aeolus uerò, u[illegible]tosissimarum nouem circa Siciliam i[illegible]sularu[illegible] qu[illegible] eius Aeoliæ dictæ sunt, tantum siue usu, siue arte al[illegible]ua uen[illegible] [illegible]otitiam hab[illegible] ut ex colore, motuq; a[illegible]s mo[illegible]umq; u[illegible]bus [illegible]t des[illegible]s a[illegible] a[illegible]e prædiceret. Hanc o[illegible] ca[illegible] ud [illegible] p[illegible] dictus, atq; habitus, sed apud [illegible]

apud

apud quem [illegible] buit Vi[illegible] sum a[illegible] quaerunt, [illegible] mu[illegible] dem a ead[illegible] uariet[illegible] ait A[illegible] b[illegible] in quaeri[illegible] m scilicet, [illegible] eq[illegible] a [illegible] pio usque in h[illegible] at [illegible] V[illegible] ueniant, ne [illegible] ut [illegible] de quo quaeri Virg[illegible] reuc[illegible] cui is [illegible] m, [illegible] Quae perfectio u[illegible] praecipua ex [illegible] quisi[illegible] m mortalem [illegible] o, [illegible] cum [illegible] n, tum [illegible] ma[illegible] ben[illegible] em [illegible] Virg[illegible] dixi de [illegible] rim, u[illegible] m [illegible] ur aequis pas[illegible] s in eo igitur, se q[illegible] quaeri, loco u[illegible] em quod petis expe[illegible] m, uideri mihi solent u[illegible] illi, n[illegible] al[illegible] m trarum [illegible] ncupiscentiae, motusque animi in pectore, subterque praecordia ha[illegible] tantes, & hu[illegible] an [illegible] requiem, quasi quibusdam tempestatibus tranquillum aliquod mare turbantes. Aeo[illegible] utem, ipsa ratio regens, frenansque irascibilem, & concupiscibilem appetitum animae, [illegible] d ni faciat, ut Virgilius ipse ait:

M[illegible] ac terras, caelumque profundum,

Hoc [illegible] sa[illegible] g[illegible] nem & carnem, atque ossa, ipsamque postremò anima[illegible], illam terre[illegible], ha[illegible] caelest[illegible] g[illegible] is, quippè ferant rapidi secum [illegible] mortem scilicet ac ruinam. Spel[illegible] ae a[illegible], q[illegible] bu[illegible] le abditos facit, quid nisi cauae, & [illegible] osae partes hominis sunt? Vbi secundum Plat[illegible] nicam dimensionem, suis sedibus passiones habitant, pectus & ilia. Sup[illegible] add[illegible] a m[illegible] les caput est, quam rationi sedem Plato idem statuit, Aeneas uir fortis ac perte[illegible] us, de quo paulò supra dixi. At Achates cura uirorum comes illustrium, & sollicitudo & in[illegible] stria. Sylua uerò uita haec, umbris atque erroribus plena, perplexisque tramitibus atq[illegible] certis, & feris habitata, hoc est, difficultatibus, & periculis multis, atque occultus, in[illegible] ctuosa & inhos[illegible] ita, & herbarum nitore, & cantu auium, & aquarum murmure, id est breui & caduca spe[illegible] e, & inani ac fallaci dulcedine rerum, praetereuntium atque habi[illegible] ium accolarum oc[illegible] o[illegible] tque aures. Inter[illegible] lenens ac demulcens, lucis in finem h[illegible] is ac tremen[illegible] a, aduentuque hyemis, coeno foeda, solo squalida, truncis horrida, frondibus spo[illegible] ata. Venus obuia, syluae medio, ipsa est uoluptas, circa tempus uitae medium, feruentior atque [illegible] or. os, habitumque uirgineum ge[illegible] t illudat inscijs. Nam si quis eam, qualis est cerneret, haud dubiè nisu solo tremefact[illegible] s a[illegible] geret, ut enim nihil blandius, sic nihil est foedius uoluptate. Succincta autem, quia uelociter fugit, & idcircò uelocissimis comparatur. Nil nempè uelocius uoluptate, siue in uniuerso [illegible] lam, siue in partibus extimes. Nam [illegible] ta citissimè desinit, nec dum exercetur, nisi ad momentum durat. H[illegible] bitu demum uena[illegible] is, quia uenatur miserorum ani[illegible] ar[illegible] m habet & comam uentis effusam, ut & feriat & delect[illegible] t & sit delectatio ipsa uo[illegible] & inconst[illegible] ns, & uentosa ad extremum omnia. [illegible] ec quid[illegible] m Tro[illegible] anis [illegible] mica [illegible], [illegible] e quod apud Troiam reuerentiùs colebatur, [illegible] ue[illegible] uia cùm [illegible] t [illegible] s uitae à [illegible] o[illegible] s omn[illegible] l, ac Philosophis intellectae ac descriptae: & sit prima sapientiae & stu[illegible] iorum, quae Palladi tribuitur, secundo potentiae atque opum, quae Iuno[illegible] tur, t[illegible] uolup[illegible] atis & libidinum, quae Veneri assi[illegible] natur. Troiani ultimā praetulerun[illegible] & [illegible] dex aequitati[illegible] & iustitiae famam nactus inter belluas, magnis in rebus ini[illegible] u[illegible] q[illegible] i[illegible] arum. A[illegible] mptus namque ad certamen illud famosissimū Dearum, quas n[illegible] m[illegible] ratio[illegible] obediens, sed [illegible] asioni, pro nuda Venere sententiam tul[illegible] t, unde ill[illegible] praem[illegible] tatio breuis, & mox longus labor, ac malorum series, ad extremū m[illegible] sua [illegible] d suorum omnium & totius demùm populi sibi fauentis excidium [illegible] A[illegible] ix[illegible] ur, quòd etiam Viri f[illegible] es ex uoluptate generantur, & quod sin[illegible] q[illegible] ueri[illegible] uenustas, [illegible] u[illegible] exul atque inops, [illegible] stis etiam oculis placuisse desc[illegible] [illegible] em formosae uid[illegible], quorum ex primo li[illegible] is incentiuum ex secundo [illegible] b[illegible] [illegible] nqu[illegible] m o[illegible] t Aeneam, magni[illegible] atum cas[illegible] s, incendi[illegible] ac [illegible] o t[illegible] m Ac[illegible] e com[illegible] m, & su[illegible] nube circund[illegible] tum. Q[illegible] ae [illegible] dem [illegible] nu[illegible] e[illegible] conditur, quod int[illegible] rdū acci[illegible] t, ut solius fama ui[illegible] tis [illegible] b[illegible] an[illegible], ac misericordiae moueantur animi, ad [illegible] endā o[illegible] s. [illegible] rata [illegible] modū[illegible] & consp[illegible] ra illo[illegible] nobil[illegible] tate ac forma, ue[illegible] e [illegible] q incip[illegible] man. I[illegible] se quoque n[illegible] n [illegible] non moueri, praeter[illegible]

[illegible] atq; [illegible] peti, imò quidem [illegible] Hierony[illegible] impossibile est, in sensim h[illegible] mo[illegible] medullarum [illegible] lore, sed quia [illegible] in ait, ille laudatur ill[illegible] præd[illegible] a-tur [illegible] tum ut cœperit [illegible] tare, interficit [illegible] tatus. Quod nihil est [illegible] liud, quam [illegible] ante Dauid tenere [illegible] & allidere p[illegible] suos ad petram. Vel [illegible] [illegible] omnibus ac[illegible], ille etiam fit beatus, qui eis [illegible] succubuerit [illegible] grauius, malæ consuetu[illegible] implicitu[illegible] & [illegible] curuatus: aliquando tamen Dei [illegible] in [illegible] tacito, uel ali[illegible] [illegible] surgit, ne[illegible] lectaq; qua teneb[illegible]tur uo[illegible]ptate, ad u[illegible] [illegible] Mercurius eloquij dux, à Ioue missus, meliora sequi [illegible] & [illegible] nos, magnoq; animum labefactus amore, p[illegible] et tamē [illegible] quam uoluptate ipsa, & bl[illegible] usu, nec inexpertum r[illegible] quid, [illegible] tus [illegible] ali posset. Dici enim [illegible] potest, quibus bland[illegible] tum animum, & euadere meditantem uoluptas illecebrosa detineat, quas dulce [illegible] pe[illegible] nti obij[illegible] amari-tudines abeunti. Quibus frustrà tentatis & digresso ad ul[illegible]rum, quem [illegible] mi-serabilibus modis, & semota parumper Anna sorore sua annosa, hoc est [illegible] ue-teritiq; temporis memoria, quam ad illum retinendum, frustrà sæpè tran[illegible] u, [illegible] præ-sens eam mori non sineret, tandem ipsa se perimit: quia nimirùm an[illegible]s, dum Aposto[illegible] consilio prætento, ad honesta conuertitur uoluptas, fœda per seipsam [illegible] erit. Ille uerò diu licet [illegible] deliberandum fluctuatus, ac deinde paratis rebus, iam certus eun[illegible], c[illegible] lla [illegible] pup-pi[illegible] pitus, hoc est, alta in mente, & certo proposito conquiescens, quia fælice[illegible] [illegible] lectio, quasi quidam terminus est [illegible] oris, ad extremum nauigat, & quamuis in-terd[illegible] oculos reflectens, ac dimiss[illegible] respici[illegible] rgit tamen, & per fluctu[illegible] aqu[illegible] one hor-dos [illegible] m [illegible] egit, hoc est, per difficultates m[illegible], perseuerantis animi, nauigium, gube[illegible] culo r[illegible] tionis administrans, actuumq; & uerborum uelis, ac remis ira[illegible] ducit [illegible] im[illegible] ens, [illegible] stinatum tandem littus tenet. Vbi religioni primùm data opera, patrio more sacrificans, [illegible] m iubet saluere parentem, quem uersiculum, & Catholici adopt[illegible] t, & usque ad altissimum CHRI[illegible]TI altare pia traduxit Ecclesia. Rebus diuinis explicitis, ad humana conuertitur, quæ nil aliud, quàm ludi quidam sunt, in quibus uariante fortuna, sæpè primi ul[illegible]imi, & nouissimi primi sunt, & lenitatem ac superbiam iuuenilem, tarda & constans su-perat senectus: De more tamen extrema gaudij luctus occupat. Quo concussus animus uiri fortis, sed amicis consilijs, ac nocturnis uisis, & diuinis confirmatus oraculis, rantum ro-bur assumit, ut non solum perstet in incepto, sed gubernatore licet amisso, per seipsum re-gat fluitantem, nocturnis in fluctibus carinam, id est, in obscura caligine uitæ huius [illegible] a-bilis, & incertæ, alienam gemens negligentiam, ac fortunam, clauum tamen co[illegible] silij n[illegible] re-linquens. Quod in dubijs rebus, inq; periculis maximè elucescit, donec ad [illegible] ntc[illegible] ius u[illegible] tiam littus [illegible] prouectus, Cumanum scilicet, Baianumq; sinum, in quo ni fallor, [illegible] locorum situ, & naturæ Graium superat Poëtam, propter concretas sordes uitæ mortal[illegible] casibus multis exercitæ, flumine lotus, inuento fatidicæ Vatis ductu, m[illegible]nte [illegible] eros ad[illegible] ubi fictionum nullus aut modus, aut numerus. Illic uerò alterius uitæ sta[illegible]u, quantum fie[illegible] potest, cognito, ac præclarè posteritatis ingenti spe concœpta, iam securior, lætiorq; progr[illegible] ditur, ne in nutricem quidem solitæ immemor pietatis, Circæumq; inde montem præterue-ctus, ut exemplo doceat, mala quæ uinci nequeunt, declinanda esse, Tyberinis tandem fau-cibus inuectus, ad ea ubi nunc Roma est loca, hoc est, ad laboriosum, atque ancipitem qu[illegible] rendæ gloriæ camptum uadit, quam mox difficultatum uictor omnium, minorib[illegible] [illegible] m procis, coniugio sibi perpetuo propriam facit, unde illi soboles, posteritasq; [illegible] [illegible] conditrix imperij, moderatrix pacis, miseratrix humilium, atq; insolent[illegible] [illegible] x. [illegible] ius siquidem puellæ, cuius de connubio certatur, pater animus, mater u[illegible] [illegible] nimi caro, quoniam utriusq; ex actibus, gloria nasci solet. Verū etsi externis hanc [illegible] [illegible] ta destinassent, hoc est, operosis, & difficilia atq; ignota penetrantib[illegible], mater [illegible] firmior, & consilij inops, natam dom[illegible] cis, & iuxta se geniti iungere satagit, h[illegible] c e[illegible] bus desiderijs, studijsq; terrestribus, [illegible] interdū precibus, & importunitate fœmin[illegible] ipsum in sententiam suam trahat, qui tandem peregrinæ uirtutis, omnia uinc[illegible] ntis a[illegible] don[illegible] permot[illegible]s, pœnitenti similis sese incusat, & propositum mutat. Inclinat[illegible] d ex[illegible] [illegible] us, ma[illegible] nis de genero actū putans, in patibulo se suspendit, quia caro in[illegible] e[illegible] gloriæ [illegible] rtuti, nec ullum iam sui affectibus locū uidens, ip[illegible] se perimit. Sec[illegible] illud [illegible] lus apostolus Crucifixum [illegible] o dicit. Et quanquam nec tu[illegible] quæ[illegible] & [illegible] al[illegible] de quæsitus omiserim, quand[illegible] [illegible] uend[illegible] uen[illegible] ne c[illegible] [illegible] narrationis abrumpam, breuiter ad exitum deduco. [illegible]

d[illegible] ac uoluntar[illegible] pta,& [illegible] m magna ui intentæ p[illegible] feri[illegible] fortes auxil[illegible] & h[illegible] inuceri a[illegible] [illegible] supremam partem animæ, ut [illegible] ut s[illegible] read c[illegible], correp[illegible] [illegible] o erat curru, u[illegible] ium ac rotâr[illegible] curarum u[illegible] pet & [illegible] [illegible] erum, lice[illegible] bus tentare tamen ul[illegible] m[illegible] hoc est, [illegible] aci [illegible] rei [illegible] erra[illegible] unde est, præcipiti ruen[illegible] pergit in præl[illegible] a [illegible] at[illegible] s carnis motus, ad[illegible] interior[illegible] quiescit, sed iam [illegible] mo illi fran[illegible]. Imm[illegible] rtalis autem soror a[illegible] lium [illegible] at[illegible] n p[illegible] ra pugnam auxilio fer[illegible], quam uis[illegible] m[illegible], ac gem[illegible] areu[illegible] ceat. Contrà, Aene[illegible] ta ictus, & [illegible] ante[illegible], quia [illegible] quantuml[illegible] e armatus, interdum te[illegible] us [illegible] neratur, [illegible] in proposito claudicet, & sa[illegible] ttam [illegible] s inhærentem, non M[illegible] manus, [illegible] ulla pe[illegible] ars humana, quamuis id profe[illegible] a, sed [illegible] næ tantum miserationi auxilium [illegible] nuellat. Animosior tamen [illegible] nam pro[illegible] citur, & utroque, hoc est, bonorũ & malorum exerci[illegible] pectante, congred[illegible] congressu primo, magnis in hostem uiribus hastam iacit. Illa u[illegible] an[illegible] in oleastri amaræ [illegible] oris truncum incidit, inhæsitque, ut auelli ipsa etiam humana non po[illegible] et manu, quia se h[illegible] dum aduersus carnale desiderium acies mentis intenditur, nescio quid amarum reppcrit, [illegible] enim delectatio dulcis est, amarum eius oppositum sit oportet, & [illegible] adeo detineri, ut repeti ictus non possit, rei ipsius obstante duritie, neque actus, u[illegible] tus quæritur frequentari queant, & ceu totidem aduersario infligi uulnere, donec [illegible] Venus, id est, delectatio operis, ac uoluptas bona quidem & honesta, reuulserit. Quæ superueniens, signum est, quæsiti habitus, ut Aristot[illegible] placet, quem facilitas sequitur actionis, & actuum frequẽtia. Ex actibus enim difficilibus genitus ipse, mox faciles actus gigni[illegible] ut cum gaudio fiat, quòd fiebat cum tristitia. Proinde Aeneas aduena, id est, uirtus, seu Vir for[illegible] car[illegible] is uictor, iam facilem, ac sequacem hastam manu arripit, librans que fœlicius ac ce[illegible] competitorem suum indigenam, carnalem, humi sternit affectum, parsurus forsan sup[illegible] eoque concupiscentia naturalis, ac propterea excusabilis uideatur, nisi cõspectis insign[illegible] quæ Pallanti suo id est, adolescentiæ generosæ, quàm occidit, eripuit, exarsisset. Hunc i[illegible] tur in uindictam illius interficit, quo perempto, iam tranquillus regnat, relictoque regi[illegible], post abitum mortali debitum, opinionem diuinitatis assecutus, & materia uatum factus in ore hominũ uiuit. Excucurri ecce usque in finem, cùm per te liceret, tanto antè subsistere, tu[illegible] impetus, & tua hinc pulsus industria, hinc serie rerum tractus, ne consuta dissuerem, tuæ metam percunctationis excessi. Nunc ad ea [illegible] supersunt redeo, Troiæ scilicet incendium & conu[illegible] ium Didonis, atque ut ab ultimo or[illegible], unde orsus est Maro, primum omniũ Didonẽ reg[illegible] nam conditricem Carthaginis, ca[illegible] m fœminam fuisse. Si aliunde nesciremus, ma[illegible] [illegible] tis est Hieronymus, non sacrarum modò, sed & seculariũ literarũ peritissimus, in eo l[illegible] o, [illegible] ẽ aduersus Iouinianũ hæreticũ scripsit, mille compactũ, confertumque historijs: neque uerò Aeneam ac Didonẽ coætaneos fuisse, aut se uidere potuisse, cum trecentis annis, aut circiter hæc post illius obitum nata sit, norunt omnes, quibus aut ratio temporum, aut Graiæ, Punicæque historiæ notitia ulla est, non hi tantum, qui commentarios in Virgilium, sed qui libros Saturnalium legerunt, neque Aeneam aliquando Carthaginem uenisse, secundo Confessionum Augustinus meminit. Totam autem Didonis historiam, originemque Carthag[illegible], T[illegible] is Pompeius, seu Iustinus explicuit, libro historiarum XVIII. Et quid rei manifeste[illegible] testes quæro? Quis enim nisi pars uulgi sit, quis usquam, quæso, tàm indoctus, ut [illegible] Didonis & Aeneæ fabulam esse confictam, uerique locum inter homines, nõ tàm ue[illegible] [illegible] uam d[illegible] ore, & uenustate materiæ, & dulcedine, atque arte obtinuisse, fingen[illegible] s [illegible] deo [illegible] iam tristes, & inuiti uerum audiant, ac præscripta dulcis possessione menda[illegible] [illegible] ntur. Sci[illegible] quid loquor, ego enim primus, imò solus, hac ætate, & his locis men[illegible] cium hoc discussi. Quòd sic animos occupàrat, ut contrarium audire, non ut nouam m[illegible] hære[illegible] m, sed ut i[illegible] iuriam, conuitiumque aliquid delicati respuerent, multorum aures [illegible], [illegible], in quem ipsa, de qua q[illegible] ris epi[illegible] la scri[illegible] est. Itaque cùm adhuc nouus, at[illegible] ue [illegible] s hæc dicerem, exclamabant, quasi ego V[illegible] lium ignorar[illegible] æ damnarem, cumque [illegible] nescisse, sed scientem lusi[illegible] e conten[illegible] erem, mirabantur & quærebant [illegible] [illegible] m. [illegible] anè cur Poëta doctissimus omnium atque optimus (nam finxi[illegible] nstat [illegible] æc [illegible] m uel al[illegible] m quamlibet heroidum, ex numero eligere, uel pers[illegible] formare [illegible] m, [illegible] t, unam hanc elegerit, sempiterno elogio notandam, [illegible] uam stu[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] tatis extinctam sciret, hanc lasciuo amore parentem faciat [illegible] deest. Quid tamen hic sentiam, quidúe opiner, quòd ex me

… sens audieris, ne plura nunc a … & hæc interfatus ad rem uenio. Quæcunque … fingendi ausa Virgili … Dido … constat regina, nō quidem indige… erna est perquam hum… potentia … regni nomine. Omnis ne… hominem … conditio est, cunctis æque mortalibus nudis in hanc lu… exul domo … pibus, peregrina considit in litt…re. Omnes enim … peregrinationis … hic manentem ciuitatem, in … tamen exilium … argenti condens … hoc est, eloquium, … a b… tulimus, & illa … ædificandæ … quanta ar… … Quod ad quæsita attinet … celebrat, qu… regina … ditos a… le … tos nunc tamen … aotantes. In … seu … nuncu… humana, cui reges præsident, tria genera hominum dis… umbunt … reges … hominum, tam sapientiæ, quam eloquentiæ, studiosi, hos signat Iopas, de secretis naturæ rebus agens, quod Philosophi est, atque ideo crinitus, adhibi… cantu & … rhara, quod … est Poetæ. … cupidi … ac uoluptuosi, qui per haustum Bitiæ exp… muntur pat… aurcam reginæ porrectam manu, ferè enim uoluptas, ut e fonte riuulus, à regibus subiect… der… tur. … rursus aderes illas uitas sermo redijt, quarum supra mentio est hab… In hoc strepenti conuiuio, recubans Vir fortis, conscia rerum suarum pascitur, & orat … magnifica delectat al… ntes, iussus enim loqui, uelut coactus incipiens, dissonis conuiu… clamoribus, finem facit: narrat autem tacitus atque intentis. Et quid … as, nisi fortunæ insultus, dolosque hominum, & uitæ præsentis incendia, & hærentes parietibus animæ passionum scalas. Tu in periculis sopitorum uana somnia, & con… us irruos facis oblitantibus, & falsis consilijs habitam fidem, & negatam ueris, tum pecc… ariete procumbētem ianuam, factumque hosti… aditum, custodibus animæ primo extinctis in limine. Denique uitam omnem, quasi unam ac supremam noctem, inter falsa gaudia cæcis actam mortalibus, & immixtas pleb… istorum ac piorum, quin etiam Regum mortes, per quas ipse cum ingenti discrimine natalis soli, relicta tergo mollitie, & antiqua coniuge ibi amissa, hoc est, consuetudine uoluptatum à prima ætate copulata, animo solus primum, sed uirtute armat… s, post alijs ad exemplum coeuntibus, iam non solus, & grandæuum patrem gestans humeris, & paruum filium manu trahens, uix uiuus euaserit. Quo diximus peruenturus, & gemina pictare memoral… ilis, & fortunatus euentu. Et hic tumultus, hæc rabies, hoc periculum, in quo libidinum flammis, & irarum cuspide, hoc est, duplicium uulneribus passionum, uoluptuosa ciuitas perit. Noctu fieri æquum erat, propter errorum tenebras humanorum, finitamque caliginem, urbe somno, uinoque sepulta: id est, obliuione & ebrietate pressis animis. In quam urbe, fractis mœnibus, & omnis prouidentiæ dirupto, neglectoque munimine, qui unus animarū atque urbium murus est, armatis plenus hostibus, ingens equus ab initio fœtuæ noctis irrepserat, idem impetus ac ciuilis discordia armatis, grauida semper affectibus, atque odijs latentibus, & malorum causis. Infaustam uerò hanc machinam, quam patriæ in excidium Ephœbus seu Ephœborum, atque adolescentium iustitia fabricata est: unus urbibus euertendis annes, Lachoon sacer senex, urbem inuehi prohibens serpentum spiris, & uenenatis inuidorum nodis, ac flexibus circumuentus opprimitur. Quo amoto, uulgus insanum, in pernitiem suam præceps, magno consensu propetat, & monstrum infœlix, sacrata sistat arce: dum rationis locum occupat appetitus, quo nihil est propiùs ruinæ. Itaque tum demum & fatalis equus panditur, & quæ latebant mala erumpunt, multa quidem inter cætera Vlysses, id est, astus hostilis, & Neoptolemus, id est, superbia, ardorque uindictæ, & Menelaus, id est, Zelus, & dolor, offensarumque memoria, & si nō ipse funectum custos latebrarum, ac pestifer … … sor, id est, simulatio & periurium, atque erumpens, cum occultis malis, suisque omnibus … bi… in lucem, fraus sub quo tanto rerum turbine, regibus ac regum filijs, ut dictum pari cum populo sorte cadentibus, solus Vir fortis euadit, siue ad requiem, ut Anthenor, de quo … um est:

Placida compositus pace quiescit.

Siue ad laborem gloriosum, ut Æneas, de quo scribitur:

Bellum ingens geret Italis: & rursus:
Sublimemque feres ad sydera cœli:
Magnanimum Ænean.

C… nempe per mœnia incensæ urbis erranti, Helena radix ac principium malorum incen… … d… uexatione lucem dante, cognoscitur, quam dum ex… … ulcisci pa… … am parat, & si ea pars diuino carmini sit adempta, Venus ill… … obuia, excusa… Helenen,

[illegible] Palladem[illegible]. Quid [illegible] utem Venus u[illegible] cum sæp[illegible] d[illegible] a te[illegible]. Mane [illegible] p[illegible] s, ca[illegible] e, [illegible] tuo Deum. [illegible] d[illegible] potius, quam [illegible] rebu[illegible] ilus [illegible] obtuti. S[illegible] in tutum [illegible] ue[illegible] etiam uiri f[illegible] tium, m[illegible] o[illegible] m[illegible], & [illegible] uoluptate f[illegible] & Venus [illegible] peri[illegible] a[illegible] rerumq́ as[illegible] cr[illegible] s, li[illegible] o non habitat [illegible] e c[illegible] rediens, [illegible] u[illegible] tem [illegible] m [illegible] ciur, [illegible] am libido est, s[illegible] d hone[illegible] [illegible] idem e[illegible] fuga o[illegible] uolupta[illegible], & [illegible] nfestim Venere di[illegible] re[illegible] a, iratas ille facies deor[illegible] aspici[illegible], Neptuni [illegible] Iunonis [illegible] Palladis, & ip[illegible] us demum Iouis, quod & mari [illegible] atq; nauigijs, & [illegible] a, ac sapientia & postremo, quæ causarum potentissima est, summi [illegible] fauore [illegible] ianos [illegible] ci uincerent, quo[illegible] d iam a[illegible] ic [illegible] gleniser[illegible], ubi ait

Ex[illegible] essere omnes, adytis aris[illegible]q; relictis,
D[illegible] u[illegible] bus imp[illegible] rium hoc steterat.

Sed quod ibi c[illegible] g[illegible] nat, hic cospicit, erepta nube humida, quæ obducta oculi[illegible] mortales uisus hebetabat. Quia iuxta famosissimum dogma Platonicum, quod Augustinus reuerēter amplectitur, mul[illegible] q; alij nihil magis humanum animū impedit, à diuinitatis intuitu, quàm Venus, & uita li[illegible] dinibus dedita. Quam doctrinam grauem, ueramq; proculdubio hausisse potuit Plato, ab alio quodam, non tàm noto, sed utiq; summo uiro, sibiq; quod epistolæ e[illegible] s indicant amico, Archita scilicet Tarentino, eo præsertim sermone, quem gratissimum habuit le memoratur, cum C. Pontino Herennio, patre illius Pontij, qui Samnitū dux, R[illegible] manum exercitum, Caudinis angustijs inclusit, & sub iugum misit, homine suæ ætatis [illegible] dentissimo, c[illegible] sermoni Platonem ipsum interfuisse, testis est apud Ciceronem Cato, cu[illegible] usque illud inter multa memoriæ affigendum, neq; libidine dominante, temperantiæ locum esse, neq; omninò in uoluptatis regno, uirtutem posse consistere. Deniq; omne illam animi lumen extinguere, iure igitur abeunte illa, & cæcitate animi deposita:

Apparent diræ facies, inimicaq; Troiæ
Numina magna Deûm.

Hæc de illo, quod quæsieras perstrinxerim, tu ut es ingenio agili, in alijs Poëtæ locis similia cogitabis. Vale Ticini X. Cal. Septembris.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER V.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO, S. Epist. I.

Descriptio urbis Ticinensis.

FECISTI optimè, qui quando oculis, uel nolebas, uel non [illegible] saltem me literis uisitasti: audito nempè quòd alpes transce[illegible] d[illegible] Babylonem uisurus occiduam, eò peiorem communis, quò uicin[illegible] r est, suspensus ad euentum rei, manseram usq; dum te reducem au[illegible] rem, & difficultatum uiæ crebris olim gnarus ex cursibus, & corpo[illegible] s atq; animi grauitatē tui cogit[illegible] s, ocio amiciciā studioso, talibus a[illegible] u ris, & negotijs sic aduersā, ut ex illo secura mihi nu[illegible] dies, nulla [illegible] fluxerit gratias Deo, qui te sospitem reuexit. Quanto e[illegible] te pel[illegible] pe[illegible] lo rediisti, tanto dulcior est reditus, grat[illegible] S[illegible] si a [illegible] rares, haud [illegible] ci[illegible] uer[illegible] t, cum Ianuam peruenisses, hu[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] me [illegible] em [illegible] des semper ubicunq; terrarum sis: Vidi[illegible] & [illegible] uidisti Ticini ripæ [illegible] impositam Ticini urbem, Papiam iuniores [illegible] c[illegible] quasi

[illegible] a [illegible] bili [illegible] omnia [illegible] & ta [illegible] Longobardorum [illegible] Germ [illegible] tum [illegible], Augustum Cæsarem [illegible] quidem [illegible] non solo et in Germ [illegible] bi & [illegible] agentem [illegible] specula prospiciens ex [illegible] fo [illegible] al [illegible] aduersi, ipse [illegible] s im [illegible] uir [illegible] pr [illegible] f [illegible] nominis m [illegible] ellate [illegible] Vidisses u [illegible] Dux [illegible] quæsiuit, [illegible] manus à [illegible] ceptus, & me [illegible] m [illegible] rte [illegible] futun d [illegible] pulchrum Augu [illegible] us, ubi [illegible] neam se [illegible] u [illegible] sq; nunc geminis, [illegible] cto iacent, cum L [illegible] corpus e Sardinia in ha [illegible] transtulit, deuotum, p [illegible] n. Putas Augustini u [illegible] Seu [illegible] m [illegible] qui, [illegible] o, & [illegible] his præ [illegible] tum, quos post illum de [illegible] te comp [illegible] ris a [illegible] tio. Opes h [illegible] tam sanctis, & tàm doctis uiris, proximus ia [illegible] V [illegible] deniq;, u [illegible] mo [illegible] inæ per ora hominum uetustatis, mihi enim supra temp [illegible] belli Punici secundi [illegible] o proximè lo quebar. de hac nihil in literis nunc occurrit, imo quidem, nisi me falli [illegible] memoria, ne [illegible] quam apud Liuium urbis, sed solius amnis est mentio. Potest aut [illegible] fortasse confu [illegible] nem peperisse, similitudo ipsa nominum, Ticinus fluuius, urbs Ticinum, [illegible] ut omissis du [illegible] bijs certa perstringam: uidisses urbem saluberrimi aëris [illegible] ce iam tres hic æstates [illegible] [illegible] od meminerim, tàm crebris, & tàm largis imbribus, tàm paruis, rarisq; [illegible] tis, [illegible] s penè æstibus, tàm perpetuis, tamq; suauibus auris, alibi unquam tempus, hoc e [illegible] disses pulcherrimi urbem situs, C [illegible] inæ [illegible] æ, magnam partem Ligures tenēt, gen [illegible] olim potens, & nostra ætate poten [illegible] a, [illegible] m hæc in medio est, [illegible] modicè ex tans, imperioso quodam sedens loco, ripæq; leniter pendentis in margine, densis turribus assurgit in nubila, prospectu undiq; expedito, & libero, sic ut nesciam, an ulli urbium [illegible] no sedentium apertior sit, atq; iucundior. Nullo ferme flexu oris, hic niuosa iuga alpium, hic frondentes Apennini colles, in oculis sunt. Ticinus ipse lætis flexibus descendens, & mis [illegible] Pado properans, ima mœnia labendo prælabitur, suoq; impetu, sicut scriptum est, lætificat ciuitatem, ripis saxeo præclari operis ponte coniunctis, amnis omnium lucidissimus, ut & fama loquitur & res probat, mirum quoq; celer in modum, quamuis iûc [illegible] quasi iam cursu fessus perueniat, & famosioris aquæ uicinitate cunctantior, & aduentitijs riuis, natiui aliquid nitoris amiserit. Ad summā Sorgiæ nostro transalpino simillimus, nisi qđ hic maior, ille aūt, & æstatē uicina fontis algentior, & hyeme tepentior fluit. Vidisses præterea ex hi [illegible] unam, in quibus tu multus, & ego uel nimius sum, æneam scilicet atq; inauratam statuam [illegible] questrem, fori medio, quasi cursu concito, cliui summa carpentem, tuis olim ut fama est [illegible] ptam Rauennatibus. Quā eius artis, picturæq; doctissimi nulli asserunt secundam. Quodq; ultimum facit, non rerum ordo, sed temporum, Palatium ingens urbis, in uertice uidisses, structuræ mirabilis, atq; impensæ, quæ magnanimus Galeaz Vicecomes, hic minor, Mediolani atq; huius, & multarum in circuitu regnator urbium, erexit, uir in multis alios, in ædificandi magnificentia sese uincens. Credo nisi me amor fallit auctoris, quo iudicio rerum es, cuncta inter modernorum opera, hoc augustissimū iudicasses, & præter amici conspectum, quem tibi non spero quidem esse gratissimum. Sed scio, multa te ut arbitror, non profectò leuium (ut ait Maro) sed utiq; grauium, ac grandium admiranda spectacula dele [illegible] sent. Me enim fateor, delectant, detinentq;, nisi quod alio suæ animum trahunt curæ, it [illegible] iam hinc abeo, haud inuitus tamen, iterum hic menses æstiuos, si qui mihi lato æst [illegible] ui [illegible] s superarent, acturus. Quando autem ita res tulit, ut te ab amplexu meo, uel me labor, [illegible] quod [illegible] testaris diffidentia, uel tempus angustum, reditumq; tuum expectan [illegible] s [illegible] [illegible] rce et, uellem Guidonem saltem meum Ianuensem Archiepiscopum & in [illegible] er [illegible] uidisses, qui summa concordia uolūtatum, rerumq; omnium ab infantia secum [illegible] disses mihi crede hominem, corpore licet inualidum, animo sic ualentem, ut ui [illegible] aci [illegible] i disse te diceres, inq; fragili, & caduca d [illegible] o, magnum hospitē habitare posse fatereri [illegible] d multis agam, [illegible] d [illegible] ses quem quærimus, [illegible] rum bonum, nulla ni fa [illegible] lor, crebrē, sed nu [illegible] a [illegible] bo [illegible] m r [illegible] ius, quam nostra, quem tibi non uisum doleo, neq; tàm tuæ, quàm amici com [illegible] ni [illegible] li [illegible] æ, uel obliuioni impu [illegible] o, qui te pati no debuit, generosas illas caus [illegible] reg [illegible] g [illegible] ato pastore præteriere. Vt querelā uerò gratulatione conclu [illegible] am, [illegible] au [illegible] co [illegible] er de, quod [illegible] p [illegible] ipsam Babylonem, quos mi [illegible] reliquos mors fe [illegible] u [illegible] e [illegible] a [illegible] ali [illegible] uerē Patrem [illegible] ur dici [illegible], meum Philippum Hierosolymitanum Patriarch [illegible], u [illegible] re [illegible] cum circumlocutione describam, & titul [illegible] parem suo, nec Romano imparem, si quando forte [illegible]

PP a quia

[illegible] ign[illegible] amo[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] non potui[illegible] [illegible] tandem, post [illegible] [illegible] otis [illegible] an[illegible] nd[illegible] [illegible] Nun[illegible] [illegible] qualitate, donec [illegible] m m[illegible] fimi[illegible] ne [illegible] oler [illegible] in aud[illegible] um, non quod [illegible] bendum [illegible] n[illegible] tare, tan[illegible]ùm uel [illegible] rantiæ est, ue[illegible] iq[illegible], uel cont[illegible] g[illegible] pectio, qualecunque en[illegible], ill[illegible] uestigio [illegible] m, fo[illegible] rem quam me p[illegible] autem ep[illegible]olam cum hanc mitto ad te anno altero d[illegible] m [illegible] tu[illegible] mis literis, ceu [illegible] perans, d[illegible] acriter querimonia flagitasti, [illegible] ni h[illegible] non pos[illegible] ad [illegible], in qua, siquid illi litigio antiquo, quod m[illegible] qua[illegible] as aduersus hæc monstra hom[illegible] um, extorsit, se curare iactantium, u[illegible] ma[illegible] ntium [illegible] uisse uidebitur: ad im[illegible] um d[illegible] s, ut intelligas quàm me non sententiæ po[illegible] eat. [illegible] has quidem ambas alie[illegible] quod n[illegible] quam ante tempus tecum feceram [illegible] manu[illegible], cogitabis uel lassitudo, uel occupatio, quanta sit, quæ in solito [illegible] me [illegible] me[illegible] um ut sic dixerim, per interpretem loqui cogit. Et hæc hactenus. Qu[illegible] mi[illegible]de Homer[illegible] manu tua scriptum miseras, antequàm Venetijs proficiscerer, suscepi, [illegible] de at[illegible] dul[illegible] nia tua lætus, sic superuacuo mœstior labore, quem tibi, impositurus n[illegible] [illegible] r[illegible] idem quod nūc scio: Non enim nosse optabam, quid apud Graios inferos a[illegible]re[illegible] apud Lat[illegible] nosse quid agitur satis est, idque uel lectione, uel auditu solo, utinam ne[illegible] [illegible] unquam contigerit. Sed uolebam scire qualiter Homerus, ipse grauis homo, u[illegible] ti[illegible]cus, & quod miraculum auget, cæcus quoque solitudines Italas de[illegible]ipsisset, uel Aco[illegible] sci[illegible]licet, uel Auernum lacum, montemque Circeum, sed quoniam tibi placuit, ut mihi postea to[illegible]tu[illegible] opu[illegible] illud eximium destinares, ibi forsan inueniam quod quæro, spem tamen hanc mi[illegible]nuit [illegible]od s[illegible]bis, amisisse te Iliadem [illegible] Odysseæ autem partem. In eo quidem libro est, quod s[illegible]re uelim. Miror sané, quid ita [illegible] m totam, huius partē miseris, sed fortasse in[illegible] [illegible] habe[illegible]as, quicquid erit, uidero dum me domum mea sors reuexerit, transcribique f[illegible]am, & [illegible]ttam tibi, quem tanta re priuasse pati nolim. Iterum tibi gratias ago. Don[illegible]oque no[illegible] [illegible] irascor, qui cùm sæpe de minoribus scriberet, tum hoc factum male [illegible]luit, q[illegible] [illegible] meo sciret, & misi, & mittentis consideratione gratissimum. Vale Ticini XIX. Calendas Ianuarij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI COLVMNAE, S. Epist. II.

De Laurea adepta, & liberata Parma.

ROma rediens, diutiùs exoptatæ laureæ meæ compos, & uelut uictor, laureati cognomen referens, quod tibi gratissimo tibi, quod tibi ad gaudium quoque sig[illegible], ductu & auspicijs amicorum tuorum de Corrigia, Parmam unde [illegible] mur ingressus sum, [illegible] eodem die, sibijpsi restitutam urbem, p[illegible] in[illegible] ty[illegible] m. [illegible] am repente mutata rerum facie, a[illegible]que incredibili gaud[illegible] ert[illegible] pax, [illegible] tia rediere. Hic ergo precibus eorum uictus, quibus u[illegible] am [illegible] am [illegible] [illegible] spera[illegible] & [illegible] non dub[illegible]ito, æsta[illegible]em a[illegible]ere in animum induxi. Iura[illegible] [illegible] ea a[illegible] m e[illegible]ere, [illegible] indig[illegible] n[illegible] essitatis esse certum e[illegible] ui [illegible] hoc [illegible] m [illegible] N[illegible] ego urbanis stre[illegible]us, silentij delect[illegible] um [illegible] ed [illegible] ocio nat[illegible] sum. Ipsi quidem uo[illegible] mei [illegible] ta[illegible] r cum fr[illegible]gor[illegible] & ardor [illegible]titie [illegible]estientus, as[illegible]uitate te[illegible] s [illegible] us fui[illegible] ni[illegible] ne precant[illegible] us. [illegible] yemis in[illegible] me uideb[illegible] n[illegible] ubi citius, uel [illegible]ort[illegible]næ serius pl[illegible]

Vale.

FRAN.

FRAN. PE[illegible]RAR[illegible] A[illegible] B[illegible] Epist. III.

[illegible] orum [illegible] am ambiti[illegible] ne.

H[illegible] or salutem [illegible] uerbo, id uerò aliquid [illegible] quod [illegible] quod sole[illegible] ntis animum, [illegible] um [illegible] formiu[illegible] uo in sæpe [illegible] um dicti, n[illegible] tacitus, con[illegible] d[illegible] sæpè [illegible] id prodeat mecum [illegible] ro, non in [illegible] m, sed [illegible] nullis a[illegible] quibu[illegible] nc [illegible] rei huius [illegible] quia qu[illegible] natura [illegible] imiles [illegible] it, [illegible] su[illegible] imiles fac[illegible], ut [illegible] uere contigi[illegible] adem [illegible], quasi bi[illegible] s animi reddi[illegible] um sors nun[illegible] tu[illegible] um re[illegible], mi[illegible] est, [illegible] au[illegible] minim[illegible] op[illegible] ex par[illegible] q; sua maxime placeant, [illegible] uix qu[illegible] uam [illegible], [illegible] op[illegible] ex[illegible] ne[illegible] amer [illegible]. Vn[illegible] tan[illegible] is [illegible] millibus inuentus [illegible] em [illegible], an cont[illegible] s in rei pr[illegible] ca[illegible] atio[illegible] ciperet, non amor, nisi forsan [illegible] oc ipse decipior, hu[illegible] tribuens q[illegible] d superbiæ si[illegible] & quid his ue[illegible] uerbis, iam nunc [illegible] udies, nosti quidem [illegible] are ac uulgatum genus [illegible] tam uerbis agentium, nec sius, quod apud nos usq; ad [illegible] un pe[illegible]. Sunt homines non magni ingenij, magnæ uerò memori[illegible], magnæq; d[illegible] iæ, sed ma[illegible] a[illegible] æ, regum ac potentum aulas frequentant, de pro[illegible] o nudi, uestit[illegible] a[illegible] m carm[illegible] us [illegible] m[illegible] q; quid ab hoc, aut ab illo exquisitius mate[illegible] no præsertim characte[illegible] re dictum [illegible], [illegible] g[illegible] expressione pronunciant, gratiam sibi nobilium, & pecunias quærunt, & uestes, & munera. Huiuscemodi autem instrumenta [illegible] uendi [illegible] ab alijs passim, nunc ab ipsis inu[illegible] toribus, aut prece mercantur, aut pretio, si q[illegible] ndo id [illegible] igit, ucadêtis uel cupiditas, uel paupertas, quod ultimum & Satyricus norat, ubi ait:

Esurit intactam Paridi, nisi uendat Agauen.

Et hi quidem, quotiês putas, mihi, credo idem alijs, blandê in portum, molestiq; sint, quàmuis iam mihi solito tanus, seu mutati studij, atq; ætatis reuerentia, seu repulsus. Sæpè enim ne esse mihi tædio insuescant, nego a[illegible] iter, nec ulla flector instantia, nonnunquam uerò maximè, ubi petentis inopia & humilitas nota est. Cogit me charitas quædam, ut ex ingenio meo, [illegible] ualicunq; illorum uictui opem feram, in longum percipientibus utilem, mihi non nisi ad [illegible] am breuissimi temporis onerosam, fuerûtq; horum aliqui, à me quem precibus uicerant, uo[illegible] compotes, illi quidem, sed alioquin nudi, atq; inopes digressi, non multò post ad me induti sericis, atq; onusti, & diuites remearent, gratiasq; agerent, quod me auspice, paupertatis grauem sarcinam abiecissent: quo inte[illegible] dum sic permotus sum, ut elemosinæ speciem rarus, nulli talium me negare decreuerim, donec rursum tædio affectus, id decretum sustuli. Cæterùm cum ex nonnullis horum quærerem, quid ita me unum semper, & non alios, reiq; in primis, pro ijs rebus impeterent, tale te responsum reddidêre, & fecisse eos sæpè quod dicerem, & nihil unquam profecisse, cumq; ego mirarer, quid ita rerum largus, uerborum parcus existeres, addidêre hoc etiam combusisse, quicquid omninò uulgarum poëmatum habuisses, quo nihil admirationi meæ demptum, sed non nihil additum: Cumq; ex illis facti tui causam quærerem, falsi omnes ignorantiam, siluêre, nisi unus qui opinari se ait nescio an etiam audiuisse, esse tibi in animo, ut hæc omnia adolescentulo primum, post & iuueni elapsa, præsenti solido, & iam cano ingenio reformares, quæ licet illi, & mihi in longum quoque proroganda[illegible] huius incertæ, nimis certa fiducia uideretur, hac ætate pr[illegible] [illegible] im, quanquàm non me lateat animi ille uigor tuus, & prudentia, mihi illa maior erat ad[illegible]: Quis hic ordo, quòd corrigere uelles, exurere, ut sic quid corrigeres non exta[illegible] ù stupor hic meus mecum fuit, donec tandem in hanc urbem ueniens, D[illegible] [illegible] uo nih[illegible] l tui amantius, nihilq; deuotius, tibi familiarissimè natus ex co[illegible] nu[illegible] dum [illegible] hu[illegible] c fortè se[illegible] monem nos quotidiani colloquij series deduxisset, remq; ipsam, o[illegible] notam, [illegible] otamq; rei causam didici. Ait enim te p[illegible] ma ætate, hoc uulgari stylo unice d[illegible] ctatum pl[illegible] m in eo curæ ac tempori[illegible] suisse, donec quærendi, legendiq; ordine, [illegible] a ci[illegible] ulgaria, & iuuenilia in[illegible] isses: tum uerò tuum illum scribendi [illegible] etum [illegible] xi[illegible] ius in posterum à similibus stylum abstinere, nisi iam edi[illegible] is od[illegible] m ind[illegible] ses, [illegible] mn[illegible] bus, non mutandi animo, sed delendi, teq; simul & poster[illegible] u [illegible] ius [illegible] ictu operum spoliasses non [illegible] iam ob causam, q[illegible] àm q[illegible] od [illegible] imp[illegible] ta [illegible] odium, [illegible] meri[illegible] m [illegible] cêdium, hoc [illegible] d a [illegible] um Q[illegible] a[illegible] p[illegible] rix h[illegible] militas, [illegible] supra al[illegible] s [illegible] e efferens superbia [illegible] a[illegible] n[illegible] tuum uides, de ueritate iudica, ego per coniectur[illegible] uagor, quasi [illegible] in so[illegible]

[illegible] gni [illegible] humi [illegible] dicam [illegible] Vercor [illegible] m, ut ego, in [illegible], aut consci[illegible] non [illegible] ultro loc[illegible] petere, [illegible] us obtentu, sed [illegible] & [illegible] quid iam [illegible] uel [illegible] superbia, ita fiunt [illegible] mium esse [illegible] non [illegible] nō nisi aut nul[illegible] dignus est [illegible] rum, sic [illegible] iæ gra[illegible]. Tu uerò, quod [illegible] tibi p[illegible] cum [illegible], nec in [illegible] tibi pares, [illegible] spe[illegible] mixta [illegible] excu[illegible], uulgi quoque [illegible] Quod autem secundum, te [illegible] ut ego et [illegible], te [illegible] tinam par [illegible] ut [illegible] eloqu[illegible] id [illegible] molestè fers, ab uno uel alt[illegible] con- [illegible] te præiri, [illegible] superb[illegible] id sit [illegible] magni animi u[illegible] Audio [illegible] Rauēnatem, [illegible] sermo est, semper tibi locum tertium assignare [illegible] obstare tibi uideor qui nō ob[illegible], ecce nolēs [illegible] locu[illegible] tibi [illegible] nescio an ferend[illegible]: sin e[illegible] quidem soli prim[illegible] ad paucos i[illegible] lux redeat, aduertere pron[illegible] pè c[illegible] alter [illegible] locus. [illegible] primos [illegible] excipiat, qui t[illegible] suæ [illegible] uestigia [illegible] tes, & quid sequatis intell[illegible], [illegible] corporem, quem æqu[illegible] quem transire cupias, [illegible] sunt nobilium ingeniorum stimuli, quibus [illegible] pè succ[illegible] prou[illegible] Nimium enim, primum citò locum mereri poterit, qui secundum pati [illegible] sum quoque quem res[illegible] incipiet non mereri. Et [illegible] ad mem[illegible] phū, aut Po[illegible] summ[illegible] inuenies. Qui ad illam altitud[illegible] multis actus [illegible] autē locu[illegible], ut cunctis fermè superbiæ [illegible] mulus de [illegible] & ama[illegible] em, & studiosum li[illegible] ex[illegible]tat. [illegible] uirtus [illegible] pauper indu[illegible], quàm [illegible] auus diues, sati[illegible] studio, mo[illegible], quàm [illegible] sopore marcescere, meli[illegible] auxilio [illegible] ociosæ famæ p[illegible] confidere. H[illegible] bes ut [illegible] tertius? Quid si quartus? Indi[illegible] d Ann[illegible] cæ [illegible] entē[illegible], Fabianum Papyrium ex[illegible] Et non statim (inquit) pusillum es[illegible] Asinium P[illegible] onem: Tanta (inquit) res est post duos [illegible] xit. Et uid[illegible] (ait) quàm multos antecedat, qui à tribus [illegible] tu amice u[illegible] non sa[illegible] tibi quoque, hæc propriè dici p[illegible] locum teneas, [illegible] ante te [illegible] as, ego ille m[illegible] carm[illegible] misce[illegible] quæ[illegible] falsè, [illegible] ho[illegible] nol[illegible] per[illegible], [illegible] es, [illegible] quem [illegible] abam. Sol[illegible] & [illegible] & [illegible] h[illegible]c ex[illegible] esse [illegible] quàm [illegible] dicam, quàm filius, [illegible]

[illegible] tempus [illegible] e te mihi [illegible] pro [illegible] dem [illegible] cualuerit, cum eidem [illegible] tum huic [illegible] studio tempus d[illegible] quod [illegible] cu[illegible] es, ut pene [illegible] nuentus ad huc recens, uastatorib[illegible] apacem ostenderet, uel augmenti [illegible] tractus, [illegible] gnum eo in gene[illegible] incepe[illegible]am, [illegible] iam [illegible] em ac lapides, & ligna cong[illegible]am, d[illegible] ad nostrum re[illegible] m, & ignauiæ cœpi acriter ad[illegible]ertere [illegible] unciationis amœnitas, ut non recitari [illegible] es, sed [illegible] hoc sæpe audies, & magis, magisque mecum repetens, [illegible] a perdi operam, meque, & laborem m[illegible]um [illegible] m[illegible] er[illegible] ui currens calle medio, colubrum o[illegible] su[illegible] ri, mi[illegible]am [illegible] sect[illegible]s, atque altius arripui, quamuis sparsa ill[illegible] breuia at[illegible] ea amplius, [illegible] uulgo potius facta essent, maiora ne lament[illegible] indoctum [illegible]gus arguo. Cùm de his quoque, qui se do[illegible]s [illegible] tuor sit quere[illegible]a, qui præter multa ridicula, odiosum illud in [illegible] iam addidere. Itaque quorum p[illegible]culas car[illegible] tum intell[illegible]e, o[illegible] horum hodie famam carpunt. [illegible]s inglorià, tu ne [illegible] em n[illegible] [illegible] nium artium repertricem, [illegible]nis? Nec illi non [illegible] tanti [illegible] hanc hominum fecem, uulgus, cuius d[illegible] [illegible] m reprehendi. Omitto militares uiros, ac bell[illegible]m duces [illegible] ræ consumatam, atque perfectam non [illegible] haud dubie perijt, funditusque collapsa est, ap[illegible]d [illegible] ue[illegible] genio, sed [illegible]aua, cas[illegible]usque fortuitis aguntur, omnia qui ad [illegible]ellum [illegible] & [illegible]s u[illegible], & fe[illegible]cula, [illegible] libidinem meditant[illegible]s eunt, [illegible] s, [illegible]no[illegible] uersarium ferire, sed manum tollere, non [illegible] in sua[illegible]os mulcet[illegible] po[illegible]tum atque ars est. Nam & hor[illegible] rantia, & [illegible] a excusat. Si eo reges, qui [illegible] tro ac [illegible] ut in his, sic in uirt[illegible]te & [illegible] rum in [illegible] regant, unde & regis o[illegible] orum consiliis res docet, pr[illegible]unt [illegible]opulis, [illegible] luxuriæ fer[illegible] & hos uet[illegible]s inscitia, fo[illegible] semper addita uanitas, [illegible] t ex[illegible] excusabit? Qui[illegible]m ueter[illegible]m non [illegible] de[illegible] uer[illegible]ntu[illegible] cito me[illegible] acri[illegible] mac[illegible] on i[illegible] tantum, [illegible]ant, [illegible] qua[illegible] late[illegible] erump[illegible] omni doctrinæ m[illegible]o[illegible] a [illegible] damna[illegible] m ac P[illegible]ha[illegible]ram [illegible] tis agun[illegible] ego nomen t[illegible] lo in [illegible] tur, rel[illegible]

[illegible] quidem [illegible] summa est [illegible] orum [illegible] contra CHRISTUM [illegible] quid [illegible] ingereret [illegible] pans. Tuo [illegible] & [illegible] credidi. Ve [illegible] inquam [illegible] apostolus [illegible] seminator [illegible]. Nam [illegible] primum illi olim [illegible] Syriæ Felici obstitit, & [illegible] seminator [illegible] utili [illegible] essorum [illegible] excu [illegible] sangui [illegible]. Ad hæc ille [illegible] risit. [illegible] omnium nihil credo. [illegible] & Aug [illegible] homines fuêre utinam [illegible] Auer [illegible] us maior sit. Ex [illegible] & uix manum [illegible] blasphemo [illegible]. Et hæc inquam mihi cum alijs hæreticis uetus est qu [illegible] hinc [illegible] tu & hæresis tua. Sic pallio apprehensum [illegible] contumacius [illegible] domo exegi. Mille sunt talia [illegible] a quæ [illegible] CHRISTIque reuerentia, cui obsequentibus & assulis ang [illegible] dtant, sed nec supplici [illegible] ualet, nec [illegible] hæresi [illegible] nec [illegible] atque [illegible] ignorantia proca [illegible] hæreticã compe [illegible] audacia [illegible] incidi [illegible] in hac [illegible] ætate [illegible] hos iudices [illegible] quos scientiæ uacuos [illegible] Quibus [illegible] nisi [illegible] non [illegible] nisi ingenio [illegible] & [illegible] lasciuiu [illegible] & [illegible] tua igitur [illegible] bus, seu [illegible] factum [illegible] improbo, causam probo ego [illegible] us meis idem fecisse dum licuit, nulla enim [illegible] hominum [illegible] & licentia [illegible] & numerus, iam non [illegible] & [illegible] ediunt, & plate [illegible] ut ipse mihi sæpè irascar [illegible] exhaustumque [illegible] utris [illegible] hominum [illegible] ut arbitror [illegible] & ad [illegible] iam a [illegible] uissem. Vale iam ho [illegible] Venetijs V. Cal. Septembris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO SVO, S. Epist. IIII.

De audacia & pompa Medicorum.

M[illegible] bari, [illegible] audeo, illa demum ap [illegible] nim [illegible] is ar [illegible] re quod m [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] nostris hæc cernere, ne [illegible] no [illegible], qui remerita [illegible] hic tantæ mechanicorum [illegible] hæc præsumunt, cur agricolæ, [illegible] eadem audeant, & faciant [illegible] ham, cuius nomen quam [illegible]. Has [illegible] suæ debitas putant, quam turpiter fal[illegible] [illegible] amicos illos esse, non philosophos, sed [illegible] quibus [illegible] habitus, & sub paupere pallio, mens diues, [illegible] ientiam [illegible] omnium contemptrix, ante omnia leuitatis, atque iactan[illegible] quarum hi nos[illegible] [illegible] quid aliud opinemur causæ esse, [illegible] clementiam, quam fretos, lateque uictores [illegible] præferentes, & præda onusto, & superbos cæd[illegible] triump[illegible]. Quid enim [illegible], iam præter equos candidos, [illegible] purpureos [illegible] em desunt [illegible] rum aurea ornamenta [illegible] propè [illegible] nt omnes, q[illegible] que millia hominum occidisse, quod ad triump[illegible] [illegible] Romano, sufficiat occidisse quàm plurimos. Nam quod num[illegible] [illegible] itas ipsa supplebit, ibi enim hostes, hic ciues perimuntur [illegible] ut iure minor numerus ad triumphũ satis sit [illegible] sicut [illegible] bellorum duces, ij qui plures, maioresque [illegible] sic inter hos, qui plures periculosas licet, & [illegible] experi[illegible] [illegible] sunt [illegible] duces, digitoque omnium monstrentur. Mu[illegible] [illegible] quo nihil est aliud, quàm occidendi [illegible] consuetudine [illegible]. Vnum h[illegible] nouum, longeque dissimile, quod illud nisi de h[illegible] ibus [illegible] autem nisi [illegible] quod eadem ipsa Romana lege, & consuetud[illegible] [illegible] necare occidere, imò equidem non impunè [illegible] mortis ad[illegible] quomodo non l[illegible] eret, leges ipsas, moresque conuellere, aut q[illegible] hu[illegible] æ dominis, [illegible] arbitrium. Triumphant ergo d[illegible] s & [illegible] tis, [illegible] in te iure artis imperium acc[illegible] de [illegible] [illegible] ent, de morte etiam d[illegible] nam? Qui, cùm tibi, [illegible] Arabibus, docti forsitan, sed no[illegible] arum com[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] tal[illegible] surrexeri[illegible] sedeant, expectantes fin[illegible], [illegible] ac p[illegible] per[illegible]ante, au[illegible] speres [illegible] ipse opem posset impendere [illegible] sine quibus [illegible] pueque n[illegible] [illegible]. Neque [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] ... Quis non uid[illegible] ... d quam peri[illegible]ulorum om[illegible] finem [illegible] nent ægri. [illegible] ... tibus no[illegible]s ægrotantes interficit, [illegible] ... ulsa pr[illegible]itur. Aud[illegible] ui alium nupe[illegible] fama clarum [illegible] ... tarum ar[illegible] mihi uer[illegible] plusquam commu[illegible] ... non arte sua, ut cæteri tanto [illegible] ...

[illegible]

[illegible] ... molitu ... uenit ... quid ... hoc tu ... quis h ... rum ... ca, ... ur ad ... [illegible] ... c omnia d ... ue præsertim ... quid iubent ... [illegible] ... quod iusserint ... facio: atque ... ut ... nihil omnino ex ... rum iussu meo ... relinquar: imò Deo, qui creauit me, ... terminos mihi ... hoc tuum, meum'que consilium, quo ... [illegible] ... illo seculo, omnem mollitiem respuent ... iam, ... ambubaiarum collegia pharmacopolæ ... uolu... te, & del... [illegible] ... e, maximorum fuisse hominum scito. Neue ... proper ... [illegible] ... tres illustrium, aut quatuor, qu... mo ... rò occurrunt ... [illegible] ... principe apud Suetonium Tranquillum legimus, quod ualetudine qua ... rum ... pore principatus penè toto propè illæsa usus est, arbitratu suo rexit, sine ... consilio ue Medicorum. De Vespasiano apud eundem quod ad tuendam ualetudinem, qua & ipse prosperrima est usus, nihil prorsus adhibuit ... membrorum ... per singulos menses unius lucis inediam. De Aureliano autem, apud Vo... Syracusium ... ricum ita scriptum est. Medicos ad se, cùm ægrotaret nunquam ... sed ... in ... diam præcipuè curabat. De Carolo autem qui Magni cognomen ... Al... inus ... eius in ipsius Historia cum aliquot anni ante ... illum febribus corri... um dixisset, addidit. Et tunc quidem (inquit) plura ... quam Medicorum ... facie bat, quos penè exosos habebat. Nostri ue... s nec ... are, nec spuere quidem audent, absque Medicorum permissu ... aut me... us, quàm ... uiuunt, aut diutiùs. Medici autem regum mensis ... state usu parta, iubent, prohibent, minentur, exterrent, arguunt, indi... q... s ... centur dominis leges ponunt. Quarum obse... ... nimus ... as ... æ ... dines longas fecit. Scio ego multis persuasum, ... dic... o ..., me publicum hostem esse, propter uulgatū certam ... hun ... for ... res præter quam, quòd Medicorum ... am ... runtque, ita per seipsam ... epta est, ut de nullo usquā stulto, licet ... idem a... s a... ... ibus iudic... nd... Nam quis, oro Medicū oderit, nisi qui ... o ... Ex ... s h... nū m... rbos amet, nisi qui salutem, uitamque suam, ac ... sam o... eri ... ue ... uert ... haud dubiè ... naturam adiuuant, & oppugnant morbos, & ... p... ibu... hunt, sanis seruāt, firmantque nutantibus. Quis tàm furiosus, tàm ... tà ... fur... s, ut suspicatorem suum oderit? Et ego homo sum mortalis, & ... ita ... & mihi mei corporis amor, quidam uel uolenti datur. Quomodo ... nam, Medicos ue oderim, amo ego illos, odi autem nu... rore ... non armati, sed impliciti, obstrepunt non medentur, neque ... edæg... morte cō... ciunt, hos odi, fateor, quæ innumerabilis tu... d ... ri sunt. Vt tamen cum his ipsis, siquis est aditus in gratiam reuert... pe... oc arti... genus loquar, Græcis certè rem... orum nom... sunt soliti, ut ægrotent Græcè, præstarent ... p... omitt... quid... Quid enim promittere uereantur, qui ... ud... cen... menda ... est? Mille sunt h... s rei ex m... p... h... tem... c... enie..., & ... t en... un maxime ... [illegible] ... ad ... [illegible] ... or ... ū an ... qu ... [illegible] ..., unde ergo ipsa Vallensis ... ba... rie nat... e, [illegible]

[illegible] ac [illegible] sed [illegible]
[illegible] m pe an [illegible] uc [illegible] infcitz [illegible] tumid [illegible] qui [illegible] tempus [illegible] manit, non igno [illegible] tessim, ne me [illegible] auctum nomen [illegible] lam uel [illegible] ns, uel excusans, [illegible] done [illegible] proxima superæstate, [illegible] demptionis su [illegible] a [illegible] cum [illegible] eadem si redi [illegible] b ueteris, noua remedia allaturum, ut qui [illegible] legisset, aut ob [illegible] s esse, aut spe [illegible] pueris quoq; n [illegible] simum Ouidij uersicul [illegible]:

Toll [illegible] e nodosam nescit medicina podagram.

Domi [illegible] aut hic cui & præ animi magnitu [illegible] e nihil non exiguum, & præ desiderio [illegible] ti [illegible] on dilatum uideretur, [illegible] hoca [illegible] uit, uel salutem scilicet recepturus, uel qui [illegible] edico [illegible] m uerba probauerat, [illegible] quoq; barbaricas experturus. Militiq; illicò [illegible] red [illegible] mptum hominem adducerent, & ut totam noris historiam, præter sumptus itine [illegible] magnifice exhibitos, & quęcunq; honorifi [illegible] o noui Hippocratis aduentui uisa sunt cõuenire (in quibus quod constat nemo largior, nemo non solùm ab auaritia, sed à parcitate remotior) ipsa redemptionis so [illegible] ius summa fuit ter mille quingenti aurei, quales nostra urbs cudit non medico tauru m, sed [illegible] llorum duci ingens pretium. Proinde die illo, quo Mediolan [illegible] nicul us magno em [illegible] tus intrauit, fortè ego cum domino cœnabam, feruidusq; illu [illegible] lor antecel [illegible] t, nuncians Medicum naui uectum applicuisse. Lætatus dominu [illegible] it [illegible] obuiam iri, excipiq; eum læte ac liberaliter, ut mos est suus. Præmissi comites, eq [illegible] angui, sibi uerò quem grauis ac grandæuus insideret, sonipes missu [illegible], quem expertus [illegible] do niue candidior, uentis agilior, agno mitior, monte so [illegible] dior [illegible]. Theutonius Galienus u [illegible] bem Italam introiuit, non sine populi stupentis occursu, & su [illegible] u [illegible] os iamiam mortuos ex [illegible] ectantis. Iam ante per eum ipsum aduentũs sui nuncium, m [illegible] icinali illos suo imperio iu [illegible] rat, parari oua recentia, & nescio quid aliud, ut solent, atq; ijs ferculum confici, co [illegible] stim porrigendum domino. Quo audito mirari omnes, quidam diuinum hominem opi [illegible] ari, e [illegible] o autem stomachari, & temeritatem barbaricam execrari, quæ tanto ægro, nond [illegible] m q [illegible] em, imo n [illegible] nquam uiso, fortuita dictare remedia ausa esset. Ticinum interea reuersus, q [illegible] proximis diebus, more suo iusserit, quidue egerit ignoro, nisi quo [illegible] eui postmod [illegible] ma [illegible] dominoq; solito peius esse cœpit. Nec multo pòst, uel cura [illegible] pe, [illegible] ro [illegible] di imp [illegible] dentia destitutus asseruit, artis ope fieri nõ posse, quod putau [illegible] t, lib [illegible] itaq; [illegible] o quos magicos, sacros uocat, ipse conquirendos, in illis ultimam spem salutis sitam e [illegible] [illegible] uisitionem hanc, [illegible] io ubi nam terrarum, neque ipsum scire arbitror, fi [illegible] iub [illegible] Inq; h [illegible] modò est totus, iam nunc omnium, & illius ante alios, qui maximè nego [illegible] tan [illegible] tur spe [illegible] lgẽte. Sic Hippocratica illa fama, & expectatio illa sollicita, præcoxq; illa, & int [illegible] pe [illegible] stiua remediorum cura, in iocos atq; in Magiam abiere. Huncergo qui translp [illegible] in Gallijs, [illegible] q; ea Germ [illegible] a famosissimus haberetur, usque adeo, ut prædulgati [illegible] is [illegible] p [illegible] oprium nomẽ amiserit, tantumq; Vallensis medicus nuncupetur, [illegible] d [illegible] u [illegible] t. Sibi itaque nec petenti, nec sciturò quidem, nec [illegible] sciat gra [illegible] acie [illegible], hanc [illegible] is o [illegible] am particulam dedicaui, ut appareat, quid de illa [illegible] tis & obscuris [illegible] in p [illegible] licitis sit sperandum, quando hæc laudatissimo fid [illegible] omittunt [illegible] om [illegible] ut ad rem redeam, promittunt (inquam) sed promissum [illegible] et [illegible] u [illegible] di [illegible] ere [illegible] at Augustus Cæsar, ad [illegible] al. Græcas id est, nunquam. Siquidem & ægroru [illegible] tis, [illegible] promissio Græca est, & herbarum, & frondium, & radicum [illegible] lamentum, nil non Græcè. Quodq; [illegible] ole [illegible] Arabi [illegible] etro, pl [illegible] & remedio pere [illegible] nno, p [illegible] s p [illegible] it, rursu [illegible] Gr [illegible] aut [illegible] us [illegible] acuit. Hęc [illegible] n [illegible] Q [illegible] on tàm s [illegible] no [illegible] us del [illegible] r, [illegible] cup [illegible] at [illegible] d [illegible] Latin [illegible] ger pa [illegible] ce [illegible] æca [illegible] reme [illegible] S [illegible] ia [illegible] Medici [illegible] idẽ no [illegible] multa olim ex pfesso, & hæc ho [illegible] ci [illegible] dixerim.

[illegible] Tullius [illegible] ad [illegible] in ho[illegible] [illegible] nec [illegible] e nostri [illegible] am[illegible] [illegible] amantius [illegible] epistolam. L[illegible] fert. Vale, Ticini [illegible] Decem[illegible]tis.

FRA. PETRAR[illegible] A[illegible] NATO APENN[illegible] B GRAMMATI[illegible] V.

Quantum Medi[illegible] fidendum.

FOrtè sic accid[illegible], ut è duabus epistol[illegible]s, simul ad me perl[illegible] [illegible]gem, quæ ultimo scripta erat, unde e[illegible]um [illegible] [illegible]tudinem [illegible] noscerem, quam uenisse. Atque ita co[illegible]lato[illegible], de mor[illegible] al[illegible] [illegible]berarer, inuiso mihi magis quàm [illegible], [illegible]àm enim, [illegible] L[illegible] bona, qua [illegible]eræ illæ t[illegible] nerunt tuæ, in libello meo de Remedijs, an[illegible] [illegible]ximus [illegible] eram, fell[illegible] no enim, ut eum tibi [illegible] detur absolutum feram, & [illegible] sum. [illegible] autem fuit, ut tunc maximè tractatum illum scriberem, qui est de Auditu perdito. [illegible] nullus, nisi quæ ibi dictaueram transcriben[illegible] erat, gratia illi, c[illegible] largitor [illegible] su[illegible] seruatorque, te nostri remedij non egentem fecit, meque [illegible]ubium an ad tempus euenisse ga[illegible]cam, qu[illegible] & ubi donum Dei gratuis, & tu semper [illegible] D[illegible]s dulcior est enim pe[illegible], & m[illegible] arta securitas. Charius fit habenti qu[illegible]d per[illegible] se tu[illegible] non habent [illegible] pre[illegible]m, quæ sine sollicitudine posside[n]tur, prosperitas non nos[illegible] quam non in[illegible] [illegible] aduersitas, c[illegible] contraria cont[illegible]js aggerantur, non re quidem ip[illegible] [illegible] mala pr[illegible], præteritorum bonorum recordatio exasperat [illegible] [illegible]simum co[illegible] di[illegible]entium bonis est. Illud quoque non paruifaci[illegible] qu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] periculo tuo uides, quod & pridem noueras, sed magis[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]entiam h[illegible] deinceps mei illius, de hoc genere hominum ueteris, [illegible] [illegible] non [illegible] sed signi[illegible]cum, ducem [illegible] te fecerit: in quo [illegible] indies [illegible] [illegible] as L[illegible] [illegible]annem no[illegible]um. Quas mirum & dictu ridiculum, [illegible] [illegible]ta quidem ue[illegible] [illegible]uasi asellus ad lyram, longis auribus delectatus. Magna [illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] semper se illas misisse asserens, ac deierans, nec un[illegible] redditu[illegible] [illegible] ne [illegible]ritus, cogitansque id quod erat, mandatum [illegible] me [illegible] eius [illegible] [illegible]rius non laturum. Quo audito [illegible] pudor ille, seu pauor fuit, [illegible] [illegible]laceras, quæ ad me squalor[illegible]itæ, sed gaudere te [illegible]dere rem [illegible] alter[illegible] odia [illegible]lapsæ. Hæc nunc igitur, [illegible] pridem [illegible]licuisset [illegible] [illegible] excusatione tarditatis, tuis uerb[illegible] addita. Etsi interim [illegible] [illegible] acceptæ [illegible] po[illegible]unt, [illegible] quo pergunt nostri e[illegible] amor, ea tert[illegible] di[illegible]m. Proin[illegible] h[illegible]na est, qu[illegible] perlecta in hac te nostr[illegible] opinione firm[illegible] & t[illegible] [illegible]cus amplexus, ad extremum feras, dices si quid inuectiui nostris [illegible] [illegible] de [illegible], si nunc etiam illud adiecero. Siquidem unus, n[illegible]per [illegible] de gre[illegible] [illegible] enti[illegible] & ætate, & uirtute uenerabilis, quem non no[illegible], ne [illegible] [illegible]nost[illegible]m sententiam clara me[illegible]um uoce confessus e[illegible]. E[illegible] [illegible] notum: Magister (inquit) meus cu[illegible]rem in hac facul[illegible] nul[illegible] [illegible] quod Medicinæ notitia delectabi[illegible] est [illegible]quarum [illegible] [illegible] autem secundùm [illegible] cas[illegible] [illegible] dem [illegible] uerò; [illegible] orand[illegible] Deus, & [illegible]qua [illegible] [illegible] codus, [illegible] pe[illegible]umpend[illegible] p[illegible]js, nostrorumque obex terminum p[illegible] [illegible] apud quem solus [illegible] est, mentis per[illegible] sa[illegible] [illegible] sed [illegible] expedi[illegible] D[illegible] Medicis n[illegible] [illegible] Medi[illegible] [illegible] quidem. Nam [illegible] b[illegible] nostri a[illegible] [illegible]imos m[illegible] dos,

[illegible] do[illegible] [illegible]re o [illegible] cas. [illegible] [illegible] ad [illegible] ma[illegible] era[illegible] [illegible] mihi [illegible] [illegible] b[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] a[illegible] est [illegible] n[illegible] agula [illegible] consilia, delect[illegible] h[illegible] non magn[illegible] quirebam. Nec a[illegible] g[illegible] ctorē, c[illegible] Deus solus, [illegible] de in[illegible] pre[illegible] [illegible] ns, [illegible] ars, nun[illegible] arū ægriti[illegible] [illegible] ex[illegible] da[illegible] illum [illegible] m ut ali[illegible] m, contēnere cœp[illegible] ram [illegible] ratione, [illegible] n tiq; du[illegible], [illegible] alter[illegible] unam, non [illegible] uerā sententiam [illegible] ictus hæc [illegible] ne te forsan ante a[illegible] m c[illegible] rmen, illud exiguū [illegible] magnā trahas admirationē. Lege[illegible] ut adolescentis, hoc ut senis, sit uerò iam aliquando huic finis litis, altercentur ill[illegible] bene ualentes humanorū, ne[illegible] gnari casuum, hinc ægrorū credula, stultitiā hinc contentiosam, Medicorum [illegible] iam rideamus. Cæterùm Solitariæ uitæ librū, quem penè [illegible] ratus iure tu[illegible] [illegible] Paduano, scripsi iam ut tibi transmitteret. Quem ut arbitrio tuo [illegible] gas [illegible] bas ueto, usq; dum uenio, adhuc enim uerbū ibi addidi. Nosti mo[illegible], [illegible] g[illegible], nescio è tabella manum tollere. Vale, fidissimamq; uxorem, quos illa no[illegible] s e[illegible] Antonium meum & Solonem tuum saluere iube. Ticini, Cal. Septembris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA DONATO APENNIGENAE GRAMMATICO, S. Epist. VI.

La[illegible] cui utilis uel damnosa.

INter uitæ tædia, atq; iniurias fortunæ, non ultimum posuerim, quod externa mihi dies peperit, adolescens noster, quem tu olim, ego nuper in filium adoptâram, cuius laudibus nostro hinc atque hinc ore sonantibus, non aures modò præsentium amicorum, sed absentium oculi pleni erant, quem certatim lingua & calamo ferebamus ad sydera, memores illius præclarissimæ, uerissimæq;, & sæpe mihi repetendæ sententiæ, quod generosis ingenijs ingens calcar est gloria, ille cuius moram nobis util[illegible], sed utiliorem sibi, nostrisq; aptam, sed suis studijs aptiorem, & sic communis emolum[illegible] mutuis ultrò, citroq; uinculis astrictam, eoq; perpetuam sperabamus, per quem & nos in describendis opusc[illegible] nostris, parte laborum non exigua leuabamur, & ipse legendo, scribendo, meditando, [illegible]tando, meliorem se facturus indies, atq; ad culmen alti nominis euasurus uidebatur, quem in mensa, in itinere, in consessu, in colloquijs, non tantùm communibus, sed arcanis in ocijs ac ferijs, non ut familiarem, humilem, sed ut charum, comitem, neque ut alienigena, sed ut [illegible]o stro genitum de sanguine tractabamus. Quem ego, quod pridem nosti, ad cleric[illegible] statum, quo nullus mihi securior, nullusq; tranquillior uidetur, ut secularibus curis libe[illegible], a[illegible]xus ac propius nobis esset, prouehi feceram, per suæ ciuitatis antistitem, uirum & religione, & literis, & sanctitate unicum, à quo quidem quibus monitis, quam sacris ac graui[illegible] ed[illegible]ctu fuerit, me colere, meq; [illegible]are, atque obseruare, neque à me unquam, quantum [illegible] p[illegible]sibile esset auelli, inq; hoc uel maxime Dei munus agnoscere, quod ætate hac in manus il[illegible] meas deduxisset, nouit ipse, qui tam subitò tanti patris cōsilium uerba contēpsit, quē deniq; quod [illegible]osse nunc incipis nudiustertius beneficij ecclesiastici auxeram certa spe quo scilicet [illegible]ndis libris ac uestibus, adolescentiæq; sumptibus extraordinarijs, non [illegible] on[illegible] i meo [illegible] ferebam aiude, quàm suæ uerecūdiæ parceretur, maiora sibi parans [illegible] & fortu[illegible]a prosperior fuisset. Iste (inquam) adolescens talis n[illegible]er a[illegible], no[illegible]æ, heri ad uesperam, uultu & corde alio ad me uenit. Ait nol[illegible] se a[illegible]ius me [illegible] uedet il[illegible]bire. Ego autem tactus, imò uerò ictus ijs uocibus, pap[illegible] cal[illegible] m[illegible]q; alijs qui[illegible]s intenderam, reiectis, & uelut è somno grau[illegible]imo experre[illegible] xisq; [illegible]s [illegible]quētis as[illegible]ciens, mirari tacitus mecum cœpi, nec [illegible]ù miser[illegible] in[illegible]m, a[illegible]ue ætatem illam qua nulla miserior, & si st[illegible]us, ac [illegible] seris null[illegible] Vbi in u[illegible]m satis anim[illegible]m legi quero. Quid'nam [illegible] esset, [illegible] à me, seu [illegible] am[illegible], aut [illegible] com[illegible]m, om[illegible]um'ue esset ali[illegible]id unde hun[illegible]m c[illegible] p[illegible] in gen[illegible]dit, non ignarus se [illegible]quā[illegible] æquè [illegible]am[illegible] q[illegible] ac fuerat mee[illegible] H[illegible]c[illegible]ryina[illegible]ndus aie[illegible] non [illegible] mihi, qui ante non m[illegible]to [illegible] scripturas, quas ad[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] at,p[illegible] in exi[illegible] breu[illegible] tera [illegible] a sua lenti a[illegible] m[illegible] acce a[illegible] let[illegible] en[illegible] don[illegible] tas [illegible] [illegible] d te [illegible] pr[illegible] it, au[illegible] ia scribere ampli[illegible] hi[illegible] lo[illegible] m, manus ne tremunt. A[illegible] nt[illegible] culi. N[illegible] tantùm tepuit, sed refrixi[illegible] pacto p[illegible] ad[illegible] ber[illegible] [illegible] idem pateris, sæp[illegible] ne tàm [illegible] n[illegible] s m[illegible] di e noluisti, fecit ce[illegible] tas, quod solita [illegible] a[illegible] tatem p[illegible] autem hunc scriben[illegible] m, da quietē ani[illegible] fac quod a[illegible] cauti[illegible] lens, inter[illegible] sio, ut exhaustis aruis, [illegible] fessis ingenijs [illegible] a est, nil [illegible] a[illegible] inte[illegible] rem mensis uel dimidius, & sæpe dies unus su[illegible] sine temp[illegible] bus uerum est illud Philosophicum, dies uulne[illegible] at, dies medetur. Pe[illegible] ex a[illegible] conceptum, optime autem huic morbo al[illegible] ati[illegible] ua[illegible] etasque me[illegible] dium, quod te præmit, curasque alias admitte an[illegible] aliu[illegible] ta, age aliud, [illegible] ius desiderium faciet. Quæ placuerunt displicent, & q[illegible] displicent place[illegible] hominum, in primis adolescentiū uagæ sunt, uicissimque de uoluptate supplicium [illegible] cio fit uoluptas. Esto longanimis & expecta, breui crede mihi, ocio conse[illegible] queris, ut negotiū ames, ociumque oderis, utque laboriosissimū censeas feriari, contraque omnes tæd[illegible] brepe[illegible] s insultum, à calamo primū poscas auxiliū. Hæc dicentem, pluraque etiam nunc dicturū, ille indignans, uultuque subtristior interrupit. Et nunquam (inquit [illegible] ercle uel tibi, uel cuiquam omninò hominū scribam. Quod Dij, inquam bene uertant, noli scri[illegible] ere, quid ad rem? Quæ tanti causa diuortij? Non ego te ut scriptorem, sed ut filium habu[illegible] nō scribes leges, collo[illegible] queris, comitaberis me, ornabis hanc paruam domum, quæ te so[illegible] ornabit, & maio[illegible] tabl[illegible] taculo dignū reddet. Perdis (inquit) ille operam, nō patiar ut me domus habeat, in qua nulli usui sim. Maior est anim[illegible]s, quem ut ocioso pane uesci uelim, frustrà obtineris [illegible] positum, liceat te uolente [illegible] ere, quod uel nolente facturus sim. Ad hæc ego [illegible] spiritu. O infœlix, ita ne te ipsum despicis, ut nisi scriptor fueris nihil sis, maiore[illegible] p[illegible] fecto tui spem dederas nobis, nam si nescis, hanc scripturam tuam, non fluxam, neque l[illegible], tractibus literarum, sed compressam, atque eximiè castigatam, & magis sobriam, q[illegible] d[illegible]ram, non ut ingenij tui fructū, sed ut florē, ac præludiū magnæ scien[illegible]iæ tenebam[illegible]. I[illegible] nos, arram credidimus, totum erat, quod ex re percipi, sperarique posset, quand[illegible] h[illegible] submoto nihil [illegible] reliqui. Sed quid, oro, nam me spernis? Quid dicturus es Donato nostr[illegible], qui te mihi do[illegible]it, & me tibi? Quid, inquit, mihi & Donato est? O ingrate inqui, sic ingenij tui patrem uenerari? Sic doctrinæ & paternorū affectuū meministi? Sic omninò depuduit? Certè ille, dum te solū uiderit exclamabit. Vbi patrem reliquisti? Et uel me peremptū, uel furentē te putabit, neque errabit, furis enim, tibique ipse manus iniicis (his addidi) qd' nescio an modestius si[illegible] uissem, sed [illegible] pe ira, dolorque gloriari cōpulit, quos nec ambitio, nec iactantia compulissent. Dixi autem hortatusque sum, meminisse oportere uerborū sui Presulis, ma[illegible]iurum fortasse sibi opulentius, nec tamen honestius, atque ad id quo niteretur [illegible] til[illegible]us. Co[illegible]aret, quæreret [illegible] naret, an non sibi conuersatio mea, uel dum uiuimus sat[illegible] idon[illegible]a u[illegible]retur, uel satis c[illegible]st obitū, si mihi superuiueret, quod ætas sua, magis quàm coplexi[illegible] lic[illegible] potest, h[illegible] forsan infamiæ sibi futurū apud posteros, quo famil[illegible] mihi, [illegible] c[illegible], mò qu[illegible]d h[illegible]s fuerit iuditio ut si dicā genitus atque electus, inopis licet [illegible] sor ac nom[illegible]. Nihil agis, inquit ille, his me ue[illegible] boeum laquei[illegible] non tene[illegible] ripuit, & ad summū recto mox tramite ib[illegible]t, ad portum, nec illum pudo[illegible] aut [illegible] ntia tenuisset, nisi quod hæc gemino muro, undique & flumine gem[illegible] clus[illegible] n[illegible] habet, quo stultos atque improbos cohibet, bonos regit, nisi[illegible] m[illegible] m[illegible] p[illegible]um. Ita igitur ne quid soli & incauto accidat, usque ad meum [illegible] ob [illegible] sum maturabo, mœstum, [illegible] uciantemque contineo. Ora[illegible] ut uer[illegible] d[illegible] & licen[illegible] laxandus, si id faceret, & [illegible] men [illegible] liter[illegible] ad a[illegible] quocu[illegible] que t[illegible] arū n[illegible] bis ire [illegible] oncret, a[illegible] uiatico [illegible] La[illegible] en[illegible] me [illegible] s[illegible] m [illegible] cœpto hæsit, p[illegible] a[illegible] sam a[illegible] x[illegible] [illegible] quorundam est opi[illegible]o, [illegible] maioris trahi [illegible] uel [illegible]nia.

Quorum

[illegible] dubio est, utrum[illegible] ali[illegible] tam uen sa[illegible] habet [illegible] per [illegible] in [illegible] rat [illegible] actus, sibi d[illegible] [illegible] hæc solus uide[illegible] oculos ei [illegible] præt[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] anim[illegible] coniecturas a[illegible] ut umli[illegible] inclinar[illegible] cun[illegible] [illegible] deas, digito iam mo[illegible] ari inci[illegible] d[illegible] e[illegible] s, [illegible] in p[illegible] um ue[illegible] [illegible] illo[illegible] è [illegible] des tu, inqui[illegible] t, h[illegible] [illegible] quibus eg[illegible] s [illegible] po[illegible] ue l[illegible] [illegible] s[illegible] eti, sed insania l[illegible] iteratos. Nam [illegible] [illegible] os obortire, fab[illegible], quod uulgò d[illegible] [illegible] defenduntur. Qu[illegible] s id sæpè multis ante [illegible] Paulo A[illegible] obiectum [illegible] et tamen ad[illegible] scens noster intempestiuè iam nunc [illegible] m se[illegible] us, cum insani [illegible] erat nomen, quod multi sibi pretio quolibe[illegible] artium uel n[illegible] ntus est doctrinæ fulgor, ut quibusdam insaniæ tenebris optandus, n[illegible] is t[illegible] tùm, sed fal'a licetæius opinio uideatur, quibus ego tota mente contrarius sum, qui non [illegible] icam, Benedictus, aut Franciscus sancti homines, & indocti, uel ex alio genere Marius uir fortis liter[illegible] rum nescius, sed uillicus olim m[illegible] s, & squalidus, sed fidelis ac diligēs esse malim, quàm Empedocle[illegible] qui non insanus lite[illegible] s, sed utique literatus, & insanus quærendæ famæ studio, sese in mediū [illegible] [illegible] t[illegible] Aethn[illegible] ecit incendium. Vel Lucre[illegible] ius, qui pati seu literarum copia, seu furoris ob im[illegible] atie[illegible] iam, [illegible] æ proprio se mucrone confodit, manuque illa, qua tot egregia carmina scri[illegible] [illegible] t, in[illegible] e[illegible] io'am magis, quàm infœlicem animam extrusit. Habes historiam tibi non sum d[illegible] ius, permolestam, nec immeritò, tu enim illius ingenij primus cultor, tu formator moru & hortator indolis fuisti, & profecisse uidebaris, nō tibi tantum sed omnibus, ante alios mihi. ut res docuit, tu laborem perdidisti, nos omnes errauimus. O' quàm durū est alta de spe c[illegible] dere, qui nil unquàm doler[illegible] decreueram. Hoc fateor, non dolere non potui, quamuis sanè in hoc ingenio & tu s[illegible] men, & ego qui successeram in labores tuos, spem honestam, magnæ frugis amiserim, n[illegible] us tamen maior est iactura, quàm illius, qui nostris laudibus, quas non ad inflandum, sed a[illegible] excitandum iuuenilem animum dicebamus, & falsa de se opinione tumefactus, cum posset fieri aliquid, ante propè quàm cœperit consumasse se credit. Itaque [illegible] i accider, quod multis ut peruenisse iam putans, nunq[illegible] peru[illegible] quo tendebat. Nempe h[illegible] e[illegible] r infinitos mortalium, ne meiam gloriosi curs[illegible] a[illegible] derent, compediuit, [illegible] præs[illegible] o gaudio, contentos, oblitosque propositi, medio calle [illegible] etinuit. Equidem ex [illegible] medium epistolæ huius excessi, audio quod h[illegible] noster orbem ambire statui[illegible], demens [illegible] [illegible] iumque immemor, & ignarus, ut uiarum maior[illegible] ricula sileam, quid sit inter manus h[illegible] pitum, imò hostium uenire, bona est autem ętas, experietur, & quod nos nostra didicimus, sua discet impensa. Primò uerò Parthenopem petiturus fertur, ut suscitet credo de cineribus Mantuanis nouum Virgilium Rauennatem. Sed ut illius uiri memoriæ, plenos libros [illegible] c uacua pridem ossium busta comperiet. Proinde quod sibi, Musisque Italis faustumque sit, eat, & longa sterilitate arens Latium, sitiensque exundantis ingenij fonte reficiat, nulla per nos bono publico mora sit, d[illegible] præsens illum tibi reddidero, mox erumpat, seque in altum tollat atque euolet. Quando n[illegible] adeò rudi pudet, pœniretque, spero fore, ut qui se aliqu[illegible] d magnū credit, ubi primum impl[illegible] es adhuc alas uento dederit, quod nunc agit, intelliga[illegible], eroque [illegible] cet[illegible] an meminerit, ac Phaetontis. Tandem ut ad nos oratio reuertatur, & si pr[illegible] uerbium sit anti[illegible] uum: Duobus aut pluribus ex malis, minus malum eligendum esse non[illegible] eo, cùm mi[illegible] s malum haud dubiè malū, sit, qualiter mali lectio sit laudanda. Itaque [illegible] ectiūs dici reor, [illegible] a mala, maior[illegible] studio uitanda, ut si uitari cuncta non possunt, minor[illegible] us tolerent, [illegible] ione, sed patientia, æquanimitate, modestia. Id potius consilio C[illegible] onis in [illegible]. Ex malis eliciendum siquid inest boni, neque id mirum ui[illegible] ebitur, cogit[illegible] [illegible] ex ra[illegible] bus atque herbis amarissimis, sed ex quibusdam quoque [illegible] eneno[illegible] a[illegible] ut [illegible] a est morborum remedia constare. Inest autem malo huic bonum [illegible] fal[illegible] uplex, primum[illegible] quem de cætero laudemus, nisi solidi, constantisque uiru[illegible] no[illegible] mæ[illegible] utis, in [illegible] oc enim uere laudata uirtus crescit, ut Naso ait, in reliqui[illegible] cres[illegible] laud[illegible] pe[illegible] bia, laudata uanitas, laudata dement[illegible] a. Neúe [illegible] liunde qu[illegible] as ar[illegible] tum, [illegible] s n[illegible] lau[illegible] do perdidi[illegible] s, secundum ne unquam fi[illegible] am[illegible] [illegible] fier, qua[illegible] s [illegible] iam spondeat, ac fid[illegible] q[illegible] am[illegible] s [illegible] que pruden[illegible], proque comperto semper nob[illegible] od ap[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] ar

Ardua quippe fides robustos [illegible] *annos.*

Vale, Patauii. Cal. Maias.

FRAN. PETRA[illegible]HA D[illegible]NAT[illegible] [illegible]GENAE GRAMMATICO, [illegible] Epist. VI.

Familiaris discessum indicat.

ILle quidem noster, n[illegible] amoribus parum per absterritus hæserat, magis ætatis quàm naturæ uere[illegible], au[illegible]tionis imperio [illegible] er [illegible] quid corde gereret, res ostendit, dum uesaniæ ui rupt[illegible] ictibus abijt, ut u[illegible] m[illegible]ltum corpore, sed ma[illegible] is animo uagus, nunc Part[illegible]eno[illegible], nunc ille Calabriam seu Virgilij bustum, seu Ennij [illegible] cunabula cogitans, nūc uerò ne[illegible]d somnians, [illegible] su[illegible] ab[illegible], & quid ageret inquietum caput, corpore simul, [illegible]m diuersis in locis [illegible] non po[illegible] a[illegible]mo erat in omnibus? Atq; ita sic Anneo credimus, cum ubique esset [illegible]usquam erat. Mirum & pene [illegible]credibile, adolescentulum sub ferula enutritum & ualetudinis, & pecuniæ inop[illegible], tan[illegible] in[illegible]centiæ, tantum'q; proteruiæ, tàm repente quasi uirus lethale ac præsentaneum imbibi[illegible]t, ut quibus auribus non te tantùm, sed pædagogi tui uoces, heri horruerat ac flagellum, [illegible]is te hodie, & me, amicorum omnium monitus ac uerba respueret, & causa quidem temerarij ambitus una prætendebatur, quam ex eo sæpius audisti, non iam scribendi labor ac tædium, quo se ab initio tuebatur, sed Græcarum subitus literar[illegible] amor. M[illegible]al[illegible] omni[illegible] cui multum, & penè totum deesset adhuc ad notitiam La[illegible]arum, quo[illegible] m[illegible] semeti sibi [illegible] eis frenum aliquod inijcere niteremur, difficultatibus a[illegible]s, & uiarum, [illegible] rerum omnium, atque in primis rei familiaris inopiam, me eo etiam uanitatis ob odium auxilio de[illegible]dum, cunque his omnibus Athenarum uetustissimam ruinam, ut quæ ab ip[illegible]am Ouidij ætate, nihil essent, nisi nudum nomen, & postremo notissimam nunc Græcorum ignorantiam iungeremus, stimulis ille latentibus incitus, frena mordebat, & si enim honestiori esse uelo tegeret, ueræ tamen causæ longe aliæ inerant, quas ægre ad ultimum occuluit: sed has sileo, ne plus quàm iuuenilibus intentus erroribus, u[illegible] queam. Prima enim omniū, & maxima fuit inconstantia animi, qua cum alijs fortasse ali[illegible]d, m[illegible] cum uerò ne frustrà insanierit, hoc adeptus est, ut in nullo unquam homine uideri, de nu[illegible] audierim, aut legerim parem leuitatem; nullæ simul tes diuersas, & aduersas uno illum ut[illegible]mus agitare pectusculo, non unum, sed mille animos, eosq; discordes, inuicemq; certantes diceres n[illegible] illic horæ spatio unisorme, nihil [illegible]m præter unam inconstantiam, quæ sola in tanta con[illegible]liorum instabilitate constabat. [illegible] ictantium denique uoluntatum exitus ad occasum uertit, de quo unū uerbum fuerat, puto nec cogitatus, spretis meis ad amicos literis, quibus prodesse cupiens, immeritò furiosum impetum, uelut industriam cōmendabam, uelle se occidentis inuisere Babylonem ait, & cum dicto, iter præcipitabundus arripuit. Notam tibi hactenus legis historiam. Quod sequitur nouum lege. Iuit ergo, & plectente peruicaciam natura, perpetuis imbribus Apenninum transijt, se quibusq; uotis obuijs à me missum dictans, ut qui iam expergisci inciperet, ac sentire, quis solitiuagum peregrinum sequeretur pudor. Quo mendacio, quod postmodum sciui, nonnullis indebitam sui comiserationē, [illegible] mq; suspitionem mei fecit, uenit demum Pisas, Tyrrenumq; litus adijt, mansitq; ibi expectans nauim, cui se, suamq; omnem inferret amentiam, uagam puppim, [illegible]anis mercibus referturus. Qua tardante & crescente indies infœlices uitæ tædio, ac decrescente uiatico, raptim transit Apenninum. Mitto autem casus ac [illegible]crimina, quorū ipse si[illegible] unus est conscius, sed extimare perfacilè est, homunculum fragilem inexpertum, solam tunicæ oris terrā lambentibus, per iuga montium, per tot lubrica, tot saxosa, tot confraga, tot prærupta per tot ualles, tot flumina, tot torrentes hybernis imbribus tumidos, uiæ nescium atq; hominū, & seipso, & udis oneratum uestibus non sine crebris lapsibus, iugiq; periculo transiuisse. P[illegible]dem redditus Ligustico, cum Faronem amnem Parmensium pene suæ patrem in[illegible] transuaderet, rapido gurgite arreptus, [illegible]ter arenas ac saxa cōtortus, p[illegible]te sui a[illegible] e[illegible] bat [illegible]de discesserat, altera ibat, subitur[illegible] partem laboris Ixionij, seu po[illegible] nouā ro[illegible]m in[illegible] inuecturus, nisi miseratus quidā, c[illegible]lce apprehensum undis eduxisset, sic erept[illegible] or[illegible]ti, [illegible]uectus, & cōfectus inedia, & pecunia defectus, & labore exhaustus, & squ[illegible]lore lu[illegible] huc peruenit, quo me uel peruenisse iam credebat, uel peruenturum mox sciebat. [illegible]m c[illegible] recenti casuum memoria attonit[illegible], [illegible]pentemq; con[illegible]iceret [illegible] ac[illegible]cus n[illegible]e[illegible]s, [illegible]emo[illegible] iu[illegible], me enim fortasis am[illegible]um [illegible]leret, adol[illegible]ēs [illegible] tam cl[illegible]ita[illegible] [illegible]antiæ [illegible]nus, quam ille uacuus utr[illegible] primò quidem non a[illegible]t, neque enim ho[illegible]ten[illegible]mbra uidebatur, morte o[illegible] quales fama est uolitare figuras, ut Ma[illegible]o ait. [illegible] agniti, misertus, audita err[illegible] & [illegible] or[illegible] summè consolatus mœstum,

QQ atq;

atq; undiq; [illegible]entem cohortatus est, ut me domi expectaret. Quod ille pudore, me[illegible] deuor[illegible]us ne[illegible]it primum, post necessitate uictus annu[illegible] nec ita multis [illegible] ad[illegible] ueniens [illegible]us, te per literas præagnita, cum inter amicos ille m[illegible]em, [illegible]ipso Ticini alueo occurrisset, exclamaui Poeticum illud iocans:

Verane te facies, uerus mihi nuncius affers.

Et quod sequitur unus ne. Vbi uerò illum uerecundia mutū, de[illegible] xumq; humi ocul[illegible] m[illegible] more, sed non solito, fateor, amore, co[illegible] lex[illegible] [illegible] iam n[illegible] moribus [illegible]o, ut pudorem dies, & laborem quies ex[illegible]rit, ue[illegible]igiumq; [illegible] deleuerit obliui[illegible], u[illegible]dere illum uideor, rursus ad me uultu al[illegible]o uenientem ac dic[illegible] Vale. Itaq; iam nunc [illegible]uiaticum ali[illegible]d congessi, ac sepolui, ne qua prorsus dilatio [illegible]ror. In [illegible]me[illegible]ato, illud inue[illegible]iet, me ta[illegible]tum bipatētem ianuam. Scio q[illegible]c per meipsum, qui[illegible] de hoc homine addendum erat, & si nescirem, tuis nunc literis, atq; consilijs inst[illegible]uor, quibus inhæreo, atq; animi, ut aiunt, pedibus in sententiam tuam eo. Cæterùm mens suadet, hoc frons damnat. Nosti me, nullæ tantæ sunt iniuriæ, quas non po[illegible]m obliuisci facilè & ignosce[illegible]. Nullus tàm acerbus hostis, quem non ualeam pœniten[illegible] atq; er[illegible] scelem miserari, dum p sic affectus manserit amare. Vtor in hoc igitur sui merito, non am[illegible] consilio. Sed instituto m[illegible] & lenitate animi, sæpè mihi non inficior damnosa, nunquam tamē ut arbitror pudēda. M[illegible] culpa illius tota, quàm ulla ex parte mea sit. Malo illum instabilem, quam me durum dici, si unquā fortè resipuerit, quod uix spero, & se noscat, & me, & amicorum iudicia quæ contempsit extimet, & pœnitentia ac dolore se puniat, alioquin ipse suis, ego meis moribus usurus sim. Vale Ticini v. Idus Iulias.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS.

LIBER VI.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATI[illegible] Epist. I.

Amici casum mirabilem deplorat.

RIS ingentes epistola[illegible]s anno altero simul ad te uenturas, & si non simul editas, Ticino a[illegible]iens dimisi, diù licet, unde nō decuit impeditas, tandem peruenisse confido. Quibus quidem exhausisse tūc animum uisus eram, noui itaq; nihil est, nisi quod cum profunda nocte Venetias attigissem, primo mane Donatus noster ad me solus. Illic multa, ut inter amicos, desiderio colloquendi per absentiam irritata, sed pars maior, ut meritus de te fuit, simulq; de Homero quem, misisse te scripseras, de quo istic quid sit actum quære, huc enim non uenisse illū scito, unde me in alijs ad te literis de Do[illegible]ato immeritò questum queror. Sed Homeri mentio me illius admonet, quo hic medio in Latinum uenit. O' male igitur, ō pessimè actum de Leone dicam nostro, cogit enim pietas atq; ingens miseratio, sine stomacho iam de illo loqui, de quo pridem multa cum stomacho, mutatus est animus semper meus, cum illius hominis fortuna, quæ cum misera fuerit, n[illegible] horrenda[illegible] infœlix homo, qualiscunq; quidem nos amabat, & si talis esset, qui nec al[illegible], nec ip[illegible] a[illegible]arc didi[illegible]sset, sinistris alitibus in hunc [illegible]um ingressus, sinisterioribus [illegible]ijt, ubi nu[illegible]am [illegible]uto serenum diem uidit. Quem mem[illegible]a repetens sæpe, admiror qu[illegible] in tàm tristem, fuscamq; animam Pyerij spiritus ac cœlestis musicæ, uel tenuis descēd[illegible] factus. Orab[illegible] m[illegible]ser, multis precibus ut pro se mitterem, fassus errorem, quæ res [illegible] iratos anim[illegible] placat. Ego uerò & instabilitatem mihi no[illegible]issimam, & ætatem intract[illegible] mutandi q; iam moribus duriorem ueritus, & consilio [illegible]super tuo fretus, quo [illegible] re [illegible]aliber uti [illegible], [illegible]t quod ritè consulentium utraq; fax illustrat, ingenium [illegible] [illegible] nec [illegible]s res[illegible] [illegible]s nullum dedi, cœpit illum tandem familia[illegible] nostræ [illegible]rtum a[illegible]s, & m[illegible] cognitæ pudor Italiæ moribusq; hisus nostris, eogita[illegible] uerum erat, & si uoca[illegible] esset indi[illegible]nu[illegible] tamen ult[illegible]o uenisset, minimè quidem se nol[illegible]

cendam liminibus proxima æstate Acolo ac Neptuno, totoq; Phorci exercitu [illegible] fante Byzantio funem [illegible]. O quid dicam miserabile, terra marique rem audies. Iamq; Bosphorum atque Propontidem, iamq; Hellespontum, Aegeumq;, & Ionium mare Graeca transierat, iam Italicæ telluris, ut auguror aspectu lætus dicerem, ni natura respueret: at equidem minus mœstus, Adriacum sulcabat æquor, dum repente [illegible] facie, pelagique sæua tempestas exoritur, cæterisq; ad sua munera [illegible] Leo [illegible] affixus inhæserat. Malo (inquam) uere, mal[illegible] q; ultimo, quod per omne æ[illegible] cepisso dura in finem fortunam seruauerat. Horret calamus infelicis amici casum [illegible] promere, ad summa, inter multas, & horrisonas cœli minas. Iratus Iuppiter telum torsit, quo [illegible] antennæ, incensaq; carbasa in fauillas abiere & lambentibus malis flammis æthereis, cunctis stratis ac territis, solus ille noster periit, hic Leonis finis. O res hominum improuisæ, ó mors clarior, sonantiorque, quam uellem. Non putabam Capaneo Argiuo duci, nec Tullo Hostilio, aut Caro regi illi huic principi Leonis asscribendum nomē, uiri humilis nec indocti, sed nec fortunati unquam [illegible] uere, nec iucundi. Semper certe nunc intelligo, ut multa post factū intelligemus, semper inquiē, nubes illa, mœstiq; oris obscuritas nunc [illegible] hoc fulmen. Supellex horridula, & squalentes libelli, hinc nautarum fide, hinc propria uni inopia euasere. Inquiri faciam, an sit in eis Euripides, Sophoclesque & alij, quos mihi [illegible] se spoponderat truncus informis, ac semiustus in mare iactatus est. Quem alia ad te epistola, Græcis escam uermibus destinatam, heu, Italis cibus est piscibus. Tu uiue fœlix & uale nostri memor. Venetijs VIII. Calend. Februarij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCACIO, S. Epist. II.

Res suas indicat amico.

ANimaduerti ex literis tuis, ad amicum missis, te ualde [illegible] tū mei esse, super negotio libertatis. Gratus mihi fateor, hic animus tuus, sed non nouus, bene autem me [illegible] de tibi me hactenus, dum [illegible] no etiam [illegible] uiderer, [illegible] semper hominum, & fuisse: add[illegible] qua futuri [illegible] tamen, & spe [illegible] ne disca[illegible] sublibeta[illegible] sim, [illegible] ore, rebus q; alijs subesse maioribus [illegible] necesse, siue [illegible] ego, siue [illegible] tu, quod nescio an grauius, molestiusq; iugi genus dixerim, pati [illegible] credo facilius, quam tyrannum populum. Id enimuero, nisi semper sic fuisset, ut ubique liber agerem, aut me uita iampridem aut profectō uitæ tranquillitas, ac iucūditas defecisset, cuius contrarq; tu mihi ante alios testis es, seruire equidem, non nisi sponte atque amoris imperio, nulli diu ualeam mortali. Quid ergo, nosti hominū mores, & uitæ nodos, & laqueos rerum, quarū perplexitates, nec Arithmeticus numeret, nec Geometra mensuret, nec rimetur Astrologus. Sentiunt autem, qui inter eas apertis oculis gradiuntur, unde semper mihi placuit, & a me sæpe laudatum est illud Hebræorum sapientis breue, sed gaudio, plenumq; sententia. Cunctæ (inquit) res difficiles, ó quid ait. Cunctæ (inquam) etiā quæ perfaciles uidentur, sed inter cunctas res difficiles, nulla difficilior quàm uiuere, & præsertim diu, omnis hora, & momētum omne, non aliquid fert, omnis passus suum lubricū, suumq; offendiculum, & scrupulos suos habet, quos calcare asperum, uitare difficile. Sed quò rapior, inq[illegible] erum difficultatibus tempus [illegible] infinita materia, tibiq; non aliter nota [illegible] quàm mihi. [illegible] alia. Certe Africanus Maior, ut uides [illegible] na uilu[illegible] in oculis Romanorum quid minores putas in oculis aliorum [illegible] tus, max[illegible] ægris expe[illegible], interdum [illegible], nec est inconstantis, sed [illegible] orum, & tempestate negotiorum uela flectere. Non possunt [illegible] cuncta [illegible] quæ nou[illegible] & tu nosses, suaderes certus sum, non [illegible] rem, sed ut [illegible] secedentem, uitæ fastidijs locorum alternatione cōsulerem. [illegible] nde Deum [illegible] huius nostræ quæ uita dicitur, finis bonus, & sibi plac[illegible] De eliquo ne [illegible] me cœlesti luce illustrante, oculos & signante, iter ele[illegible] quod melius, [illegible] Restatut nouetis Homerum tuum iam [illegible], & mittentis amo[illegible] transi[illegible] mihi memori[illegible] renouantem ad nos tandem peruenisse, [illegible] es seu Græcos, seu Latinos [illegible] bibliothecam hanc inhabitant, replesse gau[illegible] ne mirabili. Vale [illegible]

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO BRVNO, S. Epist. III.

Status sui facit certiorem amicum.

NOueram te amicū, olimq; præcordijs meis insederat tuæ charitatis opinio. [illegible] Pergamensis Orator meus, hærentem ossibus medullis inseruit, omnes cœlico las balbutiendo testatus, à nullo me hominum plus diligi quàm abs te. Mirum est, ubi qui debiliùs exprimit, ualidiùs imprimit, suspecta nonnunquā eloquentia est, & quæ amica mendacio esse potest, ueri hostis creditur. Quod si tibi forsan, uel tu ipse, uel alius, seu aliqui suis descriptionibus ut tu scribis, forte meæ nondum tuis uisæ sunt oculis, [illegible] te extern[illegible] formam intelli[illegible] internam, nescio, quàm raram atq; [illegible] imaginem impresseris. Quod non dicerem, si nunquam penitus [illegible] ram amæ præsentiam suspicarer. Esse tibi uel falso commendatus paterer. Sed quoniam ad [illegible] forsitan me uidebis, non meis in rebus habitum mentis indueris, quem coactus exuas. Dimitte (inquam) non mei omnis, sed tui erroris imaginem, neq; sermonibus hominum credideris, atq; in primis amantium. Nihil amans osore ueracior, quāuis honestior. [illegible] ut uituperandi, sic laudandi libido quædam, ac prurituslinguæ. Quo regnante, ueritas exulet necesse est. Tentationem uerò humanæ laudis si periculosissimam Augustinus in seipso sensit, quid sensurum arbitreris præconem hunc, cui alieni præconij pondus indebitum, si delectat docet, si respuitur atq; contemnitur prodest: sed huiusce quàm tentationum reliq[illegible] experientia, difficilior multo est atq; periculosior, quoniam si quantum æquo animo laude [illegible], experiri uelim, sic uiuendum erit, ut omnibus aut risui sim, atq; ludibrio. Ab exordio quidem nostræ amicitiæ, nisi labor memoria, scripsi tibi ut de me mihi crederes non alteri. Qualem [illegible] me ti[illegible] descripseram talis sum, nisi quod interim biennio propeconsenui. Ad summum, nisi falli iuuat, unum me de plebe, quanquam plebis notissimū contemptorem cogita. [illegible] aliud si finxeris animo, sed amicum tibi sin absque præiuditio Tullianæ sententiæ dici potest, qua diffinit amicitiam sine uirtute esse non posse. Pro libro autem Beatissimi patris atq; olim hospitis mei Ambrosij gratias ago, tu mihi libros & literata solatia, ego tibi labores & mera tædia transmitto. Non æqua [illegible] pe[illegible]urario. Sanè oleū [illegible] olim & tranquillæ solitudinis meæ ad fontem [illegible] [illegible]ntantia, unde me d[illegible] arcerī [illegible] rerum multarum suspiro, cuius tibi familiaris [illegible], gustū obtulit, quod tu mire [illegible] felicis laudibus extulisti, totum fund[illegible] uū est, neco [illegible] eum modò, sed oliuæ, nec oliuæ tantum, sed tellus ipsa licet aridula & an[illegible], nunqnam tamen mihi charior, nunquam feracior, quàm dum sibi obsequitur. Q[illegible] tibi gratius sapiat, quicquid id est, ex albusculis illis fluit, quas penè omnes ego ipse manib. meis seui. Nil amplius hodie, nisi quod labores tuos & patriæ, inter meos numeto. Vale fœlix & memor mei.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PILLEO EPISCOPO PADVANO, S. Epist. IIII.

Ad animi constantiam hortatur.

AEtate filij, charitate frater olim, dignitate iam Pater amantissime [illegible] multa quotidie tecum loquar in silentio, pauca tamen ut scribam, causa est, [illegible] oris [illegible] fr. gilitas, quam inuisam mihi hospitam, inuisior ægritudo, nuper abiens dimisit, de salute quidem tua, redituq; exoptato Deo gratias ago, de reliquo autem hortor, & hortando laudo, fortem ut animum, & constantem habeas. Non est enim tutior armatura, non turris immitior, non fortior cassis, aut clypeus inter prælia fortunæ [illegible] [illegible] ac tua ætate sæpius, quàm uel pro annorum numero, uel pro conditio[illegible] [illegible] usum scio, & miror & gaudeo. Nec solus quidem tota gaudet & m[illegible] [illegible] patien[illegible] [illegible] muls aduersitates [illegible] illa obiecis & miret[illegible] d[illegible] de oro, ne deficias, ne'ue delaberis. Solent uehementes impetus br[illegible] esse, fort[illegible] fabri[illegible], est [illegible] quam pudor, quidam immerentium ac fortium, im[illegible] uero Deu[illegible] [illegible] finem ponet. In illo spes [illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible] sunt illa [illegible] naturaliter animi [illegible] atum ob[illegible]bant, leui uerò doctrinæ [illegible] [illegible] tasse quorum [illegible] amara [illegible]erpessio, recordario dulcis e[illegible] [illegible] quide[illegible] sperand[illegible] miseris [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] quæ cr[illegible] [illegible] tamen [illegible] [illegible] prospera. Ae[illegible] omnium ue[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] rota est. Se[illegible] [illegible], delicatus in tristibus, illa facit [illegible], hæc [illegible] [illegible], cùm summa [illegible]

omnisq; diuersitas in opinione est, inq; animis, non in rebus omni ex parte breuissimis. De me autē unum hoc dixerim, tuus sum, ut nosti, quanquā nulli quod quidē sciam usui possum amare, quod quidam non potest. Siquid præterea posse uideor, tuo precor in me iure utere. Postremò sacerdotes meos seruos tuos, Ioannem & Paulum, quos cum his ad te literis misi, paternitati tuæ cōmendatos uelim, & obtestor, si illæso licitum est honore, ne gratiā eorum alteri meis precibus, à tua lenitate concessā auferat [illegible] aliena durities. Difficile est iudicium alienæ conscientiæ, multos ego tales, duros, asperos, [illegible] linguæ liberioris, meliores uiros noui, q; suaues alios fictos, blandiloquos, uersipelles. Vale, Venetijs VI. Idus Iunij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO SVO, S. Epist. V.

Increpat studij negligentiam.

PRofectus es Babylonem, profectionem miror, moram stupeo, negocium odi, sed si ut imbecillæ ætati, atque alienę opis indigne aliquid uiatici prouideas, & apis, aut formicæ in morem, æstate hyemem cogitans, aliquot incertæ licet, & labilis uitæ dies, truci illi [illegible] dedicasti, & [illegible] graui discrimine res non uacet, tamquę exigui, & irreparabilis boni periculosa sit largita: possum tamē hum[illegible]s moribus poss[illegible]m spei credulæ ueniam non negare. At si perseueraturus illic, tibi obit[illegible] ac sepu[illegible]rum eligis, iam hinc inter mortuos, sepultosq; te numero. Quidni enim amice, te defleam, eo profundius, exanimemq; conspiciam, quo morte peior inutilis uita est. Mori enim oportet, malè uiuere non oportet. Quid est autem, quod de te, tuisq; de studijs audio? Etsi non audiā uideo, his oculis, quibus ubicunque sim, tartaream illam urbem semper intueor. Heu mihi, Cicero noster, heu Maro, pro utriusq; enim styli bina acie, singulos eloquij duces alloquor, heu mihi, cui ceditis, non re quidem, sed iuditio legentium, iniquo & seu inuido, seu inepto, sæpè honestis laudibus aduersante. Tanti ne ig[illegible] pecunia ulla est, aut ullus honos, ut tibi amice scriptor ille ignobilis, cui nomen non [illegible] mel[illegible] [illegible]t Tullio pr[illegible]ferendus, ac Virgilio uideatur, heu generosa ingenia, heu laboris i[illegible] [illegible]riosæq; uigil[illegible]e, hiccine uiuendo peruentum est, ut u[illegible]eam nos non plebeio qu[illegible] sed hoc ta[illegible] uiro iudice, illius literis ac procer[illegible]ibus posthabendos? Credo ego iam [illegible]ndi finem instare, crebrescunt ecce prodigia, iam Antichristum aduentare, iam quod qui[illegible]am suspicati sunt Neronem uiuere, audiemus & [illegible]qua fieri, quæ illius turbinis futura præambula nobis à pa[illegible]ribus nunciatum est. Interea parum'ue portenti, parum'ue præsa[illegible] [illegible]st, properatis [illegible] extremum orbis, idiotam illum, quod tu legis, & sufficiunt oculi tam [illegible]ro negocio, [illegible] Pierijs pratis, ac fontibus assueta mens, per illius squalidas, & arentes membranas nænijs occupatur anilibus? Et Homerum Babylonicum contempiatur. O rerum status instabilis. O uertigo mirabilis studiorum, neglectis ergo principibus eloquij, spretis Philosophiæ præceptoribus contemptis, demum ueræ fidei ducibus, iter ad astra signantibus, uilis opifex lucelli in manibus est, cuius assidua lectio, quàm tibi caput obtundat sentis expertus. Mihi certè, nam memini, semel olim, in obiecta, sic & cerebrum concussit, & stomachū ut quasi tristis pharmaci poculū hausissem, diù sapor ille faucibus hæsetit, & quicquid postea sumptum esset, dulce quamuis ac sapidum amarescerer, & quicquid per eos legerē dies, eiusdem illius l[illegible] uideretur, donec nō unius somno, noctis obliuio, tædij illius ingesta amaritorque ille digestus est. Neque uerò negauerim esse utilem stylum, his quibus altius nō datur, nec sum nescius, in pretio hominem [illegible]aberi, apud eos quos pecuniæ, non uirtutis, aut gloriæ amor trahit. Quæ in extimabilis [illegible]ba est, sed an tu ideò turbæ miscēdus, an quia clibanus uu[illegible] utilis, clibanarius fiet Plato? Ut rerum sic intellectuum infinita uar[illegible]s e[illegible]. Et quanquam quod naturaliter malum est, per neminem benè fiat, multa tamen in se bo[illegible]a per nonnullos seu malè seu turpiter fieri constat. Est in modo rerum omnium, momen[illegible] [illegible]imum, est in agentis moribus, in circunstantijs negocij magna uis. Non est [illegible]urpe i[illegible]a legere, qu[illegible]dam fortassè etiam decorum, tibi certè non conuenit. Nam ut quædam am[illegible] ille lucr[illegible], sic quædā nescire scientia est. Non omnis ars omnibus pulchra est. Causidicus lites, & [illegible]rum quærit, plebs ludos & theatrum, rusticus boues & rastra, miles equos & arma, ta[illegible]a caupo, fornicem leno, templum seruat edituus, arator stiuam, bellator gladium, nau[illegible]um & remos, studiosus autem calamum uersat ac libros: Inq; h[illegible] pso tanta est dif[illegible]itas, ut huius in gremio aptè sedeat, is de quo loquor liber. [illegible]us [illegible]eptissime fixæ sunt [illegible] leges, nec facilè conuelluntur, quod si quando pertinacia mortalis præsumpserit, [illegible] indecorum nescio quid, quod non [illegible]am pro[illegible]ptè dici potest, quàm ab intelligente

deprehenditur, inter humanos niſus indelebili naturæ ueſtigio ſuperante. Fruſtrà uerò te uirum egregium & fatemur, & credimus, niſi è publico gregi te ſubtrahis. Multi ſunt illa in urbe, cuius tuus, & ſero quidem, & citò nimium factus es, qui ſcriptorem unum te lectore indignum auidè legant, nec legiſſe dedeceat, quin & magnum quendam, diuinumq́; putent uirum, nempè qui quo illi ambiunt iter pandit, neq; ego illûc aſpirantibus utilem nego. Sed te aliò pergere, tota ferme retroacta ætas iudicat. Quò nunc abis ſiniſtrorſum? An te turbæ clamor ac agnatior trames fallit, an ignoras nullum eſſe fragilius, quàm multitudinis argumentum, unam de me felicitatem quàm uoto quidem petunt omnes, rebus pauci, in reliquis propè omnibus inuenias, ut quæ plurimis placent, illa ſunt peſsima. Si fidem quæris, cogita quot uirtus amicos habeat, quot uoluptas, id ſi ad libros, artiumq́;, rerumq́; omnium ſtudia traxeris, uerum fiet. Sed iam ſatis innocentem hominem inſectatus dicar, neque uero ego, illum, ſed te arguo. Fecit enim ille quod potuit, tu quod uis. Et puto memineris, ut me hortante, diſsimilis humilioribus ſtudijs, altum iter ingreſſus, quod unum tibi familiariter imputare auſim, gloriam & ratum decus inuenerim. Si mihi nunc ſpontè relaberis, urgente licet auaritia, mallem perpetuò iacuiſſes. Omnis enim culpa eò grauior, quò culpæ fœdior cauſa eſt. Quid ergo horter? Abitum, non audeo, id quidem & ſi optimum erat, nunquam minor conſilij libertas fuit, quàm ætate noſtra eſt. Amicus amico uerum dicere metuit, frater fratri, ſocer genero, uir uxori. Non poteſt à patre uerum filius audire, & quid multa, ueritas omnis iniuria eſt, omne conſilium offenſio, niſi animo conſonum audiens. Ego uerò nihil tecum metuo, niſi fruſtra hortari. Ita enim ſentio, facilius te frangi poſſe quàm flecti, id fortaſsis efficacius obſecrem, ita illic eſſe ut uelis, tanquàm qui amaro de carcere dulcem libertatem cogitat, aut per lubricum & obſcurum callem, gratum ſuſpirat hoſpitium. Et hoc unum præſtes mihi anxio, tuæq́; famę perinde ſollicito, quaſi mea ſit, ne quando uel lucri ſtudium, te uirtutis, uel lectio utilis honeſtæ lectionis reddat immemorem. Vale diu fœlix.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PHILIPPO PATRIARCHÆ HIEROSOLYMITANO, S. Epiſt. VI.

Laudem in se qualibet suspectam.

Sicut ingentia munera uerbis modicis ingrata ſuperbia, ſicut humilis gratitudo, parua etiam nititur attollere munuſcula, hinc tu uitæ ſolitarię libellum, ubi quod ſæpe dixi nihil me iudice memorandum, nihil eſt nobile, præter tuum nomē, quem præterea, & ſi nobiliſsimus in ſe eſſet, & dilatio immodica, & petendi tædium ac faſtidiū expectandi, inuiſum facere potuiſſent, his præconijs laudum, hisq́; actionibus gratiarum excipis, ut mirari cogar, notiſsimam licet humanitatem tuam, & amoris antiqui perpetuam, ac recentem ſemper, & quotidie nouam uim, uno tenore, cunctis meis in rebus tuos, in alijs utique lynceos oculos pręſtringentem. Illud miraculo additum, quod & Pont. Max. & qui illi proximus gradu eſt Epiſcopū Portuenſem, de libello illo loqui atq; eum dignanter expetere, & inſuper & Ebredunenſem Archiepiſcopum, & Epiſcopū Vlyxbonenſem. Quorum primus, quanto ſit ingenio, iure me optimo teſtem facis, ſcio enim, ſecundum uerò non niſi per famam, & quibus credo omnia, per literas tuas noui, amboad doctrinæ uberrimæ, altiſsimiq́; iuditij uiros, & legiſſe illum auidiſsimè, & de eo multa certatim honorificè locutos ſcribis. Quid uis dicam. Efficies tu, facientq́; illi, ut amare ipſe, quoque rem meam incipiam quàm contempſi, nempè qua delectari tanta audiam ingenia, hanq́; his ſtimulis, ad ſtudij mei curſum promptior, atque ad alia ſcribenda flagrantior. Neque uerò miraberis, & mihi euenire poſſe, quod Auguſtino accidit, qui de Libro quodā, quem ad Hierium Romanæ urbis Oratorem ſcripſerat, in confeſsiónum libris ita commemorat. Et magnum enim quidam (inquit) mihi erat, ſi ſermo meus, & ſtudia mea illi innoteſcerent, quæ ſi probaret flagrarem magis, ſi autem improbaret ſauciaretur cor uanum, & inane ſoliditatis tuæ Deus. Non tamen laudibus ueſtris, eouſque decipior, ut neſciam quis ego, quæ breuitas mea eſt, & quod libri pondus quem laudatis, ſcio me, totumq́; quod dicitis, non tribuo, nec ueſtro certè iuditio, ſed amori. Itaq; non hic ſiſto, quaſi magnum aliquid tibi quale tu prædicas deſtinari, ſed id cogito, quid nunc etiam te dignum, & tàm longi temporis aptum fœnus adijciam. Vale

Ticini VI. Idus Auguſti.

FR

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER VII.

FRAN. PETRARCHA VRBANO V. PONT. MAX. S. Epiſt. I.

Vt Romam Eccleſiæ ſedem repetat, hortatur.

ALiquandiu Pater Beatiſsime, an aliquid tibi, ſeu quid ſcriberem dubius fui, hinc uulgari fama, hinc literis amicorum, de te multa, & præclara narrantium excitabar. Illius ante alios, qui de tàm multis, mihi penè unicum ſolatium remanſit, diu oculis ereptum, animo præſens ſemper, Philippi Patriarchæ Hieroſolymitani, qui ne ueterum ſtudioſum, noua ſineret ignorare, ſimulq; ut ſcribendi materiam glorioſam, atque uberem ſtylo offerret, ſæpe per hoc tempus, de rebus tuis, mirisq; in modum laudibus tuorum, deq; Apoſtolici propoſiti ſanctitate, grauiſsimas ad me, nec minùs feruentiſsimas ſcripſi Epiſtolas. Quibus, fateor, iam defeſſum, tepentemq; animum, uehementer accenderat, aderat hortatrix alia uetus, ſcilicet & præſcripta iam conſuetudo mea, ſcribendi, non tantum pari fiducia paruis ac magnis, ſed eò ſemper alacrius, quò maioribus ſim ſcripturus, à quibus & benè dictorum ampliorem gratiam, & errorum promptiorem ueniam ſperem. Nempè ut liuidi, deiectiq; animi, non ſolū alienis erroribus implacabiliter iraſcuntur, ſed alienis quoque laudibus, hoſtiliter obſtrepunt, ſic ſereni, erecti, & laudibus gratulantur, & miſerentur erroribus. Ita uerò mihi perſuaſeram, neque opinione dimoueor, ei qui bona fide loqueretur, errorem imputari poſſe, non ſcelus, & reprehenſione fortaſsis, non ſupplicio, neque odio dignum eſſe. Hæc me opinio, & hæc ſpes impulit, ut prædeceſſoribus tuis duobus, ante proximum RR. PP. quin & Romano Imperatori, ac principibus, & regibus terræ, ſæpè etiam ignotis ſcriberem, nec ſum ueritus, ne paruitatem meam illorum opprimeret magnitudo, non enim me maioribus conferebam, neq; æquabam uerbis, quos natura parens, aut fortuna tanto ſe creuerat interuallo, ſed ad obſequium ueritatis, uti ſpiritu libertatis nō licitum modò, ſed debitum arbitrabar. Neque ipſe mihi, quodammodo uidebar loqui, mea fides, mea deuotio, meus amor Reipub. loquebatur: Itaque & ad Benedictum XII. adoleſcens adhuc ſcripſi, & ad Clementem VI. medio iuuentæ, cur nō tibi iam ſenex ſciberem? Maior eſt fateor iuuentutis feruor & audacia, ſed maior auctoritas ac grauitas ſenectutis, maior quoque animus, quod mirū forſan quis dixerit, maiorq; ſecuritas. Vnde eſt reſponſum illud famoſiſsimum Solonis, quem cùm Piſiſtratus Athenienſium tyrannus interrogaret? Qua fiducia ſibi tàm conſtanter obſiſteret, Senectute, inquit. Et illud Marci Caſtrucij, uerbo aliud idem ſenſu, cui cum iratus Carbo Cos. nomine, re tyrãnus, inter minas diceret multos ſe gladios habere. Reſpondit: Et ego annos. Quàm ſententiosè, quàm breuiter gladijs annos oppoſuit, quaſi annos homini noceri, ne gladijs quidem poſsit, & reuera quid metuat is, qui uitam ipſam, pro qua omnia hic timentur, à tergo habet? Aut quid excipi poteſt, illi qui ſuum recepit, & in tuto poſuit? Nec tempeſtas nautæ portum iam tenenti, nec grando implenti horrea nocet agricolæ. Intrèpidi fines rerum, meticuloſa principia eſſe ſolent, & omninò uitæ ſatietas, ſecuritas animi magna eſt. Mihi autem apud te ſummū culmen Eccleſiæ, non de mea ætate, ſed de tua humanitate fiducia naſcitur. Audio enim, te libenter audire, quæ uera ſunt, etſi acria ſint, falſa autem quamuis dulcia, aſpernari, neq; id mirum, ueritatis uiuæ uicarius es in terris. Si dominum tuum amas, quæ illius, quæ'ue ab illo ſunt, amare omnia eſt neceſſe. Omne autem uerum à ueritate, uerum eſſe ait Auguſtinus. Quibus ita ſe habentibus, quid me tacitum nunc uſque tenuerit dicam, quod fortaſſe mirabere, omnes quidem qui de te mihi loquebātur, aut ſcribebant, ſed inprimis tuus ille, tuarumq; præco ingens rerum Patriarcha, nil niſi de tuis ſummis, & eximijs agebat laudibus, quàm tibi ſacer animus, quàm mens uigil, quàm pium propoſitum, quàm feruens ſtudium literarum. Quæ præteritorum memoria, quæ prouidentia futurorū, quàm altum, lucidumq; ingeniū, quàm ſuauis, exundansq; facundia, Quis bonorū amor, quod malorū

odium, quis iustitiæ cultus, quæ Ecclesiæ disciplina. His, horumq; similibus plena erant o-
mnia, quæcunq; ad aures siue oculos meos, amicorum lingua, uel calamo ferebantur, ego
inter ea dubius hærebam, sciebam quidem generosos animos, ad uirtutem, ueris atq; honė
stis laudibus, quasi ad cursum equos egregios calcaribus excitari, quæ etsi necessaria non
sint, uel impigertimis addita, prosunt sæpè, naturæq; impetum uelocitatis exaggerant, iu-
uabat occasionem inuenisse, qua humilitas mea, in commertium tàm excelsi sermonis as-
surgeret, & loqui aliquid, de tàm lata, & tàm læta materia delectabat, unū omnibus his ob-
stabat, quod summorum laus hominū, quamuis uera & syncera, & de ore tamen humiliū,
uix sine quadam blanditiarum suspitione procederet. Neu te aliquid celem, accessit & alte
ra causa silentij. Obseruator sum, fateor, magnus illustrium, quorum ex actibus atq; exem-
plis pendere Remp. existimo, te igitur obseruabam, & qui à minimis tàm laudabiliter incœ
pisses, quis esses in maximis expectabam, audiebam te prælatos Ecclesiarum, qui Romanā
curiam frequentabant, ad sedes proprias remisisse, optimė (inquam) ac magnificė. Quid in-
eptius enim, quæso, propiusq; naufragio est, quam si nautæ omnes, remis atq; rudentibus
abiectis, relicta nauis prora, nudatisq; lateribus, graui fasce puppim præmant, clàm rectorē,
opportunė ambiant, suisq; muneribus desertis, illius officium interpellent. Audiebam te
ambitioni antiquæ, quæ priorum licentia in immensum creuit, frenum ponere, & ut uno,
aut paucis pro dignitate uirtutis ac scientiæ beneficijs contenta esset edicere, iustė, inquam,
grauiterq;. Nam quid turpius, quàm unum aliquem, parta forsan fœdis artibus copia nau-
seantem cernere multis, hinc inde melioribus, penuria, fameq; laborantibus? Audiebā cir-
ca habituum honestatem multam te curam, multumq; studium impendere, laudabā. Nam
quis oculus pati potest hæc ludibria, quæ nostra ætas infœlix sibi finxit, dum formosa uult
uideri, manibus se deformans suis, at turpissimė dehonestans. Quæ stomachum monstra
hæc conspecta non quatiant, cornuti calcei, pennati uertices, caudata cæsaries, & intricam
torta. Frontes uirorum muliebriter discriminali eburneo fulcatæ, fasciulosa uestis uerecun
diæ inimica, uentres astricti fidiculis & afflicti, pro uanitate patientibus miseris, quod bea-
ti olim pro ueritate passi sunt. Ad hæc curua iuuenum terga, cernuiq; superborum uultus,
& accliues humeri, compulsaq; uiscera sub pectorum specubus habitare. Quod unum, an
posteritas creditura sit nescio, patres nostri si audiant, profectò non crederent, nos hæc ocu
lis omnia cernimus, & siquid præter hæc aliud fœdùm, immanė, barbarum, ridiculum, ua-
ga mens, in suum dedecus, ingeniosa, uel didicit, uel inuenit. Quæ cùm ubique uisu tur-
pia, tùm uel maximė te spectanre turpissima sunt, honestisq; omnibus, & benė moratis in-
genijs detestanda. Tibi autem Apostolicæ morum censor, edictis ac legibus castiganda
præcipuė, & comprimenda, parte castigata, ut perhibent, & compressa. Quod utinam fa-
cere potuisses, & fecisses, toto orbe terrarum, aut saltem in Italia, ubi has insanias, eò mœ-
stius fero, quò magis à patrio ritu, & togatæ gentis grauitate dissentiunt, & eousque dege-
nerant, ut nonnunquam inuidiosa mihi, his spectaculis carens cæcitas, uideri soleat. Au-
diebam præterea singularem illam tuam curam, paternamque sollicitudinem, circa Bono-
niense studium, quanta nulli unquam Pontificum fuisset, aut principum, quibus quantisq;
priuilegijs, qua magnificentia, qua pietate illud longis, ac iugibus bellorum turbinibus,
quassatum, stratumq; erigis, & antiquā illi. Non modò restituis, sed siqua fors fauerit am-
plificas etiam dignitatem. Et hoc quoque te dignum, tibiq; debitum censebam. Nàm quis
alius studiorum omnium, sed præsertim iuris, matrem ac nutricem urbem adiuuet, ac refor
met, quàm is, qui utriusque iuris peritissimus, alterius autem & conditor, & interpres uni-
cus haberetur, aut quis alius, quàm tu huic literarum ruinæ subijcere humeros, aut uellet,
aut posset? In quo si nescis plusculum, quam quod agere uisus es, egisti, siquidem spem in-
gentem nobis omnib. præbuisti, non te Italiam negligere, cuius urbē unam, tanta clemen-
tia, tantisq; fauoribus prosequaris. Audiebam deniq; te licentiā pestilentem, salubri falce
rigoris æquissimi pręcidisse, illam dico, quę scelestes homines, grauissimis facinoribus per-
petratis, ad Cardinalium domos fugere solitos, legum nodis, ac digno supplicio eximebat.
Et hoc ipsum singulari laude dignum, maximeq; tuum iudicabam, ab illius scilicet uicario,
qui Sol iustitiæ uerus est defensam, & in suum ius repositam esse iustitiā, pessimamq; con-
suetudinem, qua nihil infestius est uirtuti, tuis uel abscissam manibus, uel conuulsam, nec
iam amplius ut solebat apud exemplares iustitiæ magistros, iniustitiæ refugium, asylumq;
nequitiæ reperiri. Talia multa de te audiens: & auditis lętus, & natura pronus ad calamum.
Hærebam tamen, incertusq; animi, operiensq; rei exitum, & quamuis difficile silentiū eli-
gebam,

gebam, ueritus ne mihi forsan accideret in maximo hominum, quod in magnis accidisse memineram, ut eum ualdè laudarem, quem urgente uero, essem aliquando reprehensurus. Quodq; emptoribus inconsultis euenit, ut dum equos inspiciunt curtis auribus, & uiuacibus oculis, & læta facie delectati, nec soliditatem pedum, nec crurium, tergiq́ue robur examinent, neque dum formę inhiant, uim attendant, primo quadrupes pulcher aspectu, quàm scilicet par labori, quàm bello idoneus, quàm sit aptus itineri, quàm cursui prōptus aut saluti, idem mihi tuis in laudibus eueniret, ut minoribus commendatis, in magnis offenderer, & illusus, non alium, quàm meipsum leuitatis arguerem. Inconstantia siquidem, naturalis in puero est, in sene ridiculosa, turpe seni est dicere, cuius mox contrarium sit dicturus, hæc loquendi, scribendiq; auidum me frenabant, cogitantem esse aliquos, multis paruis in rebus, usq; ad stuporem agiles & expertos, quos si ad unum summum optimum necessarium restrinxeris, nil indoctius dicas, nil sibi dissimilius, nilq; difformius, ut qui magni esse, & scire omnia uidebantur, subitò nihil sint, penitùs nihil sciant. Animaduerti persæpè esse homines de scientijs, de artibus, deq; actibus hominum carptim mirabilia fabulantes, iube illos perpetuum aliquid loqui, perfectumq; aliquid agere, exempli causa, illius in qua se ostentabant, siue scientiæ, siue artis archana pandere, quodq; est maius, non de arte loqui, sed secundùm artem operari, & aut libros scribere, aut bellicum aliquod, seu ciuile negotium exercere, utrobique deficient, ignorantiam in sermone, in actione uel uitium, uel inexperientiam detegentes. Hos defloratores, ueriusq; deformatores terū dicimus, qui medullæ inscij, quibusdam flosculis caducis, ac leuibus exornantur, illis similes. Qui in ludo quem latruncularium ueteres dixêre, tendiculas, tractatusq; aliquos norunt, quos partitos uocant, ordinarij seriem certaminis nescientes. Non sunt autem magni uiri habēdi, qui in re qualibet, & si multa didicerint, & multa gesserint, summam sui causam officij, uel negligant, uel ignorant. Nam qualis obsecro habendus est belli dux, quamuis formosus, quanquam eloquens, ac multa de armis ac bellis fandi ignarus, quamuis equitandi doctus, & magnarum uirium, si improuidè ducit exercitum, si locum temerè castris capit, inconsulteq; aciem dirigit, disponitq; præsidia: Deniq; si aut uictus rebus extremis, ægrè cōsulit, aut uictor uictoria uti nescit, hæ sunt enim artes ducum, superiora autē illa ornamenta. Itaq; sine illis dux optimus esse potest, sine his autē ne Dux quidem. Da mihi rectorē nauigij expeditum, ac robustum, patientem inediæ, ac laboris, quodq; est illius, æquorei tædij solamē dulciter canentē ac loquentem, si clauū regere, & si uela flectere, si remiges moderari, scopulos declinare, procellas euadere, littora noscere, loca discernere, portū petere nescit, nauta forsitan dici poterit, nō magister. Mille sunt talia, nosti omnia, deq; his paucis, quid in reliquis sentiēdum sit intelligis, sunt quos natura aut fortuna, seu quod est uerius Deus ipse, naturæ, fortunæq; dominus, ad summam rerum creando disposuit. Inter quos duo sunt omnium supremi Rom. Pont. & Romanus Imperator. Et illi quidem, ego ab Initio prorsus incognitus, postmodum uerò familiarissimus effectus. Dixi sæpè, & scripsi, quod eum pro uirili parte contingere uisum fuit, ipse mihi est testis, quibus à me stimulis, quotiena sit excitus, erectus, impulsus, increpitus. Quæ licet mei forsitan officij non essent, nisi quod prætermissa maioribus, & utilia omnibus à quolibet potiùs, quam à nemine dici satiùs uidebatur. Ego tamen non fortunam meam metiens, sed fidem mihi licitum, meq; dignum ratus sum, in tanto publico naufragio, uocem tollere, & si non omniū periculis succursurā, me oa tamen angores, measq́ue molestias lenituram, nullóque hominū hoc sibi officium assumente minimus omniū, sed ut puto charitate, non ultimus, flendo & clamando, quando aliter non dabatur, solus pro deserta Rep. partes feci, uel dolori meo cōsulens (ut dixi) uel si piā intentionē diuinitas adiuuisset, & publico cōsulturus. Sępè enim statui, plurimorū uox una consuluit, neq; auctor uocis, sed uox ipsa mouit animos, suamq́ue uim latenter exercuit. Sic ne exemplis inhæream, una Centurionis uox fortuita nutans, tunc Romanum stabiliuit imperium: una uox infantis in populo audita Ambrosiū fecit Episcopum. Quæ res, & illius urbis requies fuit, & occidentalium salus Ecclesiarum. Nouit ille supernus rerum cognitor, ex ore etiam pectoris elicere uerbum bonum, penetrabile, potens, efficax. Quiduis? Ita meum duxi, tacitis ne dicam mutis omnibus, Principē Romanū uel reprehēdere, uel hortari, ut nefas mihi, nec infamia caritutum crederē, tacuisse. Elegi ergo, ut eum potiùs quàm me, hoc est, illius tarditatem, quàm meum silentium posteritas accusaret. Sed mitissimus principum, q; lætè, q; leniter, quàm benignè, neq; aliter, quàm reliqui adulantium laudes, & blanditias ipse meas increpationes semper acceperit, multis atque honorificis rerum ac

uerborum inditijs declarauit. Et hæc quidē ego hactenus cum illo, Romanæ urbis, Romaniq; orbis altero lumine, tecum nihil adhuc: metuens (ut dixi) laudare in paruis, quãuis laudedignis, quem mox in maximis nō laudarē. In quibus si te ritè ageres, tunc fateor, & parua simul, & magna celebrare decreuerã, totumq; hoc quantulũcunq; est ingenium, & hũc stylum, & has uitæ reliquias dedicare tuis laudibus, nec uirtutē tuam [illegible]laudatam pari, cum tot laudatores prisca uirtus inuenerit, etsi enim tantæ rei imparem esse, me nescius non essem, sæpe tamen paruis excursionibus ingentia prælia, sæpè magnas paruis principijs res effectas audieram, legeramq;: nec me duce, in tuum quoq; præconium excitari, po[illegible]c, magna quædam ingenia diffidebam, & iuuabat in hac acie, licet meritis ultimum primum numero esse Hæc cogitans, toto te triennio expectaui. Iamq; ut uides, quartus annus circumuoluitur, dum dies transeunt, & fit nihil (eorum dico, quæ ut maxima atq; optima, sic & prima esse debuerant) dicebam mecum, & cum alijs dicebã, pastor noster, illius exemplo, cuius gregem pascit omnia benè fecit, unum & id quidem summum, ac præcipuũ differt, gregem ipsum ad suum proprium, & antiquum ouile reducere. Neque id spontè, sed coactus ipsa magnitudine rerũ facit. Assueuit grex externis pascuis, herbisq; palustribus, ijsq; iam tanta cum uoluptate fruitur, ut salubrium immemor sit herbarum. Habet con[illegible]tudo longior uiscum tenax, & perplexos laqueos, quos abrumpere dubium, absoluere operosum sit. His illa nunc sacra mens curis exercita, nondum executione incipit, quod iam intentione perficit, citò exigui cogitatus prodeunt in actum, ac magnarum rerum apparatus, magni etiam sint oportet. Inter deliberationem enim, & rem ipsam, magnus quidam mons (ut dici solet) est medius, cui exuperando, & intentione animi, & labore est opus tēpore. Hæc dicebam, sic credebam, sic diffidentibus respondebam, qui nunc à me promissi mei fidem exigunt, nec quibus hanc uijs expediam inuenio. Itaq; quando mihi spem, qua desiderium leniebant, non tu quidem, sed res eripit, nec me amplius, nec alios fallere, neque Sanctitati tuæ subtrahere aliquid est animus, eorum omnium, quæ ad aurem cordis mihi loquitur fides mea. Ita uerò ea, quæ cum reuerentia, qua illum, cuius inter homines locum tenes, te nunc alloquor, tibiq; pronuncio, ut iam hinc ad patientiam inclines animum, & aures potentium, more blanditiis assuetas, reprehensionibus iustis (ut puto) licet iniusto peccatoris ab ore uenientibus, parumper accommodes. Totus penè orbis summe patrum, qui Christianus est, uno tibi nunc ore blanditur. Si tua illa uera est, quæ fertur integritas, euentutum spero, ut inter tot adulatores non patienter modò, sed lætè unum audias reprehensorem, & fortè aliquid plus, minus'ue quàm deceat audieris, fidem laudes, ignorantiam excuses, hac spe fretus incipio. Cuncta quidem apud Auinionem prosperè, magno cuncta consilio geruntur. Dixi iam, laudo, sic te decet, ut ubicunque fueris, benè ac fœliciter uniuersa succedant, & præsentiam tuam uirtus ac prosperitas comitentur. Sed dic oro, quid agit interim sponsa tua? Quo consule regitur? Quo duce defenditur? Quibus comitibus consolatur? Respondebis imò non tu quidem qui interrogationem meam, non dubito placatus atque æquanimis accipis, sed aliquis unus minor, & imp[illegible]ctior respōdebit. Tu Romano Pontifici legem ponis, aut unam illi sponsa tribuis, cui sponsa est: non ea sola quam intelligis, sed uniuersalis Ecclesia, ubicunque ille sibi moram eligit, illic sponsa, illic sedes propria sua est. Non inficior Pater Beatissime, neq; angusto tibi sedem tuam, quam libenter extenderem, si in me esset, oceaniq; littoribus undique terminarem, utinamq; tàm latè hodie coler[illegible] CHRISTI nomen, quàm latè olim cultum fuisse, multis quidē, sed in primis hinc Ambrosio, hinc Augustino teste cognouimus, qui ijsdem penè uerbis latiores Christianæ religionis, quàm Romani imperij fines locant, quod si ut sonat, nec deuotè magis, quàm historicæ dictum credimus, mutationem rerum maximam, ac flebilem quis nō uidet? Certè enim id si nunc quoque uerũ foret, sedes ac possessio tua esset mare, & plenitudo eius orbis terrarum, & uniuersi qui habitant in eo. Sed non ita est: CHRISTVS enim, ut cœli sit maris, terręque dominus, & creator, idem ipse est, & uno semper tenore diues permanet. Nos peccatis promerentibus, pauperes facti sumus nimis, & ad hunc angulum occidentis arctati, quem ipsum infideliũ insultus, hinc atq; hinc quatiunt & infestant, adhûc tamen ubicunque ritè colitur CHRISTI nomen, illic sedem tuam esse nec nego, nec dubito. Illud mihi non negetur quod inter omnes alias, singulare tecum aliquid, imò quàmplurimum habeat urbs Roma. Cæteræ enim omnes suos habent sponsos, tibi quidem uni subditos, sed suis Ecclesijs præsidentes, illa uerò nullum habet, nisi te. Itaque summus in reliquis, in Romana urbe solus es, Pōtifex, solus spōsus. De illa tua igitur, nec alterius sponsam nexu cōiugij spi

lia

lis te interrogo, quid nunc agit? Quo in statu est? Qua'ue in spe? Si tu taces, ipse mihi respondebo. Aegra, inops, uidua, miserabilis, sola est, & uestem uiduitatis induta, diebus ac noctibus flens, Propheticum illud canit: Quomodo sedet sola ciuitas plena populo, facta est, quasi uidua domina gentium, princeps prouinciarum facta est sub tributo. Totumque per ordinem à principio in finem flebile illud carmen ingeminat, illic uero mœstius fracta uoce singultibus fessa subsistit, ubi scriptum est: Non est qui consoletur eam ex omnibus charis eius, omnes amici eius spreuerunt eam, & facti sunt ei inimici. Et iterum: Idcirco ego plorans & oculus meus deducens aquam, quia longè factus est à me consolator, conuertens animam meam, hic, inquam, illa profundiùs suspirat te [illegible] significans, nam quis alius consolator? quis, conuertere animam suam, potens nisi tu? Cui & prompta remedia, & sponsæ necessitates, ac miseriæ notæ omnes? Et si quid forte notitiæ defuerit, scito, quoniam te absente abest requies, pax exulat, bella assuunt, & ciuilia, & externa, iacent domus, labant mœnia, templa ruunt, sacra pereunt, calcantur leges, iustitia uim patitur, luget atque ullulat plebs infœlix, tuum pro nomen altis uocibus inuocat, neque tu illam audis, neque malorum piget, miseret pro tantorum, neque uenerabilis sponsæ pias lachrymas uides, teque illi debitum restituis. Qui ut alijs minus dignis, ac minùs egentibus suos redderes, curiam tuam prouidentissime uacuasti, ita populus quilibet suum habet Episcopum [illegible] R. situm pontificem non habebit, & paruæ urbes, suorum in amplexibus requiescent. Regina urbium semper uidua erit? quodque uiduitate peius dixerim, sponsum suum semper, cum alijs habitantem, captumque peregrinis amoribus audiet, nec tenere illum poterit, nec uidere. Qui sui præsentia, se & illam gloriosos faceret ac fœlices. Sed quo animo, da quæso misericors pater temerariæ deuotioni meæ ueniam, quo, inquam, animo tu ad ripam Rhodani sub auratis tectorum laquearibus somnum capis, & Lateranum humi iacet, & Ecclesiarum mater omnium tecto carens, & uentis patet ac pluuijs, & Petri, ac Pauli sanctissimæ domus tremunt, & Apostolorum quæ nunc ædes fuerat, iam ruina est, informisque lapidum aceruus, lapideis quoque pectoribus, suspiria extorquens. Si responsum ad hæc omnia non meretur humilitas mea, an nō saltem Aggeo Prophetæ, imò Sancto spiritui per illius os loquenti respondebitis, tu & fratres tui, quid'ue omninò respondere poteritis? Nunquid tempus (inquit) est uobis, ut habitetis in domibus laqueatis, & ista domus deserta? Nota sunt, & terribilia quæ sequuntur illud in primis, quia domus mea deserta est, & uos festinatis unusquisque in domum suam. Cogita, oro, hæc & tecum cogitent, quos ista magis etiam quàm te tangit, non quia in omni plurium delicto, non sit culpa grauior maioris, sed quia illi Dominicæ domus obliti in domibus quisque suis diutiùs festinarunt. Heu mihi, nam loquendo crescit dolor meus, tractataque uulnera recrudescunt, famosissimus ergo, atque altissimus Catholicę fidei uertex, nutat, ac tu summus speculator, domus Israël ac dominicę turris excubitor, ad Rhodani ripam sedes, nec te magnopere indigentis, & magnæ aliorum indigentiæ uehementer obstantis. Nec te saltem in silentio increpat, non impositum tibi, sed assumptum nomen. Quomodo enim quæso, & urbanus diceris, & nominis huius originem Vrbem fugis? At qui mihi, & multis nomen aliud spem eximiam tui dedit aduentus, nam neque aliud tua sanctitas, ac spectata religio promittebat. Cui accesserat iugis sermo tuus, & familiare [illegible] uium, cuius ut fides constet, ualde tibi meo iudicio prouidendum est, ne [illegible] eria & maxima promissione fefelleris, nemo tibi creditur paruis. Est autem sermo, & colloquium, quo tibi semper in ore Roma esse dicitur. Semper te uerbo iter illud optare, sæpe etiam polliceri, & sæpiùs ex te audirum, nunquam te animo quieturum, donec tuo cum grege Romæ fueris, & huic sancto proposito, prius pro sermonibus adesse illa quam dixi conuenientissimi nominis. Non casualis electio. Nam quis Almam sacrosanctam Vrbem meliùs restitueret, quàm Vrbanus? Dicam quod multis fortè displiceat, dicam tamen, tibi enim & ueri amatoribus placiturum spero, maior hinc tibi, ac perenni perennior quæ [illegible] batur gloria, quàm ex omnibus quæ ad Rhodanum nostra ætate, imò omnibus sæculis gesta sunt. Sæpè locus famam adiuuat, longius prospicitur quod in alto sit. Atque ut si eam mundi gloriā quā licet dulcem & multis optabilē, potest inflexibilis & inuicti animi [illegible] sublimis humilitas non curare, quanti hoc demum meriti apud CHRISTVM reris, Ecclesiam eius diù uagā, [illegible] reposuisse, ubi ille eam posuit, cuius prouidentia. Sicut scriptū est, in sui dispositione nō fallitur, quique si expediens fuisset, cur non illam ad Rhodanum posuisset, sed consulto locus insignior est electus, ut ubi terreni caput imperij fuerat, illic cœlestis imperij sedes esset in terris, fide solita, & sanctitate humili fundata, & Apostolorum sacris ac martyrum

compacta

compacta cruoribus. Hoc diuinum opus mutare non debuit, humana pra[illegible] sed mutauit, tuum est si nescis, nec alterius in suum [illegible] cum conuulsa reponere. Fu[illegible]rum quinque fateor, qui te ex ordine processerunt. Nulli tamen adeo debitum, [illegible] piè neglectum, atque dissimulatum, si negligis ac dissimulas ut cœpisti. Opta[illegible] maxim[illegible] in [illegible] uerborum talem mihi Tulliani uenam fontis obrigisse, ut concept[illegible] [illegible] tuum animum fando transfunderem. Dicam tamen ut potero & quod [illegible] de[illegible]it, tuo supplebitur intellectu. Attendisti acriter, certus sum, seruasque memoriter, [illegible] ad hoc culmen ascenderis, neque enim in Deum fas est ingratum suspicari eum, qui gratissimus in homines sis. Non est quidem potestas nisi à Deo, non mentitur Ap[illegible] qui hoc ait. Verum hæc p[illegible]stas, quæ aliunde utique non est, aliter atque aliter hinc est [illegible] e[illegible]im diuina sapientia ad suæ uoluntatis effectum, humanis actibus utitur, successione, electione, donatione, acquisitione, & siqui alij sunt modi, quibus homines ad aliquam p[illegible]tem perueniunt. Vbi humanorum actuum uestigia atque effectus apparent, [illegible] ac [illegible]spositio Dei latet, doctis tamen ac fidelibus non ignota. Et hoc calle, ad Papatū [illegible] nostra memoria peruenerunt omnes. Est ubi ipsa Dei uoluntas tam euidēter emineat, [illegible]pis quoque, cæcisque etiam nota sit. Sic se Deus per seipsum sine medio uelle ali[illegible], o[illegible], ut nullæ ibi partes hominum uideantur, quorum linguis aut manibus pro organo qu[illegible]dā, instrumentoque utitur, illis ipsis, quid per eos fiat ignorantibus, factumque mirantibus ac fortassè dolentibus. Hoc tu nostra ætate solus tramite conscendisti, nemo te fallat Pater prudentissime, nemo tibi persuadeat, esse aliquem tuorum Cardinalium, qui uel semel u[illegible]quā cogitauerit te ad Papatum, non dicam promouere, sed poscere. Siquis fortè tibi aliu[illegible]susurrat, uerba dat, te sibi mendacio obligatum cupit. Deus te profectò, Deus inquam, solus & nemo mortalium elegit, linguis licet illorum ut dixi usus, quas ad aliud dispositas, ad suum uertit obsequium, quodque ipse uolebat, dictu mirabile, peruolētes fecit. Hoc ubi acutissimo hominum, quomodo rear incognitum, quod nemò ferè uulgarium ignorauit. Sed si nunc etiam n[illegible]t[illegible]us heri uis, quorū electus es uocibus, mores atque animos tibi notissimos contemplare. Pone ante oculos fastum illum, nusqu[illegible]nta rerum suarum extimatio, parque contemptus alienarum, alto loco assueti omnes, ad sum[illegible]um singuli aspirant quo uix est, qui alium quàm se unum dignum cen[illegible] se quoniam nominare alios est necesse, quisque se cogitans alium nominat, uicissim ab [illegible] nominandus: ita neque quisquam nominare potest, neque alium uult, nisi ex eodem numero, [illegible]de tanti benefi[illegible] uic[illegible]m speret. Quando ergo illi hoc indicio, & his moribus, quamuis una conspicuum, literis excellentē, humilis abbatem Cœnobij nominassent, aut tantæ rei idoneum iudic[illegible]assent aut quomodo illis in animū uenisset, quod sibi quisque suis optabat, exteris dare, seu quē ex alto despicerent, supra se cer[illegible]re, seu quo ministro usi essent dominum habere. Audacter forsan, sed ni fallor uerè dixerim, nunquā quo sunt animo, tale aliquid spontè pati, ne dicā facere potuissent. Non refert autē quid homines uelint: sed quid Deus, is te uerò no[illegible] alium uolebat, consiliumque suum [illegible]ltrò non consensuris occultabat, quibus scrutinia pro[illegible]da uersantibus sic clanculum tu[illegible] nomen inseruit, ut ex toto nominib. Romano cardine fulgidis, cum solus abbas Massiliæ [illegible]nuisset, dolor & timor malos, gaudiū & spes bonos, admiratio ac stupo[illegible] arriperet. Omnes tamen una uoce, uarijs licet affectibus, in laudem Dei, qui facit [illegible]a ma[illegible]a solus, stupentia ore resoluerent. Et[illegible] tanta de re sentē[illegible] meam u[illegible] audire, [illegible]antum [illegible]lem uespertilio, seu peccator hom[illegible]ncio diuinum consiliū intueri potest, dicam quan[illegible]de discesserit, quod tunc audientibu[illegible] multis insignibus uiris dixi, quàm uerè autem [illegible] si um manu e[illegible]quamuis si effectus [illegible]n sequitur, quē prædixi, & credidi, de diuina [illegible] dispositione [illegible]ententiā [illegible]am meam amplectar ac teneam, quæ talis est. Incipit, credo, C[illegible] STV[illegible] Deus noster suorū fidelium misereri, uult ut arbitror finē malis imponere, quæ [illegible]ta per hos annos uidimus, uult pro aurei s[illegible]li principio Ecclesiā[illegible]am, quam uag[illegible]ri propter [illegible]pas hominū diù sinit, ad antiquas & proprias sedes suas, [illegible] p[illegible]cæ fidei statum re[illegible]o care. Quod si omninò uoluerit, nec multis humano more consilijs nec ma[illegible]o nisu, a[illegible]gi spatio temporis ad agendum indi[illegible]et, cui ut semina actionis inhibita [illegible]s est, [illegible] modò, sed saxū illud graue, hispid[illegible] A[illegible] f[illegible]nti[illegible]e[illegible] transferēd[illegible] Nempe cùm nō solu[illegible]p[illegible]e, [illegible]ed [illegible]e[illegible]es id[illegible]ut [illegible] g[illegible]num [illegible]ina[illegible]is habuerint fidem. Ipse [illegible]ero [illegible] a[illegible] suum [illegible] [illegible]luit, qua[illegible] pe[illegible] homi[illegible] t[illegible]nsport[illegible] peim[illegible]re. A[illegible]o [illegible] ctu, pi[illegible], u[illegible] le[illegible] e[illegible] gratū, tu[illegible] homi[illegible] præ[illegible]s, [illegible] iuo [illegible]

[illegible] negligentiæ rationem red[illegible]turus. Et quoniam quod fiendũ ille statuit, fie[illegible] porrect[illegible]per alium, quam per te fieri m[illegible] & [illegible] [illegible]tum [illegible] dixisse ter[illegible]anus [illegible]rabilis, qui successoris sui uirtus [illegible] glor[illegible] collat[illegible] ra[illegible]. Scio q[illegible] [illegible]ne al[illegible]quid dico quod nõ sępe ruminaueris, tec[illegible] tract[illegible], ea mihi tui[illegible] tuæq; sanctitatis opinio e[illegible]. Quia tamen nõ omnes [illegible] sunt, propter [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] hæc audiant, [illegible] apertius est necesse. E[illegible] hoc opus [illegible] al[illegible] gu[illegible], cui [illegible]genium, & uirtus, & experientia rerũ esset, & [illegible] per om[illegible] rarum [illegible] [illegible]bertas. Cur si quæris, breuibus accipe: omnes ferme q[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] sunt consultores tenendi, in pa[illegible] illis Ecclesiam, ho[illegible] [illegible] hebetiore ingenio nequiuerunt, quid in rebus optimũ esset eligere, quos [illegible] [illegible] misericordia dignos dico. Alij uero animi pollentis acumine, sed [illegible] inopiam pa[illegible]tientes, & passionibus uicti uel [illegible] indigno quodã odio, uel quadam sol[illegible] nata dulcedine, non tam rationi, [illegible] affectibus obsequentes, & priuatã uol[illegible] [illegible] bono publico pr[illegible] [illegible]tes, [illegible]serunt uerbo, cuius contrarium animo sentiebant. Quid[illegible] nec in[illegible] [illegible] uerita[illegible] [illegible] sed uel inexperientia, uel ætate decepti nihil Venesino ma[illegible]ius habere [illegible] crediderunt. Fuerunt in hoc numero, quos perce[illegible] [illegible]ere, & [illegible] ex[illegible]tra orbem esse, & æquor innauigabile, & alpes imperuias op[illegible] cum [illegible] [illegible] amœ[illegible]n[illegible]mum, & Italia iuxta sit. Quibusdam sensi aerem, aquas, u[illegible]a, cibos esse [illegible]spectos, quæ suspitio cessaret, si aut his unquam usi essent, aut Italicam cœli temperiem, ac suauitatem, & qu[illegible] omnia, apud probatissimos auctores, non magis Italos, quàm externos lauda[illegible]ta [illegible] omnibus prælata didicissent. Hoc loco aliqua mihi ad memoriam redeunt, parua quidem in se, sed ad probandum quod loquor nõ inefficacia. Cum enim Benedi[illegible] XII. Vulsinij lacus anguillæ miræ magnitudinis, & sapori[illegible] insoliti missæ essent, & i[illegible] [illegible]rans eas, inter Cardinales diuidi iussisset, exigua sibi pa[illegible] non mul[illegible] diebus, dum ad eum ex more conuenissent, earundem mentione orta ui[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] si prægustassem (inquit) [illegible] [illegible] erant, non fuissem [illegible] nunquam credidi tale aliquid nasci posse in India. Quo dicto Io[illegible] de Colu[illegible] na[illegible] semper mihi reuerenti suspi[illegible] memoria[illegible] quo illis in[illegible] [illegible] eg[illegible], ui[illegible] motus, atq; a[illegible] colore no[illegible] & qui nihil [illegible] ditu ab[illegible], pati posset, [illegible] exarsit, ut diceret. M[illegible] multa legisset, excellentem cunctis in rebus Italiam ignora[illegible] [illegible] super rebus Italicis, pro quibus ab Italia missus eram, Clementem VI. a[illegible] quærer[illegible] quod uolebam satis imprimerem, dixi inter uerba: Magno Italos empt[illegible] optare, ut Italiam noscet, sicut Galliam nouerat, atq; Britanniam. Intellexit uir ing[illegible] uellem, idemq; se optare respondit. Et nimirum, si ut ait Aristoteles, unusquisque iudic[illegible] bene, quæ cognoscit, & horum est bonus iudex, secundum unumquodque genu[illegible] [illegible]tus. Quid iudicare alto licet ingenio, po[illegible] est qui[illegible] quã de rebus incognitis, nam [illegible] addit simpliciter autem qui circa omnia erud[illegible], uerum esset, si quis in omnibus eruditus inueniretur. [illegible] mihi sit quærendus ignoro, graue est ergo, & periculosum atq; [illegible] de quibus sis [illegible]turus rerum experientiam, non habere. Quæ pr[illegible] [illegible] experiend[illegible], nec ali[illegible] [illegible]ntur, qualia sunt documenta Politicæ, totaq; pars [illegible] [illegible]sophiæ, quæ de humanis [illegible] moribus, ubi inefficaciter inexpertos niti nouimus. [illegible] iam uerò nõ tu quidem, qui longo, & quotidiano rerum usu, sic Ital[illegible], quasi tuam p[illegible] domum nosti, sed tuorum multi Cardinalium in rebus Italicis de quibus iud[illegible] [illegible] huius experientiæ penuriam patiantur, iudicem non alium [illegible] non miror, si interdum in nostrarum uidisse [illegible] er[illegible]nt. Mi[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] expertus, & [illegible] ante alios credere [illegible] ipsam [illegible] se, qu[illegible] [illegible] desertum aliquod mente [illegible] r[illegible]em. Pu[illegible] errat[illegible] erroris, certu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] opus [illegible], negant[illegible] [illegible] tam [illegible] alium

al[illegible]m testem uiuum quoque, & alienigena[illegible] præclarum Guidonē Portu[illegible] m[illegible] & ipse e[illegible] puto meminerit anno [illegible]bileo, ab illa sua gloriosa [illegible] suum [illegible] mi[illegible] ad [illegible]um deuoti[illegible]ne prosequerer, & ad [illegible] no[illegible] num ueni[illegible]emus, atque ipse non suorum modò, sed It[illegible] [illegible]m turba [illegible] circunseptus, supra quendam herbosæ tell[illegible] [illegible] geni[illegible] eloquio facilis ac iucundus. Alpes ad dexter[illegible] [illegible]a, [illegible]und[illegible] æstum, æquoreo pari, ante retroque co[illegible]les ex[illegible] [illegible]nero [illegible]erem, l[illegible]tam [illegible] p[illegible]anitiem diù oculis mentientem: [illegible]d postremum me [illegible] [illegible]ix[illegible]sse [illegible] audientibus. Planè, fateor, uos pulch[illegible]iorem, m[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible]q[illegible] [illegible]atriam habere, [illegible]que me confessio tàm clara lætum ce[illegible]neret, [illegible] nutu [illegible]m [illegible]ed uerbis, & plau[illegible]us approbantem addidisse. At nos [illegible] [illegible] stat[illegible]m habemus, regimurque quietius. Dumque hoc dicto, quasi uictor [illegible] cede[illegible] [illegible], ac illum uoce detinui, imò non ego, sed ueritas. Dixi enim, Vestrum [illegible], ut ue[illegible]e cœperimus statum, habere quis prohibet? [illegible]m uos tale[illegible] terram [illegible]e, [illegible] ber natu[illegible] Tacu[illegible] ille subridens, ut qui me uera locu[illegible] intelligeret, nec m[illegible] e[illegible] er[illegible] ec obnit[illegible] ue[illegible]o uellet. Ita inde discessum est. Transeo autem ad errorum species [illegible]lias [illegible] ui in Italia [illegible]hil [illegible]ræter incolarum mores metuant, quibus se odio atque contemptu[illegible] os putant, qui si Ecclesiam mem[illegible]issent in Italia non alibi, ab hum[illegible]imis radicibus, [illegible]an[illegible] altitudinem excreuisse, si præterea cogitarem, penè omnem quantacunque est, q[illegible]e magna est. potentiam eius temporalem intra Italiæ fines esse, susp[illegible]itionem falsam [illegible] a- c[illegible]m, atque indignam fortasse deponerent. Repeto etiam h[illegible]c sermonem mihi [illegible]e, [illegible]m [illegible]dam habentium nomen à Cardine, uiro nobili, originis tran[illegible]alpinæ, quantum [illegible]e re poteram, mitissimo, purissimoque hominum, præsente tunc Talarano Albanensi, [illegible] cidum nuper ecclesiæ fidus fuit, & sæpe simplicitatē illius, meumque, ut ipse uocabat, a[illegible]um, lepidissimis locis interpellante, cum ille me percu[illegible]taretur: An fieri posset ut Rom. [illegible]ont. sacrumque c[illegible]llegium Romæ tuti agerent? Ego a[illegible]tem no[illegible] solùm tutos ibi, sed [illegible]m [illegible] tos alibi, n[illegible] quamque dicerem honoratos, modò quod [illegible]ximè eos decet, iu[illegible]è atque honestè uiuere in animum inducerent. Id [illegible]cissent, n[illegible] [illegible]len[illegible]os tantùm, sed paulo minus adorandos. Dicebat ille persuasum sibi: Q[illegible]od si forte [illegible]m[illegible]uis suorum, suppl[illegible] dign[illegible] aliquid egi[illegible], [illegible] caput domini periculum red[illegible]ndaret. [illegible]espondebam: Du[illegible]dò non ipse iuditium impediret, alienum scelus, non sibi periculo, neque infamiæ, sed [illegible] futurum, quo amicus iustitiæ probaretur. Cumque inter uerba, ut fit incidisset mentio [illegible] facq[illegible] V[illegible] uelut efficacissimum argumentum, ad deterr[illegible]dos hinc animos. Responde[illegible] ego: Bonifacium non Romæ, sed in sua Romæ tunc p[illegible]ta patria, neque à Romanis, non tamen addebam, sed à Gallis captum, quin ut tutus, liberque esset, illicò ut abeundi f[illegible] fuit, Romam, hoc est, arcem Christianæ fidei p[illegible]isse. Quæ ille audiens, & singula[illegible] uoluens, dixit quidē multa quæ sileo, sed [illegible]e s[illegible]pirans, & uix lachrymas tene[illegible], [illegible] STVM [illegible]osque cœlicolas clara uoce [illegible]cus est: Optare se totis præco[illegible]d[illegible]s, [illegible] ucre, Ro[illegible]e mori. Tunc Albanensis uir ocular[illegible]mus, puritatem ho[illegible] adm[illegible] ad aurem [illegible] iucundissimo mu[illegible]mure. Habes ([illegible]) quod uolebas, ex[illegible] nem. uis ne ali[illegible]uid ampliùs audire? Quod idcir[illegible] mem[illegible]ora[illegible], u[illegible] app[illegible]are[illegible]t, h[illegible] alias illius ordi[illegible]is suspitiones, ex ips[illegible]rum quoque non fictis sermonibus concep[illegible] tus nodus sup[illegible]est, qui peregrinantem Ecclesiam prócul[illegible] sedibus suis tenet: sunt e[illegible] ru[illegible] aliqui, qu[illegible]b[illegible]s [illegible] acu[illegible]en ingenij, non experientia, no[illegible] uolu[illegible]tas na[illegible]ral[illegible] te[illegible] na [illegible]b[illegible]ra esset, s[illegible]iud[illegible]bertas desi[illegible]uàm sæpe diut[illegible]æ su[illegible]ocant atqu[illegible] [illegible] l[illegible]arum g[illegible]arcina, mentium & c[illegible]les affectus, qui in[illegible]d[illegible]ortes etiam an[illegible]s [illegible]s tenēt. Hi s[illegible] pròh pudor, [illegible] pròh dolor. Hi sunt [illegible]ro[illegible]rias [illegible] P[illegible]ed[illegible]m ob[illegible]n alieno ædificant, & qui[illegible] a[illegible]ra[illegible] sed [illegible] cœleste[illegible]ererint, ceu nunquam mig[illegible] uri ha[illegible] em spem, omne de[illegible]deriū po[illegible]uère. [illegible] quibu[illegible] in loci[illegible] De[illegible]s bone n[illegible] [illegible]es, n[illegible] e[illegible] ic[illegible]las, nec Poëta Italu[illegible] [illegible] pa[illegible] et & cu uento [illegible] re[illegible] [illegible] sa[illegible]um inc[illegible] [illegible] endū. [illegible] ce[illegible] mo [illegible] c[illegible] o [illegible] ru[illegible] uincula [illegible], q[illegible]

[illegible] horrendum canat æthereus cythar sta. Sepulchra eorum domus in æternū. Quod [illegible] notū est. Hic [illegible] ergo Pater clemen[illegible]sime inextricabilis nodus, corda constringens, hic [illegible] carcer ille prospectum patriæ melioris eripiens, & uetustæ consuetudinis, [illegible] rebus ipsis apparuit, quando & cibis a[illegible] restibus educatos, lautiores [illegible] [illegible]endunt, & ruinosis in ædibus, & in crasso aëre affue[illegible] [illegible]&[illegible] quamu[illegible] do[illegible] [illegible]iciore proposito, non facilè diuelluntur. Audiui al[illegible]os, [illegible] & usu s[illegible] [illegible]atē quandam, & amorem sui carceris contraxisse, ut qui tristes [illegible]trauerant, penè [illegible] digrederentur. Itaq; minus miror, si fratres tui, suas amplissimas domos amant, sed quod nimiū illas ament, miror, quæ sic amandæ erant, ne æternæ domus limen ob[illegible] [illegible]erent, ne'ue peregrin[illegible] patriā cogeret obliuisci. Nempè nihil sic amandum est ut amando [illegible] se se amās oder[illegible]. Multa iam nescio quidē, an libertus, an uer[illegible] maiore fiducia, an fide[illegible]derim, [illegible] tenebam longis licet anfractibus peruenturus, poteram breuibus non ign[illegible]ro, sed uix magna in angusto explices. Siquis rerum de quibus loquor magnitudinē metiatur, breuiloquium iudicabit, ut huic autē sit finis arti[illegible]ulo, sciens hoc scrutator mentium, & siqua sunt hominibus abdita, quæ effectum su[illegible] [illegible]dicij retardarent, simul omnibus occurrendū ratus, uirum his ad plenum malis explicitum sibi elegit, cui scilicet & excellen[illegible] ingeniū, & uoluntas optima esset, & experientia rerum ingens, & libertas animi expedita, quam nullæ inanes rerum phaleræ præmerent, nulla purpurea, Tyrioq; murice olens uestis, nullæ opes, nullæ diuitiæ, nulla consuetudo ligans animos, nullæ domorum compedes superbarum. Cui non ignotum, ubi & qualis esset Italia, & quanta ibi esset Ecclesia. Denique quod non caruit e[illegible] miraculo, egit CHRISTVS ut in Italia esses, dum te absentem nominantibus sed præsentē sibi uicariū ordinaret, ne quis dissimulationi locus esset, sed tibi, & omnibus appareret decere, te summi pontificatus officium exercere, ea potissimū in parte terrarum, in qua ille tibi, nec speranti utique, nec optanti, nec opinanti equidē non suffragijs hominum, sed sola Dei prouidentia contigisset. Atque ubi ex humili, ad summum sine medio cōscendisti, ille è summo humilibus sine medio consulendū, insolentibus resistendū, quod nec usquam terrarū melius fieri pōtest, nec alibi quàm in sua urbe gloriosius Rom. Pont. in actum largitori placitum datam tibi diuinitùs transferre potentiam. Quamuis enim bonū opus ubiq; laudabile, nu[illegible] tamen aptiùs fieri [illegible]at, quàm dum [illegible] sua sede sedet opifex. Tu quidem ortho[illegible] [illegible]ei magister, actuumq; opifex piorū, sedes tua ubi[illegible], sed antiqua ut dixi, & uera, & propria, & publicè utilis, & uniuerso expedie[illegible] Roma [illegible] Itaq; hûc rem uerto, longumq; sermonem ad hunc exitum deduco, ut Vrbanus urbem Rom. Pont. Romam petas, locum Deo gratum, hominibus uenerandum, pijs optabilem, rebellibus dum tu ibi fueris formidandum, reformando orbi, & regendis rebus idoneū, cui hactenus non fuit par, nisi me animi fallit augurium, nec futurus est. Arripe ergo per IESVM CHRISTVM obsecro, hanc occasionē, cœlitùs tibi oblatam, ne'ue indultum tanto operi spatium [illegible]ibi sinas. Fugit enim tempus, nec reuertitur, nec subsistit. Hoc si bene usus fueris, in perpetuū gaudebis, Deo gratias in æternū ages, qui tibi decus hoc eximium reseruauit, atque in illo gloriaberis: spreta hac unde uenis patria terrena, pro amore patriæ cœlestis, ad quam pergis in[illegible] Syrenū cantus, clau[illegible] auribus transeuntē, tacito licet domini te uocantis im[illegible] o paru[illegible] [illegible]onet, oro, iugiter [illegible]audicū illud animæ tuæ: Audi filia & uide, & inclina aurem tuam, & obliuiscere populum tuum, & domum Patris tui. Quodq; Abrahæ patri nostro ait dominus, tibi dictū puta. Egredere de terra, & de cognatione tua, & de domo pat[illegible] tui, & ueni in terram, quàm monstrauero tibi, faciemq; te ingentem magnam, & magnificabo nomen tuū, erisq; benedictus. Hæc si tibi dicta cred[illegible]ens, cui ambiguum esse potest, quin confestim dimi[illegible] patria illa, [illegible] tua dicitur, & carnalibus [illegible]ctis ac calcatis affectibus, tu quoq; iures domino, uotumq; uoueas De[illegible] [illegible]troiturum te in tabernacul[illegible]m domus tuæ, nec ascensur[illegible] in lectum stratus tui, nec da[illegible] [illegible] ocu[illegible]is tuis, aut palpebris tuis dormitatio[illegible] au[illegible] requiem temporibus tuis, donec in[illegible] locū domino tabernaculum Deo Iacob [illegible] [illegible]ligis, aut differs, datumq; [illegible] tempus elabitur, crede hoc mihi tun[illegible] [illegible] quando & dolor inutilis, & pœnitentia sera erit. Cùm eò nem[illegible] [illegible] cito [illegible] est, ubi bonorum omnium patria uera erit, & malorum alt[illegible] patr[illegible] improbrium, & pu[illegible] futura est. His q[illegible] [illegible] sepeliendi es[illegible] quales [illegible] cadauera quā an[illegible] Ego certè de te ista non metuo, [illegible] non magis, de [illegible] [illegible]m esset, non

non enim ad unum terræ an[illegible]ulũ ar[illegible]tata e[illegible] cui animi magnitudo. Legi[illegible] illud [illegible]

[illegible]mne [illegible]omini [illegible]atale solum. & [illegible] ud [illegible].
[illegible]mne solum [illegible] patria est

[illegible] de te [illegible] d [illegible] tàm unde uenis, quàm quo pergis cogitas. Spero [illegible] ,t[illegible] e[illegible] patria: at d[illegible]um cœlũ, t[illegible]tus hic tibi mu[illegible] me[illegible] m[illegible] in o p[illegible] em, quam mihi atq; alijs tua iam tarditas ab[illegible] [illegible]ti- [illegible]s ac[illegible] re[illegible]tuunt. Quicquid enim agis, quicquid loqueri[illegible] ad[illegible]e- [illegible] p[illegible] a[illegible]tium est. Duo ex o[illegible]bus attingam, ut intel[illegible] e la[illegible]ras f[illegible] teq; [illegible] thalamo loquentem audiri, toto procul orbe t[illegible] ri- m[illegible]m est q[illegible] nu[illegible]r dum Massiliam peteres, pietate non dubitem urgente [illegible] re[illegible]den[illegible] [illegible]giosum illum atq; humilem nidum, unde hinc cœlesti pro[illegible]entia, h[illegible] ui[illegible]te, qua[illegible] duabus alis ad superos euolasti, teq; plebs deuota, & tui in[illegible]is a[illegible] ma, non ut hominem, sed ut Deum quem officio repræsentas, summo gau[illegible] a[illegible] ueneratione susciperet, tàm pio spectaculo permotus, nescio an lachrymas, sed [illegible] a non tenuisti, quæ in nostris gratius etiam fortassis, quàm multorum [illegible] i adc[illegible] so- nuerun[illegible] O[illegible] xi[illegible] a[illegible]tem inter multa: Quod nisi esset alia causa Romam atq; [illegible], nisi ut deuotionem fidelium excitares, abundè quidem hæc sola su[illegible]ceres. O [illegible] & æterna memoria dignũ uerbum. Sic est uerè, quamuis autẽ ut in historijs notum e[illegible] i- l[illegible], ab ipso suæ fundationis exordio, Romanæ urbis amicissima semper fuer[illegible] o- dieq;, quod i[illegible]ter ipsos populos, magnæ cuiusdã reliquiæ sint amoris, si tamen talis [illegible] cu[illegible]rit tibi Massilia, quàm obsequiosa, quam deuota, quàm reuerens Roma occurret. Nõ [illegible] mod[illegible] & præ gaudio lachrymantem, sacramq; tellurem pijs fletibus irrorantem populum, sed ipsos Dei angelos in limine obuios habebis, qui uicarium, sponsamq; sui domini in e- dem atq; in thalamũ proprium redeuntes ineffa[illegible] gaudio & prædulcibus hymnis e[illegible] plent. Secundùm uerò, quod dum hæc impia ac odibilis Deo ac mundo prædonũ ma[illegible]s, quæ nunc miseras Christianorũ regiones terribiliter peruagatur, ad eam te necessitatẽ [illegible]e- duxisset, ut omni alio cessante remedio, tua & Romanæ [illegible]tæ libertas ac requies, mul[illegible] au ro redimenda e[illegible]et, multa, nec immeritò super hoc c[illegible]ibus tuis questus, inter c[illegible]a iniuriam hanc Bo[illegible]facij iniuriæ non æquasti tantum, [illegible] etiam prætulisti, rectè id q[illegible]d[illegible]m, ac ueraciter. E[illegible]t enim nulla homini in uicarium Dei sui cau[illegible] [illegible]fficiens sit offensæ, t[illegible]en reuera linguæ [illegible] [illegible]entioris, & altioris, si dici phas est animi uir, quàm dom[illegible] ce- ceret, hu[illegible]limi q[illegible]icquid passus est, non sine causa quidem ab hostibus est p[illegible]s, [illegible]e magnis atq; insignibus uiris, longa & graui [illegible]secutione lacessitis, atq; a[illegible]ictis, quo[illegible]m sic ad extrema perductis, ut aut grande illis al[illegible]quid a[illegible]dum, aut funditùs corruend[illegible]m esset ac propterea iam grauius nihil metuentibus, q[illegible]ùs mors ærumnarũ finis, non ac[illegible] es- sio u[illegible]eretur. Nec tamen ea res, sine ma[illegible] alterius hostis auxilio, ac fauo[illegible]e, nec t[illegible] aperta ui, sed nocturnis insidijs acta est. [illegible] hominũ innocentissimus, qui nulli [illegible]am malefeceris, nec optaueris quidem, hac t[illegible]manitate, & hac rerum, & uerborum [illegible]i- litate, quantũ potes. Dominũ tuum sequens, non subitò, non occultè, s[illegible]d [illegible]ructa a[illegible] lis[illegible]imorũ furum circumuentus. O' indignum ac [illegible]lestum facinus! teip[illegible]m pe[illegible]e- misti, ad quod [illegible]onifaciũ nec coactum certè, nec [illegible]uisitum [illegible]imus. Itaq; [illegible]nct[illegible]sim[illegible] remoniæ tuæ spiritu Sancto plenus, illud ultimum addidisti: Hæc mala omnia hin[illegible] xi- mè peruenir[illegible] quod Petri sedem, tuamq; desereres, teq; indies grauiora metuere [illegible]a- [illegible]is nunc etiam a[illegible]is, desceratur sedes illa, quam sponsæ suæ CHRISTVS elegerat. [illegible] uocem! ó uaticin[illegible] ueri plenum! ô sermonem cui meritò & [illegible]errenũ concinnat & [illegible]e- ste col[illegible]c[illegible]ium. V[illegible]im ita est, pr[illegible]pter h[illegible] summæ sedis u[illegible]tatem. atq; hunc [illegible] pt[illegible] & cu[illegible]at[illegible] nunc, & totus [illegible] per [illegible]rist[illegible]nus orbis af[illegible]ur, & citò n[illegible] pr[illegible]es, siquid præsa[illegible] mini[illegible]et, a[illegible]igetur asperius. Erump[illegible] ecce nouæ latronum ca[illegible]- nes, neq; hi[illegible], liæ exal[illegible] renascentur, illi ipsi quos f[illegible]e ni[illegible]eis [illegible]euet[illegible] [illegible] au[illegible] [illegible]care putasti, aur[illegible] i[illegible]itasti, ut quib[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] pi[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]mo[illegible] [illegible] i[illegible]lendi, de[illegible]q; [illegible], [illegible]oc tu [illegible] m[illegible] rantiam [illegible]s[illegible] [illegible]ere n[illegible], m[illegible] cl[illegible] n pu[illegible] a [illegible] est. [illegible] o! Quid p o[illegible] V[illegible] co[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible] æ [illegible] mo[illegible] [illegible] q; [illegible] & [illegible] c[illegible] An [illegible] c[illegible] q;. Pa[illegible]m, quæso, [illegible]ta omni[illegible]

[illegible] s præ[illegible]laris? Et ut CHRIST[illegible] [illegible] sanare, ut ualeas suscitare? Sed [illegible] us tuus, dum t[illegible]i commit[illegible] et re[illegible]t, an id uero [illegible] coactus facere uideas, quod [illegible] ce[illegible] d[illegible] uolens facias, [illegible] Et tam [illegible] at, a[illegible] [illegible] inie[illegible], q[illegible] as cœlestis aterr[illegible] m[illegible] a [illegible] quod diebus [illegible] s precam[illegible] assidue, non t[illegible] ru[illegible] ne enim t[illegible] diu [illegible] o [illegible] Nonne tine[illegible] [illegible] d [illegible] Christianorum e[illegible] toto orbe [illegible] N [illegible] o[illegible] [illegible] iter inde [illegible] redemptos [illegible] m [illegible] ama[illegible]. Age ergo, u[illegible] ac[illegible] o ex[illegible] [illegible] utem [illegible], [illegible] sedem tuam [illegible]ete, quam cum seme[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] custodieris, omnia erunt in pace, quæ nunc ideo sun[illegible] in [illegible] a [illegible] atrium n[illegible] custodi. Et quid mu[illegible]. P[illegible] proprie tibi conuenie[illegible] [illegible] de tu[illegible] a [illegible] d[illegible] omino di[illegible] meu[illegible] pax enim erit [illegible] ten[illegible] [illegible]um ueneris, dum loq[illegible] [illegible] potest [illegible]s tua a mari [illegible]sque ad mare. Nec te terreat quod Roma quo[illegible]que p[illegible] suas prędonum molestias est passa rabies nempè barbarica [illegible] nunc fac[illegible] u[illegible] em [illegible] [illegible]ace, [illegible] halam, mox ut suum caput illa receperit, non dicam Romam, sed [illegible] c au[illegible] ra[illegible] ro[illegible] [illegible]e non audebit. Sic, quam tuis in pascuis [illegible]que debilior, sic tua pas[illegible]a [illegible]ne suo pasto[illegible]re [illegible] ra sunt semper, & iniuriis aptiora. N[illegible] instabo amplius, spero enim te facturum [illegible] cum[illegible] [illegible]liciter, atque istud in primis quod tam [illegible] ere posceris, si uigilanter aduerte[illegible]s, ne qu[illegible] di[illegible]ini muneris subrepet obliuio, si con[illegible] inuò te singulariter ad hoc opus [illegible]m[illegible]ptum c[illegible]ememineris. Meministi uerò non dubito, expeditissimumque ad omne pium opus an[illegible] [illegible]abes. Vnde autem & uigilantibus oculis [illegible]aue, ne q[illegible]em proprium non premit, alie[illegible] pondus opprimat, & a tam gloriosi operis executione pe[illegible]pediat, persuade Cardi[illegible]nalibus tuis, illos enim hac in [illegible] maximè uereor, Italiam non e[illegible] qual[illegible]m r[illegible] putant, [illegible] esse n[illegible]o scriptorum illustri[illegible] ordante, optimam atque clari[illegible]mam, & famo[illegible]sim[illegible] mun[illegible] ar[illegible]m esse, ut ipsi testa[illegible] & attestatur ueritas. Vnam ex omnibus, cui pene [illegible] [illegible]m[illegible] adit, nihil absit boni, m[illegible] pax una non de[illegible]t. Quæ de[illegible] [illegible] præse[illegible] non po[illegible]terit. Doce illos esse hic urbes nobilissimas, atque pulcherrimas, q[illegible] [illegible]da ui[illegible]lescat A[illegible]nio, pudeatque n[illegible] n antea uiluisse, esse aërem saluberrimum, a[illegible]e [illegible]ter rigus, æst[illegible]mque eximiè temperatum. Quam causam scriptores quidam Roma[illegible], atq[illegible] te uniue[illegible]sa[illegible]li imper[illegible] p[illegible]ere, quod si [illegible] contrariis mi[illegible]um esset, ut & au[illegible]rales astutias, u[illegible]ore[illegible]or[illegible]reo, & [illegible]ibus animi arcto. Nam [illegible]ontunderet feritatem, atque ita necessari[illegible]e, u[illegible] de utri[illegible]que participanti medio ex[illegible]ema succumberet. Esse hic lacus pisco[illegible] [illegible]uot, q[illegible] [illegible]e nulla regio, tàm paruo habet in spatio, esse & flumina, & opportu[illegible]s flexi[illegible]bus [illegible]turæ consilio sic diuersis locis errantia [illegible] Italiæ magna pars, L[illegible]uria [illegible] Venetia, & Aemy[illegible]ia, atque Fla[illegible]inia, uix in[illegible]gnem locum habeant, qui non à qui[illegible]ente aquis obse[illegible] [illegible]tibus ade[illegible]r. Esse in circuitu ge[illegible]um mare, crebris portubus & nobi[illegible]um urb[illegible]um [illegible] in u[illegible]que decurren[illegible] [illegible]iorum faucibus [illegible]igne: ita ut undis h[illegible] [illegible]bi[illegible]a fermè [illegible] permeabilis, atque amœna sit. E[illegible]e ubi des[illegible] [illegible] alpes a[illegible]as, barbarico o[illegible] [illegible] furori. Esse per medium colles [illegible]entissimos, [illegible] ualles, & campos uberrimos & qui Itali[illegible]m, quam longa est [illegible] iugis interse[illegible] [illegible]trem mo[illegible]tium Apenninum, ni[illegible] [illegible]c amnibus gra[illegible]m, & laticum [illegible] salu[illegible]ri, fontes gelidos, tepentes[illegible]e, [illegible] del[illegible] [illegible], ægris [illegible], [illegible] [illegible]os, simul & metallorum uenas [illegible] armen[illegible] m ac[illegible] [illegible] æquor[illegible] [illegible] an[illegible] a [illegible] q[illegible] [illegible]eum u[illegible] [illegible]re [illegible], n[illegible] eccu[illegible] [illegible]gens [illegible] ui[illegible]ge[illegible] [illegible]e [illegible], c[illegible]m, & fr[illegible] m[illegible]m quæ [illegible]no [illegible] drupedu[illegible] p[illegible], ac u[illegible] c[illegible]orum o[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] m[illegible] t, n[illegible] to quidem, qui & [illegible] s te [illegible] re[illegible] in [illegible] a im[illegible] [illegible]ese [illegible] e[illegible] am execraris [illegible] A [illegible] are [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] o [illegible] din[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] deesse ali[illegible] [illegible] penitus de[illegible]

[illegible] quæ res, a [illegible] cies utnoq [illegible] gentis [illegible] pe nere, neq; o [illegible] m el [illegible] am e delatis, del [illegible] sint. Qu [illegible] eadem seu maritimo, [illegible] peruent [illegible] a [illegible] a, quibus & æ [illegible] secun [illegible] beat [illegible] ne Bentia [illegible] tam a [illegible] eperien [illegible] negoti [illegible] persequen [illegible] gratt [illegible] maria pen [illegible] ra, & u [illegible] ipsa [illegible] tales co des attigerim præterita non requ [illegible] errorib [illegible] s, aut quin null [illegible] tissum æ uetustatis uesti [illegible] m ab [illegible] leuit. [illegible] e memori [illegible] prod [illegible] qui cum in [illegible] mo fortunæ g [illegible] du esset, & [illegible] fueret [illegible] dè tamen Afro legu [illegible] e uescebatur, [illegible] quia, uel [illegible] quia ipse Afræ [illegible] originis, cuius [illegible] fece [illegible] unt quidam motus naturæ [illegible] quos extinguere d [illegible] ne an [illegible] atebat ille uir magnus desiderio [illegible] ali, nec ideò tamen [illegible] m desc [illegible] ebat. [illegible] nabat patrium [illegible] umen [illegible] patri [illegible] ministr [illegible] co [illegible] ecturam [illegible] Pio, [illegible] primus [illegible] fuer [illegible] pani, [illegible] quidem na [illegible] spania, [illegible] potuit [illegible] or [illegible], uel ex [illegible] mentis infantiæ, [illegible] consuetudine [illegible] sse. Secund [illegible] is uerò [illegible] est, [illegible] similiter [illegible] hod [illegible] e [illegible] am, quos op [illegible] esset [illegible] delectari. [illegible] onis D [illegible] fuit, ubi an [illegible] potest, quum ali [illegible] ille delectare [illegible] dulced [illegible] e am [illegible], qua [illegible] mme [illegible] sacria, dul [illegible] fac [illegible] qui non patria [illegible] te la [illegible] od [illegible] ma [illegible] de [illegible] m [illegible] el [illegible] ortu [illegible] m [illegible] dom [illegible] A [illegible] ica [illegible] re [illegible] ex [illegible] men [illegible] R [illegible] agere sed Rom [illegible] ent [illegible] nibu [illegible] s A [illegible] xa [illegible]

[illegible] etrahi, [illegible] pero Rom[illegible] qual tas ea est, [illegible] facile impetre, ut e[illegible] an, [illegible] aff[illegible] ex illo um patri[illegible] T[illegible] antur. Sic c[illegible] An[illegible] o quarto R[illegible] ipso maris, [illegible] loniam [illegible] præ[illegible]ens animo, futuru[illegible] totiu[illegible] opes & [illegible] b[illegible] pijo reciperent [illegible] erg[illegible] pauc h[illegible] su[illegible] posse uiuere, ubi opipare uixer[illegible] tot [illegible] tamque innumerabilis hinc ciuium mul[illegible]o, hinc ad[illegible]amque [illegible] um certus numerus stringi ne[illegible]uit, a[illegible] lustra omnia d[illegible] tati u[illegible] dud[illegible] æstu porem lege[illegible]tibus ingerunt at[illegible]ingam. Siquidem a[illegible] C[illegible] descriptione Romæ facta, inuent[illegible] ciuium Romanorum sex[illegible] s no[illegible]es [illegible] quadraginta quatuor millia. Quia res fidem excedit, testis est Euseb[illegible] de temporibus. Cum iam ante sub Augusto, anno eius quarto & q[illegible] esse [illegible] nonagies tercentena, & septuaginta millia [illegible] nun[illegible] is d[illegible] ricinctur non dicam te, quem sic hodie religio[illegible]m, & frugal[illegible] uitæ am[illegible] sim ut in monasterio fuisti unquam, sed seu uig[illegible] seu triginta reuerend[illegible] p[illegible], [illegible] d[illegible] millia ibi non posse uiuere, ubi trecenti olim patres conscripti, ul[illegible] tot [illegible]tus, & tot populi uixere. Quod l[illegible] forte est, apud quem uero fidem a[illegible] ue[illegible] ad id quod nuper omnes uidimus, an[illegible] m[illegible] ut scilicet proximo lu[illegible] cum tota propè Christianitas, & is peregrinantium numerus, quem nescio an unum [illegible] ulla [illegible] pasceret, confluxisset Romæ, [illegible] aratis licet, atque in[illegible] Romano um[illegible] nec [illegible] cedenti anno gelu ac pruinis, per omnem ferè Italiam ar[illegible]ctis, [illegible] tamen rerum omnium ubertas, sub a[illegible] exitum fuit, quàm ab initio [illegible]. Q[illegible] pter contentiosos insolentes, [illegible] is est pro ratione odium & l[illegible], de h[illegible] a dixer[illegible] non [illegible] tamen, quod uidelicet [illegible] natura prefertilis Roma sit, & ad [illegible] fertilitat[illegible] c[illegible] cissima, ad id quod probare n[illegible] magnam uictoriæ spem repono. [illegible] feo, nec [illegible]ed[illegible]bile extimo, Apostolorum successores, in eligenda [illegible] aut omnino aliud quàm CHRISTVM, & salutem æternam co[illegible]tare, [illegible] ubi Deo placere, & hominibus prodesse, u[illegible] denique uiuere benè, ac [illegible] Te[illegible] a[illegible] mo[illegible]et, ut nun[illegible] um tàm mu[illegible] adijcia[illegible] stolorum Petri, & Pauli glorioso martyrio sacra est, & hac [illegible]ctis h[illegible]ra, qua [illegible] tam fidenter nec minùs reuerenter hæc scribo in basilica Apostolorum principis [illegible] culi[illegible] a[illegible]ica tua est, diuino quod nu[illegible] officio, & matutinis CHRISTI la[illegible] inser[illegible] quantam & quàm sacram pr[illegible] pratem, quæ su[illegible]ria, q[illegible] lach[illegible] dares, qu[illegible]m dolores, quod non longior nox [illegible]et. Audebo te iterum orare, ut & [illegible] mihi [illegible] m c[illegible]d[illegible] quam parem tibi delectationem dabit Auinio, cum omn[illegible]us d[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible], u[illegible] ani[illegible] gi queunt, ut enim omne ibi mir[illegible] di a[illegible] ru[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] eruemur, nunquam ibi erit i[illegible]a de[illegible] [illegible]m faciat animam, ce[illegible] m[illegible]id, u[illegible]rumque me dicere Christianum genus omne [illegible] saltem nullus [illegible] Romæ par, aut suapte est natura, aut fauore [illegible] ol[illegible]ber h[illegible] [illegible] pote[illegible]. Et hæc hactenus. Vn[illegible] ad extremum di[illegible] d prim[illegible] m [illegible] at. Nosti quo [illegible] Christia[illegible] rem, [illegible] in [illegible] audi[illegible] ut inermes Asiæ popul[illegible] quo[illegible] a d[illegible] deria [illegible]ortes [illegible] es, Tu[illegible] c a[illegible] me d[illegible] Ae[illegible] s [illegible] p[illegible]ur, qu[illegible] lo[illegible] g s[illegible] ata peru[illegible] a[illegible] en[illegible] sell[illegible] iam C[illegible] E[illegible] A[illegible] us. Iam Calab[illegible] m [illegible] Græciæ m[illegible] ce[illegible] ad Orientem [illegible] atu[illegible] Pont[illegible]x an[illegible] nel [illegible] c p[illegible] CHRIST[illegible]

RR 2 gere-

[illegible] s me [illegible] g [illegible] ia non [illegible] as arma co [illegible] fefellit, qui The [illegible], incred [illegible] ganter eo [illegible] s m [illegible] quamuis [illegible] m perhi [illegible] erf [illegible]

[illegible] ro [illegible],
[illegible] bruit [illegible].
Vertit in au [illegible]
[illegible] mnium di [illegible], fundit ab antris.
Aeol [illegible] yemes, cui militat æther
E [illegible] ueniunt ad classica uenti.

[illegible] Deo e [illegible] emus, si eum qua tenemur [illegible] ente diligeremus, [illegible] diligent [illegible], ut qui in [illegible] um se persequ [illegible] b [illegible] s a [illegible] uit & nobi [illegible] a [illegible] non Ae [illegible] atas hyeme [illegible] derer, nobis æther ut auxiliares ad [illegible] asfic [illegible] litarent ue [illegible]. Sed quis [illegible] ngrans militet? Q [illegible] sopiti atq; torpentibus ope [illegible] piti tant [illegible] d exanimes, & peccato mortui, longætia namq; [illegible] m [illegible] mar [illegible] m morbus malis obruti, sepultiq;, & hoc ipsum [illegible] sumus Ad [illegible] autem redeo, ubiq; fateor u [illegible] s, sancta ubiq; & [illegible] p æ [illegible] d quid [illegible] quid Rhodanus, quid Sorgia & Ruentia tui egent. Qui [illegible] tibi [illegible] tegendu [illegible]. Quis hostium comprimendus? Egent [illegible] lonium, & Aegeum, & Hele [illegible] & Propo [illegible] & Bosphoru [illegible]. Quid hic igitur mon [illegible] est, non possum satis hoc q [illegible] orie [illegible] n p [illegible] g [illegible], tu quid agis in occidente, spir [illegible] elium dux bell [illegible] E [illegible] dem d [illegible] nin [illegible] um error pu [illegible] eus, qui profecto tuus e [illegible] e [illegible] potest, [illegible] is [illegible] dominos [illegible] putent, cum necessitatibus alienis fiant, tu [illegible] ominis, [illegible] offi [illegible] cij, [illegible] m [illegible] min [illegible] i q [illegible] suis in p [illegible] uis, te pastorem fecit non il [illegible] c hæ [illegible] s, ubi umbra fortas [illegible] gra [illegible] d [illegible] ipr [illegible] seu [illegible] s infestior [illegible] necess [illegible] s d [illegible] minic [illegible] gregis [illegible] ior, [illegible] lius [illegible] gelicæ [illegible] e [illegible] ix bon [illegible] s pal [illegible] or animam suam dat pro ou [illegible] us suis, mc [illegible] c [illegible] ar [illegible] su tem & qui non est pastor, cuius non sunt oues propriæ, uidet lupum uenientem [illegible] tit oues & [illegible] u [illegible] it. Tu es past [illegible] tuæ sunt oues, q [illegible] domi [illegible] ui sunt. Omnia [illegible] m t [illegible] gregis curam, [illegible] m [illegible] e [illegible] contul [illegible] t. L [illegible] s ad [illegible] is [illegible] um frem [illegible], [illegible] me [illegible] enar [illegible] s, sed uer [illegible], offer te præclar [illegible] mini, q [illegible] opta [illegible] non est prudentis, [illegible] c m [illegible] iter decl [illegible] e, n [illegible] est u [illegible] ri fortis ac magnan [illegible] ni. M [illegible] los in lo [illegible] in [illegible] ua, non locorum mod [illegible], sed [illegible] m, uidebis quanta ib [illegible] calamita [illegible] q [illegible] a [illegible] pc [illegible] i. Nam ut a [illegible]. Istud est sapere, non q [illegible] d a [illegible] m [illegible] e [illegible], sed e [illegible] m [illegible] la, quæ fut [illegible] ra [illegible] rospicere. Certe n [illegible] iam h [illegible] a [illegible] m e [illegible] udendam [illegible] ani n [illegible] s, illis in part [illegible] us r [illegible] m [illegible] erabilem audie [illegible] s, quæ ut dixi n [illegible] CHRI [illegible] TI, cui est [illegible] r [illegible] a [illegible] tura est, nol [illegible] a sec [illegible] ta [illegible] n [illegible] e pud [illegible] iam [illegible] a [illegible] us [illegible]. Ne cre [illegible] a [illegible] e [illegible] s [illegible] r [illegible] e [illegible] salem, an [illegible] a [illegible] lic enim non a [illegible] no [illegible] r [illegible], hic læd [illegible] u [illegible] dum sic c [illegible] r [illegible] ei [illegible] o [illegible] a [illegible] o [illegible] rum imperium detractant, h [illegible] u [illegible] r [illegible] ain ma [illegible] em [illegible] q [illegible] de [illegible] fi [illegible] humiliter [illegible] Pont. [illegible] a [illegible] rc [illegible] te [illegible] b [illegible] ru. [illegible] derunt, q [illegible] & oder [illegible] Var [illegible] s c [illegible] ter fui [illegible] le an [illegible] d [illegible] m [illegible] x [illegible] erat [illegible] La [illegible] Q [illegible] ex [illegible]

[illegible] ex [illegible] nulla [illegible] speculos, nihil est medium, [illegible] [illegible] magis, magisq; [illegible] hanc stu[illegible] [illegible] ita res maxi[illegible] cùm minim[illegible] [illegible] publicus [illegible] Sæpe [illegible] ent, sæpe cul[illegible] [illegible] & ferè [illegible] militum cu[illegible] uulgi [illegible] dulces estis [illegible] dico, Romano[illegible] sed [illegible] etiam molem [illegible] plus aliquid, imo plus multum exig[illegible] ne putetis hanc nos [illegible] secutos, per difficultates medias [illegible] nunquam quiescet [illegible] ex una [illegible] aliam indefessa co[illegible] ntia gradietur, & ceu to[illegible] eiq; [illegible] labor omni dulcior quiete [illegible] cui ab egregijs actibus [illegible] Lesia ut Iul. Cæsar bella sibi decem damnum [illegible] fugamq; ho[illegible] ut [illegible] Vespasianus diem perdidisse se doleat, quo nihil suo more magni[illegible] ut Alexander Macedo, adolescens primum, inter coætaneos lament[illegible] crebris uictorijs hostes sibi uincendos, atq; omnē bellicæ laudis oc[illegible] piat: Vir deinde, ne hostes fuga d[illegible] sollicitus, atq; [illegible] intentus [illegible] dempto, iam securus dormiat, quasi nihil ni[illegible] securitatem metuēs, & laborum [illegible] Vtq; quid de literis sacris immisceam, Israelitici dux populi Iosue, dum post [illegible] [illegible] nox instaret, & posset parta gloria contentus requiesce[illegible] [illegible] sopore diuellere [illegible] laborem ipsum, & cum [illegible] [illegible] & paru[illegible] est, regij generosi animi pabulum, ac [illegible] non [illegible] oportet se quidem, sed pr[illegible] quo non aliter quam per [illegible] ascendi[illegible] Hęc duo [illegible] ante alios semper ha[illegible] da sub oculis, semperq; anim[illegible] tanda [illegible] feru[illegible] sed etiam importun[illegible] qui cūcta mihi de[illegible] maluer[illegible] Meo [illegible] uel fortassan alieno officio functus sum, uera utiq; & ab a[illegible] [illegible] & auctoritas, sed uel null[illegible] uel omnibus formidata [illegible] A posteritate cer[illegible] [illegible] autem Sanctit[illegible] illius alterius maiestat[illegible] ueniam [illegible] sperans, quę si [illegible] ut dixi in optimam semper partem sunt accepta, [illegible] successor Petri mitior debet esse quàm Cęsaris. [illegible] illo qui [illegible] materia in [illegible] sæpe olim, tecum hodie primum, [illegible] iste susceptus est, seu uerius, quoniam [illegible] mihi hæc tecum in silentio lis fuit, [illegible] productus ad calamum. Qui quo[illegible] pro desiderio meo breuis, pro tua tamen multiplici occupatione longi[illegible] [illegible] fine claudendus est. Rom. Pontifex, Christianorum dux, Roma te su[illegible] Christianitas [illegible] ducem uocat [illegible] uocibus, non ad requiem, sed laborem, ad quem ho[illegible] nascitur, neq; ad pacem, [illegible] ad bella reposceris, in quibus tamen bellis temporalibus, [illegible] pax animæ, & multorum salus & gloria tua est. Tuum est eligere, quo in statu mori [illegible] debitum gloriosæ impleui seu ingloriæ ne[illegible] proculdubio morte[illegible] [illegible] Auinione [illegible] elegere, quo [illegible] [illegible] patriam meam nou[illegible] [illegible] copiam [illegible] cuius [illegible] in hoc uno sit locus [illegible] super[illegible] [illegible] ingenuam consilij [illegible] captan[illegible] Quod [illegible] natalis [illegible] & terrena med[illegible] bus, [illegible] autem [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] es amoue & Cæsarem [illegible] c, sed præcipe, ne nolle te ibi [illegible] as, uelle aliũ [illegible] spus, hoc ibi præsens ac uen- [illegible] na per [illegible] me [illegible] quam [illegible] uium & indoctum [illegible] credat, [illegible] me [illegible] res a [illegible] os [illegible] a quoque [illegible] us [illegible] ba erit, neque res h [illegible] m [illegible] conq [illegible] S [illegible] iterum receperit [illegible] ence [illegible] a [illegible] os op [illegible] ter [illegible]. C [illegible] tens dies tuos pro [illegible] et [illegible] lan- [illegible] nec fortasse delectab [illegible], sed [illegible] Venetijs [illegible] Kalend. Iulias.

FRANCISCI PETRAR- CHÆ V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS, LIBER VIII.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOA. [illegible] ATI [illegible] Epist. I.

De ætatis par[illegible]bus.

NOS esse iuuenum, [illegible] sis semper aliquid detrahere, senũ uero uel tantundem, uel plus addere, eò quod liberius [illegible] addentis mendacium, qua detrahentis, pro[illegible] credulitas audi[illegible]m, [illegible] rumque autem certa ratio, sed diuersa est. Iuuentutis cõ[illegible] & in longum protrahendæ uitæ, ne dicam [illegible] Cont[illegible] aque senibus quærendæ, atque augendæ studium auctoritati. Vtrique [illegible] te tanta constantia mentiuntur, ut [illegible] m[illegible]s s[illegible]p[illegible] se le- [illegible] atque totiens & seipsos fallunt, credentes [illegible] rei, bene si & mortem fallerẽt, statuto [illegible]los [illegible]ermino expectantem [illegible] ut uni mendacio fidem quær[illegible] t[illegible] is im[illegible] ntu[illegible] [illegible] a q[illegible] iuueni, quasi [illegible]sa oculis, & cogni[illegible]a fabul[illegible]es, m[illegible] trun[illegible] e de[illegible]linare est a[illegible]imu[illegible] pe me[illegible]acium, hoc inane. [illegible] ateb[illegible]n, [illegible] eru[illegible] m [illegible] primo a[illegible]nine, non mendacio, sed [illegible] uer[illegible] m [illegible] m [illegible] no[illegible] um numerus naturæ digitis inscribi solet, uiuacitate quadam, & [illegible] mo[illegible] s p[illegible] is, explicitæ pl[illegible] pinioni a[illegible] quid spectantium detractur[illegible] m, quam au[illegible] tienus. Q[illegible] amuis huic ipsi o[illegible] eret, pr[illegible] erata c[illegible] ties, quæ ne[illegible] o unde iam [illegible] enerioribus, caput adolesc[illegible] ns inuas[illegible] at rar[illegible] licet quæ cum p[illegible] a u[illegible] e is l[illegible] uenice, uel eandum nescio quid haberet, ut quodam [illegible] e & [illegible] A [illegible] bitum honestare m[illegible], tam eatenus iniucũda, quod ea [illegible] [illegible] ebam aduersaretur aspectu. Sed quoniam & C[illegible] [illegible] eratis, & m[illegible] oculorum testimonio, tam præcox illa [illegible] fuerat, ut nulli e[illegible] ta, uel suspecta, speraui al[illegible] [illegible] ec [illegible] interim [illegible] a [illegible] to & [illegible] æ regis incantamenta, & V[illegible] [illegible] d or, & D[illegible] adolescenti[illegible] com[illegible] senescẽs, & St[illegible] [illegible] ie [illegible] Se [illegible] id [illegible] uel udirem, ma[illegible] [illegible] co[illegible] us me [illegible] ar[illegible] tem [illegible] quam, q[illegible] m [illegible] te [illegible] t se me[illegible] lim, [illegible] otamen, q[illegible] pe[illegible] ac[illegible] rem m[illegible] cer[illegible] mendac[illegible] ex[illegible] mendacio delect[illegible] u[illegible] ro[illegible] quod rarum [illegible] re[illegible] tacitu[illegible] irasce[illegible] ar[illegible] q[illegible] ue[illegible] ca[illegible] al[illegible] ac[illegible] [illegible] ruin meorum n[illegible] d[illegible] et ant[illegible] u[illegible], ue[illegible] [illegible] io [illegible] m [illegible] ma[illegible] [illegible] milo[illegible] al[illegible] D[illegible] ui[illegible] miser[illegible] [illegible] q[illegible] e[illegible] æ[illegible] [illegible] multus [illegible] eum, [illegible]

mus annus hic [illegible] me ad [illegible] cem [illegible] desere [illegible] mihi sit, quam [illegible] Ita ut [illegible] in [illegible] lo e pe [illegible] rei a [illegible]. Sic me CHRISTUS [illegible] crat [illegible] hic [illegible] lac [illegible] ac misero dextram [illegible] lu [illegible] m

Se [illegible] in morte quiescam.

Quæ cum ita essent [illegible] tempore, ad hanc etiam nunc ætatem opinio [illegible] de [illegible] peo, cum [illegible], tam [illegible] nis senis famosissimam [illegible] m, qu [illegible] honorat [illegible] sertim, tantam habet a [illegible] tatem [illegible], quam omnes [illegible] uol [illegible]. Tandem etiam atque etiam cogitan [illegible] mihi causa re hu [illegible] consuetudo quædam, qua urb [illegible] nihil melius, [illegible] ala. A [illegible] choris inserere inuitus, in alteram quamuis honestiorem centuriam [illegible] complexus profugam iuuentutem, magno nisi hærebam, qua cum nec seq [illegible] tenere [illegible] lam, [illegible] ad senectutem nouam uersus [illegible] itati, quod mi e [illegible] stum reperi tantoque fructuosi [illegible] rem hanc experior, quam [illegible] erat illa flor [illegible] mentiri, ne alieno mendacio uti amplius est opus, pudet iam negare uelle, qu [illegible] nec [illegible] queam deceat, quod [illegible] fatear infamiæ nihil gloriæ fort [illegible] aliquid [illegible] non per se quidem, nulla est enim gloria senem esse [illegible] gr [illegible] integritas sensuum, & pro ætate, forma corporis, non collapsa, neque sordid [illegible] est senibus. Si postremò uel uitæ modestia seruatarum uirium, uel studio [illegible] bus non omnino perditi temporis laus accesserit, quid iuuat can [illegible] occultare [illegible] re? Qui ubi semel incœperis, aut uellendi omnes erunt, aut irritis conatibus de [illegible] Quid naturæ uim auferre nitimur? Frustrà id quidem, cui aliquandiu [illegible] erati erim [illegible] cumbemus, & dementiam Giganteam superis resistentem ius cœl [illegible] opprime [illegible] mulata se senectus prodet, & improuisa mors aderit, nil que aliud nostrum nob [illegible] aduersari quàm ut uincamur insignius. Cedo ego igitur uolens, nec coactus cedam. [illegible] (inquam) & manum tollo, non fortunæ ut Cicero, sed natu [illegible] cui prorsus obstare, no [illegible] tudo, sed amentia est. Nolim uerò diutiùs in me celare, quod semper in alijs uener [illegible] senectutem dico, quàm apprimè uenerabilem æquè Philosophi, legesque d [illegible] benè institutis in urbibus ueneratam semper, & in honore habitam scimus, d [illegible] non inficior, quantum quiu [illegible] Siquidem ad senectutis [illegible] m, quod olim ad te [illegible] bēs dixi, Cicero noster, sexum [illegible] quadragesimum, alij qu [illegible] quage [illegible] m, [illegible] quos meminerim Augustinus sexagesimum annū pon [illegible], fortè ideò, quod [illegible] o [illegible] solidiorque complexio. Negari enim non potest, in quinquagesimo esse n [illegible] nn [illegible] alios in sexagesimo f [illegible] iores, quod uel ui [illegible] ersitas, uel naturæ efficit. [illegible] cerem. Has omnes metas excesseram, & iam [illegible] ane horum omnium iudi [illegible] o [illegible] nex [illegible] ferebam tamen & dicebam. Cur tàm uarios terminos statuerunt docti homines [illegible] quisque in alio, quod in se expertus est iudicat. Qu [illegible] is autem, an tu [illegible] ua [illegible] Certe hactenus præter [illegible] lum adolescentiæ florem perditum, & iu [illegible] s [illegible] prima pereunt, in nobis insignem nullam necessariæ mutationem, sentis ex [illegible] nec non scriptorum, maximeque discordium. sed experientiæ, uo [illegible] d [illegible] Cum te senem [illegible], tunc [illegible] prius profitebaris senectutem, f [illegible] le [illegible] taciti ferant anni [illegible] ic am [illegible] de laxandis uitæ finibus, mutandisque con [illegible] de profe [illegible] is columnis Herculeis meditabar hodiernus dies, qu [illegible] n tal [illegible] caciam [illegible] fr [illegible], meque quod præterita, & uentura [illegible] imo metie [illegible] hac præ [illegible] a [illegible] h [illegible] qua me in [illegible] cem ed [illegible] um, parenti [illegible] in ho [illegible] in m [illegible] s [illegible] a fide d [illegible] ceram. [illegible] igitur non quære [illegible] tu [illegible] a [illegible] æ [illegible] e anxiè quæ cnt [illegible] s obnixo [illegible] lent [illegible] semper oci [illegible] pr [illegible] e arte ma [illegible] n [illegible] s [illegible] [illegible] at [illegible] [illegible] d [illegible] a [illegible] er [illegible] m [illegible] a [illegible] at [illegible] a [illegible] mi [illegible] e [illegible] me p [illegible] essus rerum qui [illegible] m [illegible] x [illegible] e [illegible] di e, q [illegible] s [illegible] q [illegible] [illegible] s [illegible] cd [illegible] quæ [illegible] [illegible] n que [illegible] c [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] me [illegible]

[illegible] enim mihi natales redierunt dies [illegible] erum labentium illecebris consopitus fuit, quin memoria uitæ fugacis ex[illegible] dicerem mecum: En m[illegible]alis homuncio, anni spatio senior, [illegible] uicinior factus es. [illegible] ego cõfessionis huius ea ausa potentior, quã ni respuis paucis expe[illegible]iam. Opinio quæ [illegible], & ipsa rei nouitate mirabilis, sed ea, quæ ad probationem a[illegible]ucitur ratione m[illegible]or, [illegible] enim, longa obseruatione compertum, tertium & sexa[illegible] m[illegible] uitæ annũ, pe[illegible] sum [illegible] generi [illegible]e, uel insigni calamitate aliqua, uel mort[illegible], uel morbo c[illegible] Quæ c[illegible] singula, tamen grauissimum [illegible] tamẽ & ueru[illegible] mu[illegible] [illegible]d qui nunc memoriæ se offerant A[illegible]ellius in Noctibus A[illegible] qu[illegible] de Sæculis edidit, & Iulius Firmicus Maternus astrologus, ne[illegible] an uerior c[illegible] se[illegible]o cunctis ornatior. Quos ego le[illegible] quarto matheseos rem istã [illegible] rationem afferens, quasi ipsa de re con[illegible] planeq́ conueniat. Est autem hæc rat[illegible] tus sum, mihi mirabilem uideri, quæ quanti sit ponderis [illegible] qui his anim[illegible] ap[illegible] cuêre, ego enim ex æquo fateor, & rem ipsam, & rei causam de[illegible] dicit a[illegible] septimum, ac nonum, naturali quadam [illegible] latenti ratione damno[illegible] pe[illegible] men, pestemq́ aliquam afferre mortalibus, & hinc fieri ait, ut cum & septie[illegible] uies septem unum numerũ efficiant, duobus infaustis numeris in se uer[illegible] tibus, illic duplex malum, geminatumq́ discrimen incidat. Atq́ ideo ex [illegible]ans [illegible] & sexagesimus annus infamis sit, & a Græcis famoso cognomine [illegible] A[illegible] Androclas dictus quasi effractor, quod humanã frangat, debilitetq́ [illegible]. A[illegible] d[illegible] & discriminum hoc in tempus erumpentiũ uaria nomina, accusatione[illegible] re[illegible] ancipites, naufragia, incendia & ruinæ, damna & patrimoniorum amissiones, uulnera, morbi, luctus ac mortes, minæ omnes horribiles, sed horrorẽ omnem superat, quã supramemorauimus, ægritudo animi, tanto peior his omnibus, quanto animus corpore est mel[illegible] etsi suis careat bonis insignior fit iactura. Quis tã impeterritus, ut [illegible] metuat? Possem ad pauoris cumulum circa hoc tempus incidentes, & Philosophorum, & sanctorum, & principum, & tyrannorum mortes interserere, sed terrorẽ minuere, nõ augere pro positum est. Vix enim ulla pars ætatis ab adolescentia in senium erit quæ non aliquarum mor[illegible] illustrium rea [illegible]. Ego igitur ista non metuo, illi fidens, qui me ignar[illegible] in hanc uitam induxit, & ab ipsis materni uteri dilexit angustijs, suæq́ misericordiæ [illegible] quòd me in [illegible]nem pari misericordia persecutus, opportuno tempore hic ed[illegible]cet, qui [illegible] nentem ac [illegible] tem non deseruit, pœnitentem ac de se sperantẽ, se amantemq́, precantẽq́ non deseret. Credo equidem, quod quæ isti terrifici homines minantur non euenient, & uel bene [illegible]uenti, uel bene u[illegible]q́ uiuere cupienti, & malè uixisse toto animo dolenti [illegible] uitæ amicus infœlix erit. Et si quid horum forte accidat, præter ultimũ illud, quod g[illegible] simum dixi, omnia me, et [illegible] mors ipsa fuerit, adiuuante illo, de quo scriptum est: [illegible] ambulauero in medio umbræ mortis, non timebo mala, quoniam tu mecum es. [illegible]: Nam etsi ambulauero in medio tribulationis Domine uiuificabis me, forti animo laturũ mortemq́ ipsam inter naturalia po[illegible]um, spe immortalitatis insuper, & resurrectionis ad[illegible]ta. Quarũ primam boni & docti omnes habuerunt, secunda maximi etiam caruerũt uiri [illegible] trepidi [illegible]tientes ostend[illegible] no[illegible], non modò nõ impossibilem, sed nec ualdè difficilem mortis [illegible]e [illegible]temptum. Tan[illegible] a uero luce rebus addita, uide, quã sit turpis uerè Christiano homini metus mortis. Annum ego hunc immeritò, nisi fallor infamem, & uel no[illegible], uel profe[illegible]ctò nil terribile, si uir fuerim allaturum, hac die, & hac ipsa hora securus ingredi[illegible]. Sci[illegible] [illegible] & sciant [illegible] erunt, qui tàm humilẽ non fastidiant originẽ scire, me anno æ[illegible] [illegible] ul[illegible], quæ ab illo, qui hanc mihi spẽ tribuit IESV CHRISTO & [illegible]um trax[illegible] nomen mill[illegible]mo trecentesimo quarto, die lunæ uigesima Iulij illucescente, comm[illegible]dum aurora, in Aretina urbe, in uico, q Ortus dicitur, natũ esse. Quæ dies, apud nostros pu[illegible]a, [illegible] est nota, ea scilicet quod exules nostri, qui se Aretium, Bononiamq́ contuler[illegible], h[illegible]nc [illegible]acti in unum ex[illegible]itibus, armati die illa, & ipsa ferme qua nascebar hora ante quam sol [illegible]ntium erumperet, ad portas p[illegible] uenerunt, [illegible] fau[illegible] [illegible] ad[illegible]s, etsi inefficax fuerit, quia [illegible] in magnis motibus, & ingenti o[illegible]a terrore [illegible] [illegible], nescio quidem, an adhuc est memoria h[illegible]um lap[illegible], sed us[illegible] ad [illegible] perc[illegible]b[illegible] fuit. Hæc [illegible] die & [illegible] dies, [illegible] uigesim[illegible] Iulij, a[illegible] [illegible]rtus nunc sex[illegible] & sex[illegible] est. Mitte[illegible] ratio[illegible], duo & sexag[illegible] [illegible], ex quo uitæ huius inquiet[illegible] atti[illegible] & hac die, [illegible] ha[illegible] hora ille horren-

R[illegible] dus

d[illegible]s ut [illegible] more, a[illegible] q[illegible] no[illegible] ul[illegible] m[illegible] teris [illegible] m dum [illegible] ac [illegible] p[illegible] e [illegible] acunq; [illegible] a [illegible] eu [illegible] tempore, [illegible] fug[illegible] e [illegible]. Proin[illegible] ex [illegible] h[illegible] e [illegible] mum [illegible], calamum fe[illegible] atq; [illegible] ut ca[illegible] a [illegible] mus præstante Deo a[illegible] uius excur[illegible]um. [illegible] accedet [illegible] bito [illegible] ors autem mod[illegible] non turpis ne [illegible] q[illegible] eu querar [illegible] insig[illegible] parentem in fa[illegible]re [illegible] imius [illegible] Sin qu[illegible] s erit, q[illegible]àm promi[illegible] ego ipse [illegible] ni in fine [illegible] ulabor tecum. Vt e[illegible]m Gaio o[illegible]m [illegible] Aug[illegible] [illegible]sar apud [illegible] an[illegible] hoius co[illegible]ntio, quod [illegible] e scilicet sene[illegible] pulum e[illegible]. Tu [illegible] x[illegible] ten[illegible] quid [illegible] tuo tempore metu[illegible]um, aut spe[illegible] d[illegible], [illegible] tentiæ q[illegible]anta [illegible]des, in meo capite pericu[illegible]um fac. Et uale, fe[illegible], fe[illegible] stri memo[illegible], Ticini XIII. Cal. Augusti ad auroram.

[illegible]AN. [illegible]ET[illegible]AR[illegible] A[illegible] [illegible]. Epi[illegible]. II.

De senectute propr[illegible] et [illegible].

SEnui fateor, [illegible] iam amplius dissimulare & [illegible] nequ[illegible] & [illegible] e m [illegible] dete co[illegible]tanei, seu ad re[illegible]endum [illegible] nio [illegible] ad o[illegible] m [illegible] res, seu ad credendum faciliores [illegible]pei uanæ, quæ de [illegible] aci, a[illegible] ac[illegible] ritur [illegible]. Ego clàm labentis æui blanditi[illegible] non credo [illegible] gaudete adhuc iu[illegible]enes qui uid[illegible] tis, cedo e[illegible], iam temp[illegible]s est, [illegible] acu[illegible] [illegible]is l[illegible] [illegible]quo. Po[illegible] per[illegible] & tenete ch[illegible]ograp[illegible]um ætatis. Ex profe[illegible] senex sum, [illegible] an[illegible] m[illegible]os in [illegible] fronte legunt mea, mutatus e[illegible] primus ille oris habitus, & [illegible]tum lumen oc[illegible] ut aiunt at ego sentio, læta n[illegible] e[illegible] onditum [illegible] labe[illegible] cutis asper[illegible] ce nix albe[illegible]ens, ade[illegible]e æt[illegible] [illegible]ncia[illegible]. G[illegible]at[illegible] ate[illegible] qui [illegible] ad u[illegible]speram, & à prima ætate [illegible] senium prospeciat ac reg[illegible]t. [illegible] go in ho[illegible] at[illegible] mi uires auctas, sed corporeum robur, ac studi[illegible] [illegible]lita, & honestos actus, [illegible]u[illegible]la ex creuisse sentio. Nam ad alia inualid[illegible]s [illegible], [illegible] gaudeo & [illegible], & [illegible] ate[illegible] e[illegible] bore, [illegible] s a[illegible]uo. Quib[illegible] omnibus, quo[illegible] affect[illegible]m, [illegible] re li[illegible]eat, [illegible] implere liceat, tunc ego M[illegible]one fortior, & Alcide, de meo [illegible] or[illegible] a[illegible] tiquo hoste qui multa mihi & grauia b[illegible]a commouerit, triu[illegible]phare [illegible] e[illegible] mi mei capi[illegible]ol[illegible]um, uia sacra la[illegible]ea[illegible]s c[illegible]rus agere, t[illegible] rebe[illegible]es a[illegible] pasione[illegible] ho ferre, in[illegible] imamq; [illegible] h[illegible]stem re[illegible] a[illegible] dur[illegible]sq; compedi[illegible]us uoluptatem. [illegible]taq; mirabitur fort[illegible] aliquis n[illegible] me[illegible] familiari[illegible] est uitu[illegible], ut mirabil[illegible]s e[illegible] [illegible]erit, un[illegible]quam hercle mihi [illegible] [illegible] dum c[illegible]rte [illegible] di[illegible]sa [illegible] ci[illegible] c[illegible]e Deus qui g[illegible]ad[illegible]m prouex[illegible] morta[illegible] & [illegible]a, ad [illegible] m[illegible]ram [illegible] æternam uit[illegible]m proueh[illegible]t, ut eg[illegible] huius ma[illegible] tem[illegible] d iuuenes ferè omnes [illegible]ctu mirũ & c[illegible] illius [illegible] te [illegible] a[illegible] t [illegible]ctuantem as[illegible] e a[illegible]tern[illegible] tate uolu[illegible] [illegible] Cat[illegible]is ap[illegible]d Tull[illegible] e[illegible] m[illegible] ap[illegible] mihi lat[illegible]atu[illegible] ut ex ha[illegible] ætate re[illegible] u[illegible] ualde recuse[illegible] qua[illegible] dec[illegible] ad c[illegible]ceres à ca[illegible] e [illegible] u[illegible] a[illegible] le[illegible]s [illegible] b[illegible] par[illegible] re me[illegible] em[illegible] ix[illegible] b[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] cu[illegible] expe[illegible] [illegible] hoc est, n[illegible] [illegible] de his [illegible] enim ut sese excu[illegible] tem [illegible] [illegible] ra non sit [illegible] are [illegible] [illegible], err[illegible] te [illegible] cari[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] pe[illegible] [illegible] am[illegible] m de[illegible] a se[illegible] em, & [illegible] te[illegible], & [illegible] p[illegible] a quæq; [illegible] is su[illegible] [illegible] æ testim[illegible] [illegible] edentis. [illegible] m [illegible] te[illegible] (quit [illegible] [illegible] el [illegible], tel one[illegible] memoriæ [illegible] [illegible] sis cust[illegible] e[illegible], & [illegible] opiæ arg[illegible] men[illegible] [illegible] pro[illegible] [illegible] est [illegible] memoriam, n[illegible] opprim[illegible] t, nec ex[illegible] [illegible] tamen le[illegible] is est memoria, [illegible] iurium recor[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] t, pl[illegible] a [illegible] it, plura did[illegible] it, plura u[illegible] cla[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] ere est [illegible] ecess[illegible] mul[illegible] [illegible] li sunt a[illegible] æ diu [illegible] [illegible] et ad man[illegible] habet, quærend[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] m mo[illegible] b[illegible] s, ingenium, memo[illegible] iam p[illegible] [illegible] m delirauit, sæpe autem insipiens [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] enes uideas ac deliros, stolidi iuuene[illegible] [illegible] red [illegible] alium, eumq; meliorem ali[illegible] iando [illegible] cere [illegible] ac [illegible] s ex[illegible] [illegible] alibi ne[illegible] tam en festin[illegible] [illegible] q[illegible] o[illegible] [illegible] ter meam, uulgiq; [illegible] en[illegible] [illegible] iam [illegible] [illegible] debis [illegible] mihi nunc quæ etiam superest. V[illegible] us ex[illegible] is [illegible] [illegible] q[illegible] ot feruntur, meliùs [illegible] meretu[illegible], homo iucun[illegible] [illegible] fus [illegible] me de[illegible] e ueniens [illegible] [illegible] cum [illegible] dom[illegible], no[illegible] [illegible] lect[illegible] n[illegible] m, sed hone[illegible] h[illegible] m[illegible] n ta[illegible] [illegible] ca[illegible] a[illegible] m[illegible] leis. Erat enim [illegible] y[illegible] s, & clarum [illegible] an[illegible] [illegible] rum [illegible] e[illegible] othecam introgress[illegible] is, & sæp[illegible] tacitus [illegible] [illegible] n [illegible] [illegible] los extimans, [illegible] quo certè non errabat [illegible] al[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] et. Arc[illegible] l[illegible] m de[illegible] q; spe[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] q; [illegible] ple[illegible] am putans, c[illegible] m ne[illegible] aut[illegible], n[illegible] [illegible] ad [illegible], & carm[illegible] num [illegible] ena esset. Ad hæc insi[illegible] nes amic[illegible] [illegible], [illegible] fauore[illegible] [illegible] minu[illegible] eu[illegible] uen[illegible] nim[illegible] [illegible] s me munit[illegible] m atque o[illegible] n[illegible] m nouer[illegible] [illegible] f[illegible] rasse a[illegible] la, in u[illegible] um c[illegible] meq;, fortu[illegible] asq; meas n[illegible] aliter [illegible] q[illegible] m[illegible] c[illegible] s ad[illegible] ra[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] tremi mali. Heu quid ubi omni[illegible] [illegible] dec[illegible] [illegible] solum qu[illegible] [illegible] ade[illegible] mnit[illegible] [illegible] s mus pro[illegible] mortalium [illegible] [illegible] f[illegible] rem q[illegible] od[illegible] [illegible] ec[illegible] [illegible] unum tamen mi[illegible] no[illegible] um fa[illegible] eret o[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] Dau[illegible] o usus uer[illegible] [illegible] cet: V[illegible] ciam quid desit mihi, q[illegible] [illegible] h[illegible] e[illegible] q[illegible] [illegible] ngustaret, [illegible] ritan notc[illegible] [illegible] et, aliquid re[illegible] ed[illegible] quæri[illegible] [illegible] al[illegible] [illegible] mo. Hoc [illegible] tale e[illegible] c[illegible] [illegible] io, [illegible] c[illegible] qu[illegible] tam in[illegible] [illegible] x[illegible] mnibus iuuenta [illegible] [illegible] ens. Nol[illegible] iam [illegible] e[illegible] e [illegible] [illegible] uenis nō [illegible] m [illegible] pori[illegible] is, quod iuue[illegible] ui. Hūc ex o[illegible] me d[illegible] [illegible] pio [illegible] cer[illegible] æt[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] le miraretur inutilem ac p[illegible] [illegible] in, [illegible] ret [illegible] lem ac [illegible] di[illegible] uita boni e[illegible], [illegible] p[illegible] ma[illegible] æ[illegible] artem c[illegible] [illegible] tem [illegible] a[illegible] s, [illegible] pe[illegible] c[illegible] s, quo[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] re[illegible] [illegible] e [illegible] [illegible] t [illegible] rat[illegible] [illegible] ualida [illegible] tren[illegible] ætas, ed[illegible] n[illegible] n a[illegible] [illegible] a, [illegible] bo[illegible] d[illegible] cto miserum uidebatur a[illegible] olescent[illegible] m p[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] m redit ut ex uniu[illegible] o[illegible] ini[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] e[illegible] e[illegible] m. [illegible] er[illegible] o[illegible] [illegible] um o[illegible] ne[illegible] en [illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] ere[illegible] [illegible] en [illegible] c[illegible] re [illegible] fera[illegible] qu[illegible] [illegible] e [illegible] [illegible] ur [illegible] linquamu[illegible] ut [illegible] s[illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] t[illegible] atto[illegible] nes, [illegible] iot[illegible] er[illegible] qu[illegible] o [illegible]

e[illegible]

[illegible] ipsi [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] & [illegible]
[illegible] cllam [illegible]
[illegible] ur. Nec me ne [illegible]
[illegible] accid [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] uerit, quæ redire n [illegible]
sed d [illegible] tans iuuenum [illegible] uos [illegible]
[illegible] domesticorum a [illegible] co [illegible]
[illegible] uerò quos a [illegible] res [illegible]
[illegible] olescentiam suspirantes, qualium hodie plena sunt omnia, prorsus [illegible]
odio dignos puto. Ad summam, sanè de omni [illegible] iuuenum, sed senum [illegible]
[illegible], eorumque non omnium, sed modestorum, [illegible] animis quoque [illegible]
[illegible] & pue [illegible] Verum [illegible] senes [illegible]
male enim [illegible] iuuenis fuit, [illegible] trà, nullus iuuenis senex fuit aut futurus [illegible] Me
iam unum ex idoneis iudicibus ipsa ætas, & ni fal [illegible] quanimitas [illegible] quid [illegible] d
era [illegible] memini, dum ætatis flore fœlicissimus uide [illegible] que ad iæd [illegible] e
o [illegible], quod & nunc maximè pat [illegible] r, sed also [illegible]
do tempo [illegible] usque collatus, & si ætas quælibet suas amaritudines [illegible],
omnibus tamen ad libram actis, tranquillam & placidam, & honestam senectutem [illegible]
bus ætatibus præferendam censeo. Dixi sæpè & re [illegible] haud ignarus contra mul [illegible]
to [illegible] orbis sententiam me loqui. Nec sum [illegible], ut ad c [illegible] um utque ad [illegible] d
negotia, ad labores promptior, robustior que est iuuenum ætas. Impe [illegible] præte [illegible]
feruentior, sed neque constantior, neque consultior, in quo uulgus [illegible] um mecum sen [illegible]
in quo ualde dissentit animosior. Cuius rei ratio si quæritur, præsto est. Iuuenis en [illegible]
rem d [illegible] re, filios gignere, opes, amicitias, pote [illegible], famam quærere, uolup [illegible]
honoribus [illegible], diu uiuere cogitat, quæ p [illegible] metum mortis a [illegible]
ut [illegible] ad iam m [illegible], tam uaria tempore opus esse, quod mors inter [illegible]
Seni hæc omnia retro sunt, quæ seu iampridem habuit, atque ut fit, usum satiet [illegible]
est, seu illa quidem aut cont [illegible], ut uilia, aut ut desperata deseruit: qu [illegible]
unum iam ex omnibus co [illegible] mori, ipsa mortis u [illegible] securior. M [illegible]
re [illegible] formido [illegible] sior, e lo [illegible] o est. Neque uerò placere mihi unquam [illegible]
[illegible] adolescenti, & multò nunc minus seni, quod apud Ciceronem iure optim [illegible]
p [illegible] bat Cecilianum illud: In senecta hoc miserrimum sentire, ea ætate se odio [illegible]
[illegible] illud Iudicis Gnosij, tertio Troianæ historiæ seri [illegible] ro: Non d [illegible]
[illegible], qui contemptui sit adolescentiæ senecta ætas. Imo quidem hoc m [illegible]
[illegible] contrarium, laudabilem senectutem, & amori esse, & reuerentiæ at [illegible]
[illegible] uilis, & inglorij cuiuspiam uer [illegible] enis hæc iudico. Scit se esse boni [illegible] ne [illegible]
[illegible], neque odi [illegible], neque pudorem [illegible], neque mors pauorem incu [illegible], at [illegible]
[illegible] ac [illegible] s impenderunt, qui fœlicitatis [illegible] apic [illegible]
[illegible] ad senium, hoc est, ad ætatem corporis, & formæ, & uirium con [illegible]
[illegible] peruenerint, quid miri est, si fragiles ac deformes exrer [illegible] us, [illegible] tus uacui [illegible]
[illegible] es & [illegible] etiam nulli usui, sicut equi, & mu [illegible]
[illegible] esse des [illegible], & quibus [illegible] s be [illegible] alis [illegible] a [illegible]
[illegible] ndorumque usu regum ad quadrigas ru [illegible] as [illegible]
[illegible] s a [illegible] ludibrium iuuentutis. Quando autem apud H [illegible]
gem, ap [illegible] sto a, apud n [illegible] Fa [illegible] um uel Cat [illegible] ne [illegible] conte [illegible]
[illegible] fen [illegible] pars [illegible] quàm maxim [illegible] erant, se [illegible]
[illegible] me [illegible] adere, paucorum [illegible] in [illegible]
[illegible] u [illegible] senes sese o [illegible] fri [illegible] m [illegible]
[illegible] e [illegible] ant [illegible] c [illegible] p [illegible]
[illegible] ca [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] p [illegible] u [illegible] m [illegible] a [illegible]

[illegible] posse super iac[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible]m [illegible] [illegible]ed m[illegible] am[illegible], q[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]c d[illegible]ien[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible]ndum [illegible] [illegible] s incommoda esse ætatem iam, nec [illegible] ne[illegible] entem [illegible] [illegible]en, ac ualentem [illegible]m [illegible] cum ad illa[illegible] [illegible] me [illegible] [illegible]s inualidu[illegible] du[illegible] [illegible] rectus, [illegible] [illegible]s a[illegible], nec dum a[illegible] x [illegible] ac [illegible] b[illegible]s me [illegible] [illegible]bet t[illegible]parti am [illegible] ars [illegible]dis, und[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ucro dictiu[illegible] adul[illegible], tertia a[illegible]em [illegible] æceps. V[illegible] & [illegible]am præcipite [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]cero, ea prorsus ætate, qu[illegible] n[illegible] e[illegible]o [illegible]m [illegible]m me[illegible] nondum p[illegible] Dei munere uiridis sit senectus. Iam [illegible]us tamen, iam n[illegible] amplius [illegible] ætatum terminos metat[illegible]. C[illegible]m [illegible] cr[illegible] peruenia[illegible] [illegible] forsitan quàm dic[illegible] iam, [illegible]c e[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] tror, [illegible] sen[illegible] s a[illegible] quid aliter, ac speraverim [illegible]uener[illegible] [illegible]as act[illegible] An [illegible] e[illegible] c[illegible] prosi[illegible] iam ex ædificio putrido ac ruenti. A[illegible]t ab animi me[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] obstabo dum potero, neq; me falsæ libertatis appetitus præ[illegible] aget [illegible] [illegible]entur enim morte uoluntaria, [illegible] a le compendiar[illegible] morbi uiui, [illegible] [illegible] fortunæ iniuriam uitare, nec a[illegible] unt quanto in[illegible] ior qui[illegible]q; [illegible] h[illegible] co[illegible] [illegible] cuiquam sua sors sit. Illa enim ultra temporalem nihil, hi æter[illegible] tem [illegible] [illegible]te[illegible]m hæc species euadendi, [illegible] præ[illegible]pt[illegible]m iter, tanti[illegible] u[illegible], in [illegible] infamem traxit, ut diceret. Inueniri etiam pr[illegible] sapienti[illegible]m, qui [illegible] [illegible] negent, & nephas iudicent [illegible]sum interempt[illegible]rem [illegible] bonum [illegible] quem natura decreuit. Mirum ualde ex ore præsertim do[illegible] hominu[illegible], morumq; [illegible]itæ hominum magistri, quasi rem nouam inueniri, ait, qui hæc dicerent, cùm uerus sapientiæ [illegible]fessor [illegible]ullus inueniatur, qui non idem dicat ac sentiat, ipse tamen, [illegible]m qui h[illegible]c di[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]dere ai[illegible] uiam libertatis claudere, ita enim libertatis a[illegible]or, sui[illegible] [illegible]e [illegible] me[illegible]s an[illegible] Senec[illegible], Cicero & Maro, multiq; al[illegible], sed hos ille fa[illegible]s hab[illegible] magis miror, tales eum uiros, uel obliuisci pot[illegible] uel spernere [illegible]m quidem Africano [illegible]inori properandæ mortis consilia uolenti, sic re[illegible] onde[illegible] [illegible]r. [illegible]n est ita (inquit) nisi enim cum Deus is, cuius hoc templum est. Omne[illegible] con[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]te corp[illegible]s [illegible]stodijs liberauerit, huc tibi aditus patere non pote[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] c[illegible]ng[illegible] bator M[illegible] alia, notissimus enim l[illegible]u[illegible] est. Secu[illegible] [illegible]cũ de his [illegible]et qu[illegible] læt[illegible] insontes peperere manu[illegible] lucẽq; pero[illegible] p[illegible] animas, m[illegible]x ad[illegible]dit:

——Quam uellent æthere in alto,
Nun[illegible] & pauperiem, & duros perferre labores.

[illegible] est [illegible]dem, d[illegible]m [illegible]c[illegible]pitio fugiunt, labores in maiores [illegible]uunt, ita ut q[illegible]os paulo an[illegible] [illegible]m animæ de[illegible] nat[illegible]nt, [illegible]ant[illegible] optare, frustrà id tamen, nam [illegible] [illegible], & quæ notissima quoq; sunt reliqua. Non oppono nu[illegible] alios Sen[illegible]æ & p[illegible]m [illegible]stros quibus tàm im[illegible] tamq; insana sententia [illegible] est, ut eam nec au[illegible] d[illegible]nent[illegible] ex[illegible] re. S[illegible] illi suo[illegible], non quoslibet, sed eloquij Princeps Latini. Po[illegible] [illegible] grandi ex ædificio molesto, non dico prudentis esse, sed forta[illegible] magni animi [illegible]pl[illegible] ædi[illegible] e[illegible] Te[illegible] nc ab illo cœlesti rege deputatum, perc[illegible] [illegible]ti ani[illegible] [illegible]ostensa, contempru[illegible] do[illegible] nequit. Non mod[illegible] ig[illegible] [illegible] x æd[illegible] q[illegible] [illegible]mœno, sed nec ex [illegible] asper[illegible]s m[illegible]grabo, nisi qui m[illegible] iunx[illegible] a[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]agis placuit, ha[illegible] in[illegible] e mol[illegible]s & fort[illegible]na[illegible] Regis, quàm seue[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]ius rex Persarum, bello ui[illegible]us, desperatis rebus, d[illegible]m [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]eret, cur non i[illegible]se uel morte ludibrium uitæ imminens u[illegible]taret [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]b[illegible]. Ego inq[illegible] [illegible]c le[illegible]em fati mei expecto. [illegible] an m[illegible]eris qu[illegible]m no[illegible] [illegible]o f[illegible]lere q[illegible]m me[illegible] m[illegible]ri malo. Ego quoq; [illegible]isquis me sta[illegible] c[illegible] [illegible]ot[illegible] seu [illegible] ar[illegible]m re[illegible]m manet, [illegible]rtem me[illegible] [illegible]tatus [illegible]pe[illegible]ar, uideq; quid [illegible]em[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]xer[illegible] x ncu[illegible] & [illegible]e illo pr[illegible] te[illegible]rar a[illegible]m[illegible] fo[illegible]are [illegible] [illegible]derit, æ[illegible] [illegible]tem [illegible]iter, patienterq; [illegible]at. Interim [illegible]ne[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] [illegible]cunda au[illegible]em m[illegible]rs Ne[illegible] [illegible]bum e[illegible]e ni[illegible] unum [illegible] r[illegible]n a[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ten[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] co po[illegible] ta[illegible] anim[illegible]. A[illegible] an[illegible] ætatem [illegible]is eo iam eius [illegible] [illegible]co, quo[illegible]q; [illegible]dix[illegible] [illegible] at[illegible] [illegible]co, ad [illegible] scribens, hos

mihi

[illegible] plu[illegible] [illegible] enti[illegible] [illegible] tem[illegible] o iam [illegible] amp[illegible] atq; [illegible] illud [illegible] remo [illegible] imus [illegible] q; [illegible] ore [illegible] urum [illegible] is diri[illegible] [illegible] pr[illegible] [illegible] erum, mille anni [illegible] exte[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible], bona utinam, & [illegible] ducia. Pr[illegible] interea [illegible] reluctantibus, & [illegible] equa[illegible] ibus nostris dic[illegible] Venite securi, nol[illegible] [illegible] dare, [illegible] s audire, qu[illegible] malarum c[illegible]pidi[illegible]m n[illegible] os, non ali[illegible] p[illegible]c[illegible]s decebat. Nolite il[illegible] pr[illegible]ter senectutem [illegible]dere, quæ [illegible] per [illegible] [illegible] uos fac[illegible] [illegible]enectus, quo per medias uitæ procellas. Pergitis, n[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] lef[illegible] sima [illegible] s omnis ætas fuit [illegible] ulritiæ uitium nō ætatis, docti modest[illegible]q; [illegible] p[illegible] a[illegible] mi[illegible] [illegible] bus incocussa, & relictis retr[illegible] l[illegible] ac labo[illegible] u[illegible] q[illegible] e is atq; [illegible] uel[illegible] apricis collibus rerum turbi[illegible] [illegible] lte m[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] are ut facitis, ubi timebatis naufragi[illegible] in portu es[illegible]. O [illegible] an[illegible] f[illegible] ctu[illegible] d[illegible] u optata, ó ne quicquam formidata mortalibus, & [illegible] nosc[illegible] eri[illegible] In[illegible] st [illegible]d te peruenire, qui te metuit, indi[illegible]nus peruenil[illegible]e, q[illegible] te ac[illegible]usat. L[illegible] p[illegible]r[illegible], nunquàm timui, ego tibi approp[illegible] q[illegible]oad[illegible] [illegible] uiam p[illegible] [illegible] expectam, & præoccupatam animo, al[illegible]do & præsente[illegible] meo, [illegible] o[illegible] malorum uictrix affectuum, expultrixq; optima libidinū pe[illegible] ma[illegible] um, [illegible] [illegible] buo, quòd præduris compedibus, & tristi carcere relaxatis, [illegible]er tandem me[illegible] esse [illegible] o Sera quidem fatear, at quò serior, eo grati[illegible]r libertas. H[illegible] perdita, [illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] fe[illegible]t, hæc reddita senectutem lætam fac[illegible]. Rar[illegible]m spe[illegible] le[illegible] omn[illegible]s passim, sed ante alios Virgilius totiens tristem uocat, eam m[illegible] [illegible] utinam Socrates & Lælius mei uiuerent, si tamen id etiam illis placitum esset, m[illegible] qui mecum ab adolescentia uixerūt, sed & multi adhuc superant. Si mentior m[illegible] [illegible]este redar[illegible], adolescent[illegible] [illegible]hi, iuuentamq; curis [illegible]em ac si b[illegible] e[illegible] qu[illegible]pe pugnantibus in[illegible] [illegible]imæ partibus, & d[illegible]one pe[illegible], ac[illegible] bel[illegible]s [illegible]æstatum, pacem [illegible] bus. Magnarum opum ual[illegible]e auidu[illegible], [illegible] sed mediocritatem quam a[illegible]e iam didici, nondum ferre didiceram, [illegible]ue [illegible] urebar ardor[illegible]us, atq; ipse mih[illegible] pondus & la[illegible]r, & sup[illegible]m fact[illegible]s e[illegible], ut [illegible] tio[illegible] me[illegible] ma[illegible]is aduersum [illegible], qui redire, et [illegible] ad ill[illegible] mi te[illegible]pest[illegible]te[illegible], und[illegible] f[illegible] me gaudeo, & diuinum munus a[illegible]nosco. Nam quid amici senibus [illegible]a e[illegible] iuuenius, cum ea præscriptione, ut idem animus, eademq; grauitas [illegible]a [illegible] li[illegible] morum, ac modestia, & sapientia [illegible] umq; experientia, & scie[illegible]ia l[illegible]rar[illegible] [illegible] emum omnia, [illegible]æ faciunt uener[illegible]bilem senectutem dupl[illegible] ua[illegible] [illegible]te [illegible] meabile, quo tamen multos a morte ad uitam, nullum pror[illegible] [illegible]ntam redi[illegible]e legimus, impossibilitas est alia, neq; enim possibile m[illegible] [illegible] esse [illegible]itam [illegible]uen[illegible]le corpus seni. Cur amicis ergo, m[illegible] [illegible], [illegible] am ac stolidam senect[illegible]tem, n[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible]er n[illegible] pote[illegible], cogitando [illegible]tem, anxia mens [illegible] m[illegible] mot[illegible] s, [illegible] o[illegible]m uelut hostium è manibus cum cupidis[illegible] [illegible] c[illegible]m no[illegible] amens m[illegible]do sed [illegible]nsanus s[illegible]m, q[illegible]osq; n m[illegible] q[illegible] [illegible] e adi[illegible] compe[illegible]it, [illegible] [illegible] i[illegible] cor[illegible]is [illegible] [illegible] dor adueheret. Hæc [illegible]am mul[illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] a [illegible]ta sed iam [illegible] ea:de me [illegible] [illegible] n [illegible]

[illegible] me i[illegible]

[illegible] te [illegible] me[illegible]

[illegible] Calend. D[illegible]

FRAN. [illegible]

P[illegible] mar[illegible]iam a[illegible] [illegible] tre[illegible] [illegible] hoc [illegible]o, q[illegible] [illegible] de respon[illegible] [illegible] Magistros [illegible] [illegible] diligen[illegible] [illegible] ex [illegible] expliciti[illegible] nil [illegible] inst[illegible] quam [illegible], nec præsertim te q[illegible] [illegible]it. De opini[illegible] [illegible] atque a[illegible] iam quæstionem, n[illegible] mihi, uere autem [illegible] [illegible]. Q[illegible] felicet l ar[illegible] or, cum [illegible] opinione [illegible] miros ac m[illegible] effectu[illegible] de[illegible] s, [illegible] [illegible] humam a[illegible] nis motibus [illegible] imp[illegible]ant. ut [illegible] [illegible] non tam [illegible]ebrum, uulgatumque [illegible] neque q[illegible] iam [illegible] prouerb[illegible]m [illegible] n[illegible] us tenerentur. Nam quid e[illegible] a[illegible]ud, ut de me[illegible] etiam al[illegible] qu[illegible] [illegible] inter opes, inops, alter in summa p[illegible] e[illegible] ted [illegible]us [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]? Q[illegible] illi diuitias f[illegible] at & plurimum [illegible] [illegible] præsentat inopiam, sollicitaque co[illegible] temptum au[illegible]ritiæ persua[illegible] [illegible] [illegible], & quicquid accesserit pondus in diuitias opinantur. Q[illegible] [illegible] ridere, [illegible]ros ac phrænetic[illegible]os ridere, ac ge[illegible] [illegible]. Quid u[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] tantum ualet opinio [illegible] ad illud, quod q[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] no[illegible] mum, [illegible] s [illegible] ferat, solidæ & ang[illegible] [illegible] uertice [illegible] [illegible], [illegible]rru nec, & laterum uigor idem, uis o[illegible] eadem [illegible] [illegible] ur a[illegible] [illegible] opinio [illegible] sola debilior, dicam an u[illegible] dior, quæ [illegible] [illegible] tiat, ut [illegible] tre[illegible] [illegible] abat, tremat instabi[illegible]. Le[illegible] [illegible] Iul[illegible] [illegible] ac [illegible] celestes, ne quæstionem a[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] certe manu [illegible] ulerant, in campis The[illegible]aliis [illegible] bus suis [illegible] gentibus, [illegible] o[illegible]nione uehementissima [illegible] [illegible] latem [illegible] iam ha[illegible] arm[illegible] & adacto equo [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]m, & [illegible] fer[illegible] timuerat sepulto a[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] rroris. De Paulo quidem ra[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] re, an e[illegible] or[illegible] fuerit se nesciret ait. Sed p[illegible] Franci[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] mortem [illegible] & ualida me[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] fet, & cruci affixus [illegible], ibi suo c[illegible] d[illegible] m[illegible] no [illegible] [illegible] am rei effigiem[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], quod cum [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ficio [illegible] cunctis fere mortali[illegible] opes, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] na sunt. Q[illegible] res una, maxime in has m[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Quid [illegible] enim nisi opinioni [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] port[illegible], [illegible] puto fallantur. Sed [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] oculi[illegible] [illegible] mum sit exemplum [illegible] [illegible] co max[illegible] num, ne de[illegible] [illegible] dicem, sed haud [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] rabies [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] pa[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]em, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] multas a[illegible] quas [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

q [illegible] eis [illegible] r ext [illegible], & [illegible] rabiles tam dilecti capi [illegible]
mi [illegible] on [illegible] c [illegible] tatibus affectum atq; c [illegible] fe [illegible],
hominis [illegible] a [illegible] ar, & a [illegible] antes in [illegible] orem [illegible], [illegible] s pa [illegible]
m [illegible] delica [illegible] i corp [illegible], su [illegible] is [illegible]
& q [illegible] minus fortiant [illegible] au [illegible] cert [illegible]
fl [illegible] da, a [illegible] e [illegible] m membrorum o [illegible] s [illegible], peregri [illegible]
tis ac m [illegible] gnis, ne [illegible] el [illegible] & l [illegible] eq [illegible] lori [illegible] sum, no [illegible]
d [illegible] e [illegible] e [illegible] te [illegible] per [illegible] et q [illegible] æ sani [illegible] o m [illegible] uide [illegible]
t [illegible] s, qui [illegible] ebus, ac [illegible] is eras [illegible] unt, dicunt n [illegible] nquam, u [illegible] d [illegible]
nem uel [illegible] d gnantis accentum, ex ore aure audi [illegible] se [illegible] c semper. M [illegible] ta m [illegible]
ca Deus fecit [illegible] hoc unum incommodu [illegible] n, [illegible] s immiscuit, nihil est quod de d [illegible]
meo q [illegible] ær [illegible] sed [illegible] plurima d [illegible] quibus gratias a [illegible] m [illegible] it nomen [illegible]
Q [illegible] a [illegible] uide [illegible] æquanimitate, tàm insolita, & patie [illegible] tàm m [illegible] te [illegible] r
uidere [illegible] ur, cui ual [illegible] udo prosperior data esset [illegible] nisi [illegible] io [illegible] ei præs [illegible] e
examussim l [illegible] brans, sæpè diff [illegible] cultates corp [illegible] s, animæ tribuit ad salutem. Ne [illegible]
tiam solam, in tantis a [illegible] eritatibus exhiber, sed magnanimitatem quoq; [illegible] a
den [illegible] m, lar [illegible] tem, sol [illegible] icitudinem, mitem lætis in rebus impe ter [illegible]
& quo [illegible] hil e [illegible] mirab [illegible] lius, in hoc corporis sui statu, [illegible] erq; rerum motus & [illegible]
uniformitatem ac perpetuam alacritatem, & quæ [illegible] genus necessaria nou [illegible] e [illegible] ga
bus. Q [illegible] ibus ex [illegible] s, [illegible] d Septimi Seueri Romani principis, in [illegible] c [illegible]
eminet, caput [illegible] pe [illegible] ie non pedes. Delectauit me de illo h [illegible] ten [illegible] tec [illegible] m [illegible] oqui,
[illegible] m uterq; uirtutem [illegible] ligit, morbum odit, cui tu omnem, [illegible] qu [illegible] humano inge [illegible]
test, ego quàm solam possum, uotis ac precibus opem fero, de quo ide [illegible] co p [illegible] xi [illegible] a
ipse mihi permisi, quod & ipsum ad nos, & rem ad propositum per [illegible] nere sum ar [illegible]
unde c [illegible] m hęc tanta diuersi [illegible] as. Illum leuia muliebriter, hunc grauia ferre uiriliter, n [illegible] ex ea
i [illegible] s [illegible] opinione, de qua loquimur, qua scilicet illi persuasum sit, dolorem omnem [illegible]
esse miseriam, huic contra, nil nisi in animo miserum esse, in quem si se erexeri n [illegible]
riæ, [illegible] lum pas [illegible] ionibus aditum patere. Hæc prouide, quæ i [illegible] corpus incidunt, q [illegible] is
ama [illegible] icula ex [illegible] erimenta esse animi, materiamq; uirtutis difficilibus gaudentis, & [illegible] a
quæl [illegible] et execrantis. Denìq; hinc extremum illud, quod alter tristis, ut magna pars [illegible]
[illegible] ium, alter lætus moritur, quia uidelicet cùm mors una sit, opinio est diuersa. Venio [illegible] une
ad epistolæ tuæ partem alteram quæ de fortuna est, cuius t [illegible] potentiam uerbis exa [illegible] as,
n [illegible] tu s [illegible] lus, sed fere omnium [illegible] enia, in hoc unum pari nixu, uaria licet assertione [illegible] e-
n [illegible] unt. [illegible] q; Crispus in omni [illegible] minari fortunam ait, uellem uirtutem excerp [illegible] er [illegible] ero
h [illegible] manarum dominam rerum [illegible] xit. Qua in re Virgilius ab illo, quem in mu [illegible]
H [illegible] mero, eousq; dissentit, ut cum apud illum nusquam sit f [illegible] næ nomen, ut pe [illegible]
qu [illegible] ihil illa esse c [illegible] seret, apud hunc nostrum, nõ nominata, potensq; duntaxa [illegible]
da [illegible] o omnipotens, etiam si fortuna n [illegible] me fugit quosdam nostroru [illegible], &
ab A [illegible] gustino iustissimè apprehen [illegible] est, & nuper in cœlo illam p [illegible] e, ce [illegible]
quod, quòd mirari satis nequeo, nisi uu [illegible] forsitan sequan [illegible] ur errorem. De q [illegible]
loquens [illegible] —Te (inquit)

Nos [illegible] imus fortuna deam, c [illegible] loq; locamus.

Turpe est autem sapientium d [illegible] nam, ut seq [illegible] aces multos habeat, sequi [illegible]
tum, à qui [illegible] us toto calle diuertere [illegible] a demum summa philosop [illegible] a est, passim cer [illegible]
qui fortunam pro [illegible] itiam, non uirtuti tantum, sed diuino etiam auxi [illegible] ante [illegible]
næ amici mali [illegible] t esse quàm Dei. Quamobrem n [illegible] n potest, ni [illegible] i magnum [illegible]
q [illegible] ia docti sentiant & indocti in m [illegible] l [illegible] s di [illegible] num humanum genus, [illegible] co [illegible]
h [illegible] di [illegible] am, aut quid ext [illegible] e [illegible]. N [illegible] mihi qui de bona f [illegible] rtu [illegible] a [illegible] b [illegible] Aris [illegible]
ignotus e [illegible] Cicer [illegible] s illud ob [illegible] tus sum. Magna [illegible] e in fortuna in [illegible]
tem, [illegible] l se [illegible] nda [illegible] a [illegible] res uel aduersas, q [illegible] is igno [illegible] Nam [illegible] cũ [illegible] rosper [illegible]
ad ex [illegible] s peruel [illegible] imur optatos, & cum re [illegible] u [illegible] al [illegible] igimur. Sed c [illegible]
[illegible] meminit [illegible] a d [illegible] sc [illegible]. Primum e [illegible] im ([illegible] egar [illegible] in p [illegible]
h [illegible] dixit tan [illegible] s [illegible] iant [illegible] einde [illegible] m quæ u [illegible] ra si [illegible]
[illegible] c p [illegible] t esse cla [illegible] od [illegible] e [illegible] e de [illegible], uel m [illegible] xime d [illegible]
[illegible] m est. [illegible] Ego uero nescio, do [illegible] nr [illegible] e [illegible]
[illegible] flat [illegible] atus. Turpe igitur hominem [illegible] genio [illegible] um id dicere [illegible]

pro [illegible]

probare nonpossit. Postremò, quòd is, qui dicit, ad sensus etiam retinēdos, quòd stulti sit hominis, rebus incognitis temerè assentire. Is planè uulgi, & imperitorum opinionibus credit, quàm fortunam putet esse, quæ tribuat hominibus bona uel mala. Hæc Lactantij forsan ante tempus inserui, quod directè proximis Ciceronianis illis, aduersa erant. Rursum uerò nō sum nescius, Augustinum, quod in opere suo quodam, sæpè fortuna nominasset, ne ab alio reprehendi posset, consultò id quidem, ac prouidenter, ut reliqua. Cæterùm uir ille sanctissimus, & de sacris agens rebus, nō immerito prophanum fortunę nomen exhorruit; ego autem peccator, & utrūq; secularibus olim studijs occupatus, millies nomē. Hoc literulis meis inseruisse uideor, nempè quo & uulgi ora, & doctorum libros hominum plenos noueram, quin etiam adeò me nominis huius non pœnituit, ut nouissimè de utriusq; fortunæ remedijs, libellum scripserim, non fortunam duplicem, sed bifrontem statuens, de quo libro quid alijs uideatur, eorum sit iuditium, qui audierint, aut legerint. Ego ex quo ad exitum ductus est, nec ex illo profundè aliquid degustaui, nec experiri fuit, quantum meis ipse consilijs adiuuare, eò tamē mihi probatior factus est, quo illum quibusdam magnis ingenijs gratū ualdè, & optatū sensi. De hac igitur re, tàm trita, cuius, ut dixi, non modò sæpissimè mentionem feci, sed etiam nominatim scripsi, quamuis uulgarum & publicatum loquendi morem secutus, id fecerim, quod mihi ad uulgares sæpiùs, quam ad Philosophos sermo esset. De hac (inquam) in arcano mei pectoris, ubi multa & nota mihi cum populo lis est, quid uerè sentiam sæpè breuibus attigi, quasi eminus uibrans meæ aciem qualiscunq; sententiæ & nunc: quoniam cogis expressius attingendum, de quo fateor, ut de alijs multis, aliquanto libentius audirem, quod & utilius id reor, & tutius, sed interrogationem tanti uiri dissimulare nō potui. Scio igitur ut audiuisti, magnos uiros scripsisse de fortuna, & me paruū scio, nomenq; istud & secularibus scriptoribus usitatum, nec intactum sacris. Teneo Augustinum ipsum, dū de fato ageret, quod nescio an idem, quod fortuna, an cōsanguineus sit illius, inter multa dixisse. Nisi fortè fatum à fando dictum intelligamus, id est, aliquando. Non enim abnuere possimus, esse scriptum in literis sacris, semel locutus est Deus, quod enim dictum est, semel locutus est, intelligiē immobiliter, hoc est, incōmutabiliter, est locutus. Hac itaq; ratione possemus, à fando fatum appellare, nisi hoc nomen, iam in alia re soleret intelligi, quo corda hominum nolumus inclinari. Et eodem libro, Prorsus (inquit) diuina prouidētia regna constituuntur humana: Quæ si propterea, quisquam fato tribuit, quia ipsam Dei uoluntatem, uel potestatem, fati nomine apellat, sententiam teneat, linguam corrigat. Etsi, hercle, sic accipiatur, ego quoq; magnum quoddam, & ineluctabile fatum, ut Maro ait, seu fortunam non inficior. Si enim tam magna, tamq; urgentia principum mortalium sunt præcepta, quam maxima extimanda sint diuinioris edicta, etsi non posse equidē fata mutari, sed trahi posse: Homerica primū, post Virgiliana sit fictio, uerè tamē nec mutari nullatenus, nec differri queūt, nec uis ulla, nec fuga, nec tergiuersatio, nec dilatio locū habet. At ut uulgus, nec exigua literatorum, quoq; hominum pars accipit, fortunæ nomen, clarè fateor, nec indocti uereor infamiam, credere me nihil esse fortunam. Quæ res forsan in primis, facti me rationem, qui de eo scripserim, quod uel scirem, nihil esse uel crederem, respondebo. Me de fortuna quidem nihil; sed de remedijs contra illam, quæ fortuna dicitur, scribentem collegisse, quæ mulcere, uel augere humanum animum uisa sunt. Quæ quoniam uulgò fortuita dicerentur, nomen antiquū tenui, ne lectorem uerbi controuersia deterrerem, & scriptis alienarem, & scribenti. Scio ego persuasum publicè, quotiens fortè quid accidit, & absq; apparentibus causis (sine causa enim nihil accidit) id esse fortuitum, eamq; Fortunam dici. Exempli causa: Paterfamiliâs peregrè profecturus, & nulli fisus thesaurum humi infodit, quòd rediēs inueniret, uitq; nec redijt. Lōgum post tempus, rusticus terrā fodiens, aut fundamentū iaciens architectus, id reperit, non hoc ille mente egerat, non hoc iste quærebat, sed ille ut thesaurum absconderet, hic ut agrum coleret, seu domum strueret. Fortuna (inquiūt) fuit amborum. Illius ut perderet, huius ut inueniret. Ego hanc rem multis apertissimā, nō discerno, eum qui thesaurū abdidit patrēfamiliâs, fuisse scio, eum qui architectū, uel agricolam quod reperit aurū uel argentū, uel tale aliquid quod reperit, uomerem seu ligonem, quo illum ageret manus, brachia, boues, stiuā, & quæ sunt generis huiusce. Vadit aliquis uel Bononiam ut studeat, uel ut oret Romā, uel non expectatos in latrones lapsus, occiditur. Reuertebatur ab exilio Marcellus, & læto animo patriam repetebat, sed ab hoste impio præuentus occubuit. Talis erat, inquiunt, horum omnium fortuna. Ego uerò adolescentem studiosum, & deuotum peregrinum, & utriusq; iter, & prætcrea ciuem bonum, immeritum, exulem, & exilij locum Mithylenas, & Athenas cędis, & latrones atq; hostes obuios, & mucrones, & incursus, & ictus & sanguinem, & omnino res ipsas atq; actus agentesq; & euentus rerum uideo. Hæc inter quæro

SS ter quæro

ter quæro fortunam, de qua sermo est, nihil inuenio præter nudum nomen. Nam si ipse rerum accidentium inopinus ac subitus euentus Fortuna dicitur, quę diffinitio nonnullorum est, satis ex hoc ipso rei ueritas, nisi fallor, elicitur. Horum enim, & similium euentus, quis est alius, quàm uulnera, & mortes, & spolia, quorum auctores, nec fortuna, nec fatum, nec omninò alij, quàm homines ueri sunt, his atque alijs inductus, fortunam per seipsam nihil esse dicentibus assentiri cogor, de quo, ne aliena mihi tribuam, à multis inter quos ab his quorum suprà memini, Augustino, & Lactantio Firmiano, institutionum libro, & argutè satis, ut arbitror, & fideliter disputatum est. Benè igitur & piè Christianissimi illi fratres, pro ueritate comprehensi, torquendique, ac mactandi, cum fortunę mentionem iudex impius fecisset, breui ac præcisa, nec minus uera sententia, fortunam Christianos nescire professi sunt, quos magnorum hominum fulcit auctoritas. Nam ut sileam, duos illos, quos paulò antè non [illegible], qui hoc ipsum sæpissimè replicãt, & Ambrosio fata nulla, & Hieronymo nec fatum, nec fortunam esse uisum uideo. Ad summam ergo, sermo mihi uulgaris, ut intelligar, de re ipsa, hoc iuditium meũ est, si fortasse non sat uulgare, non sat philosophicum, pium puto, idque mihi sat est. Quod quidem sæpè mihi olim dictum, sæpè scriptum, nunquam tamen apertius. Sentio enim, neque contrariam opinionem, de cuius potestate primum diximus, humanis affixã præcordijs, & alto errore radicata extirpari, nec loquendi morem publicũ mutari posse, atque ideò pacem quærens, nonnunquàm loquar, ut plurimi, sentiam semper ut pauci. Sin fortassis utar sæpè aduerbijs, à fortuna dictis, cum fortunam ipsam nihil esse dicam, si ergo uerior illa sententia, neque enim tanti arcani diffinitorem me profiteor, eorum scilicet qui uolunt, ut aliquid sit fortuna, uel prouidentia ipsa Dei occultis homini, sed sibi notissimis causis agens, atque agitans res humanas, seu quod quibusdam placuit, prouidentiæ ministra, & diuinatum uolũtatum executrix quædam, nescioque cum scriptum sit, ipse dixit & facta sunt. Sed si ita esset, nulli dubium, quamuis opinio intra hominem ipsum sit, fortuna autem exterius opinione, illam tamen esse ualidiorem. Nempè & opinioni, & animæ, cui illa insit opinio, & corpori, & rebus omnibus imperantem. Dixi, ecce, quòd occurrit ex tempore, inter occupationes multas, & libros nullos, et curas itineris, totus animo in id uersus, doctis omnibus, ante alios tibi, amice rei huius certiore iuditio reseruato, si quid compertum mihi præscripseris, amplexutus. Vale. Ticini V. Idus Nouembris.

FRAN. PETRAR. LVCHINO DE VERME EQVITI VERONENSI, S. Epist. IIII.

Contra Turcos profectum, exhortatur ad reditum.

TEnes ut arbitror memoria, nunquam mihi tuum hoc iter placuisse. Quamuis enim in se pium, & iustis ex causis susceptum, non sat tamen aut præsidijs, aut ea, quæ primum in bellis præcipuum locum tenet, prouidentia circunfultum, ab initio uisum erat. Quod non esset, si ut nuper aduersus rebellantem Cretam primus, sic nunc aduersus Assyriam dux esses, sed non ita est. Illic enim tuis hic alienis auspicijs rem geris, itaque magis ac magis indies mora mihi inuisa ac suspecta est tua, nescio enim, quid insoliti metus incidit, quem irritum cœlites uelint, iam mihi tamen: ut uerum fatear, in augurium uergit. Scis quàm fragili stamine pendẽt res humanæ, neque aër ille, neque comitatus, neque curæ tuæ conueniunt naturę. Redde te nobis, & propera oramus, omnis dies anno lõgior expectanti est: redde tuorum oculis exoptatam lucem, aufer animis desiderium tui, iugi denique nos pauore libera, uano utinam, graui tamen, & iam certè nimium diuturno, ueni ergo. Nam si iuisti ut cederes inuidiæ, quod magni aliquotiens fecerũt uiri, ecce tibi illa iam cedit. Si fastidio identitatis, satis superque iam uariatum est, sin multa uidẽdi studio, quod necessarium claris futuris uiris, clari quidam uiri extimant:

Etiam multa & certa experientia rerum exterarum longaque
Externorum bellorum occasione circumactus,

Tempus est, ut nostri uicissim desiderio teneâre. Demũ quolibet animo hinc abijsti, de propositi tui summa, dubium nulli fuit, quæ profectò alia nõ fuit, quàm ut quotidiano illo tuo more, te meliorem faceres. Iam melior factus, redi & Vale. Ticini IIII. Idus Decembris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IACOBO DE VERME, S. Epist. V.

De Luchini patris obitu.

O Insidiosa sæpiùs sors hominum, quàm fortunam uocant, & blanditijs fallax, sed interdum minax, quodque est factura prænuncians, hoc nunc more ultimo usa est mecum, siue ulla, siue altior potestas, de qua quæri nephas, nihil insidijs auctum est, uulnus hoc fateor, diù ante prouideram, sed impẽdentia euadere difficilè est.

Præsertim,

Præsertim, quæ ita in alterius manu sunt, ut nullæ nobis in his partes, uel ingenij, uel industriæ sint relictę. Horrebat animus mœstus augurijs, & toto corpore cōtremiscens, cogitabā semper odiosam mihi, magnanimi tui patris absentiā, semperq; præsagiens, metuensq; quod accidit, ne scilicet rarū illud nostræ ætatis, & patrię nostrę decus, cuius pars æthera cœlo debita erat, & nūc reddita est, terrestris Italię atq; Athicii nobis, pro hac parte ultima Thrax Ebrus, atq; Euxinus eriperent. Super quo, non tacui, quin & illū, & funestā moram, literis ac nūciorum linguis increpui. Sed fortasse nec ipse aliud poterat, & inuictos humeros imperiosa necessitas, atq; instantis ruinæ pondus urgebat. Sic erat in fatis (inquit Naso) imò uerò hæc uoluntas Dei erat, ut qui à prima adolescentia, iusta arma semper induerat, expeditione nouissima, contra hostes fidei, pro pietate ac religione suscepta, honestissima omnium, sanctissimaq; militia, & armorum usu optimo, defuncti animus, ad illum, cui tot claras uictorias debebat, uirtute armatus, ac triumphaturus ascenderet, quoq; illum peruenisse confido fœlici laborum fine inuento, quorum sibi nullas ferias uirtus dabat, & quoniam mortalium mortes flere, ut olim, iam nec ætatis, nec propositi mei est, fœlicitati ego suę gratulor, damnum meum tacitus, mœstusq; prætereo. Literam quidem tuam fili legi, acri quadam & amara dulcedine, talis amici, multa mihi suspiria renouantem, cui te similium fieri opto, inq; hoc summo ut studio niti uelis, hortor ac deprecor. Sic amicos enim omnes, meq; in primis, magno gaudio complebis atq; sufficies, ut tali filio superstite, tantus Pater planē nobis redditus uideatur. Neq; uerò tibi, ut multis, difficilis ad gloriam uia est, habes domi ducem, quem mireris, quem sequaris, cuius ad imaginem te cōformes. Habes ante oculos speculum, memoriam uiri illius incomparabilis, ac uirtutū omnium exempla domestica, pronum opus, ad exemplar incorruptum scribere, ultimum est, ne ossa illius ex quo amicis manibus transfecta Byzantion, atq; honorificè ibi recondita didicisti, meo consilio amplius moueantur, sed in cœlis quiescente anima illa in terris, inq; urbe regia conquiescant. Tu fili charissime, teq;, tuamq; domū uiduam solare, & per uestigia tanti patris age uiriliter & fœliciter. Vale. Ticini V. Idus. Iunias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA DONATO APENNIGENAE GRAMMATICO, S. Epist. VI.

De Pœnitentia, & ad hanc efficacibus sanctorum libris.

DVæ quidem nuper epistolæ tuæ, diuersis diebus à te scriptæ, nescio an & datæ etiam, simulq; mihi redditæ, nec sine gaudio perlectæ, saliuam exciuerunt scribendi plurimā, sed occupationum memor, pressi impetum, una de mea quidem re familiari, quæ quoniam nimis una materia est, seorsum ut mos est meus ad illam respondebo. Altera uerò tuo de statu, illo (inquàm) statu qui solus est tuus, præter quē cetera, omnia, & breuia, & caduca sunt, & nutu uoluitur alterius, non enim iam fortunæ tribuam, quòd soleo, ne mihi aduerset, hoc unum uerum & proprium tuum bonum est, quodq; excipi tibi, nisi ipse consenseris non potest, animæ statum dico, pœnitentia quo nil de te possem lætiùs audire, ac confessione purgatum salutifera, de qua te multa olim à sanctissimis uiris dicta sunt. Et nunc fortè aliquid à peccatore homine dici posset, si quantum animi tantum esset & temporis. Faciam uerò quòd est proximum, & peculiare occupatorum omnium atque inopum, qui quos ope nequeunt, consilio adiuuant amicos. Accede animo parumper, assum tibi non longè, ut Argiuis quondam ducibus illa infœlix apud Statiū nutrix, sed prænitidi monstrator fontis, aquæ salientis in uitam æternam, nec uerebor, ne me meus interim serpens lædat, quòd & mihi nullus Archemorus, & Mithridaticum est optimū, cōtemptus. Quòd præstare ipse non ualeo, unde accipias dabo, & ad illud beatissimum ac Deo amabile par hominum te remittam, quos quia inuicem pius amor hic nexuit, & nunc Deo charitas æterna connectit, libenter ego etiam scribens, aut loquens, iūgere soleo Ambrosium scilicet, atq; Augustinum sacratissimas animas, & operosissimas cœlestis faui, ac diuini apes eloquij. Hi enim de hoc, quòd nūc agitur, hoc est, de pœnitentia singula scripsère uolumina, quibus nihil utilius, ad securū iter uitæ huius, & alterius spem. Est & Augustini opus aliud, quod Confessionum dicitur, tredecim distinctum libris. Quorum in primis nouem ab extrema infantia, ac materno lacte uitæ totius errores ac peccata omnia, in decimo, autem adhuc superstites peccati reliquias, & præsentem tunc uitæ suæ statum, in ultimis autem tribus dubitationem suam, de scripturis sæpè, etiam ignorantiam confitetur. Qua confessione, doctissimum penè omniū qui fuerint, si quòd est mihi iuditiū se ostendit. Hūc librum intēto, deuotoq; animo legere, si in cōsuetudinē deduxeris, spero te, pijs atq; salubribus nunquā lachrymis cariturū, uerecundiæ quidem, sed expertus hoc dixerim, ut enim ductu eius quem diligis, ad hāc uidētuo lectionē uenias, scito illū librum, mihi aditum fuisse, ad omnes

sacras literas. Quas ut humiles, & incomptas ac secularibus impares, & nimio illarũ amore, & contemptu harum, & opinione, de me falsa, atq; ut breuiter, & hoc ipse peccatum meum fatear, insolentia iuuenili, & dæmoniaco, ut intelligo, clareq; uideo, nunc suggestu, diu tumidus adolescens fugi. Is liber me mutauit eatenus, non dico ut [illegible] prima dimitterẽ, quæ uel hac utinam ætate dimiserim, sed ut ex illo sacras literas nec [illegible]erem, nec odissem, imò uerò me paulatim horror ille mulceret, & inuitas aures, re[illegible]antesq; ad se oculos traheret. Deniq; ut amare literas illas inciperem, & mirari, & quærere, atq; ex eis licet minus flo[illegible] forsitan, at profectò plus fructuum, quàm ex illis alijs antea tàm dilectis elicere, neq; uerò dignum erat, nulla ex parte Christianum hominem Augustini eloquio mutari, cùm [illegible]t ipse dicti operis libro tertio meminit Ciceronianus, eum adeò mutasset Hortensius. Has [con]fessiones si aliũde non inuenis, ego tibi exemplar destinabo, ut uel sic boni tui particeps fiam, quamuis ut puto, propinquius [illegible]bi sit apud insignem illum Philosophum, uerum theologum ac magistrum, cuius tuarum in altera literarum mentio erat, uel germanum eius, & professione uitæ parem & scientiæ, duo ueræ lumina suæ religionis Augustini nomen habẽtis, ac regulã, & Patauinæ geminũ urbis decus eximiũ quos mihi nõ mea quidẽ, sed illorũ uirtus spectata cõciliat, quorumq; sententiã, de me, quãuis non tàm iudiciariã, quam paternam pluris facio, quàm detractorum omnium uipereas linguas, ac sibila, quos quotidie in meam famam plures certè, quam credidi, & unde non credidi, nec, ni fallor, merui, feruidum inuidiæ uirus irritat. Sed de hoc alibi, sæpè multa quòd mœstus dixerim, cogente materia. Nunc ultrò breue hoc ad calamum uenit, atq; indignationis auxilio, ne repellerer obtinu[it]. Vndecunq; aũt ad manus tuas liber ille peruenerit, poteris si placebit, & rebus consentaneũ uidebitur, unum ex his, quæ olim in libris ipse meis scholastica curiositate præscribere solebam, meum distichon in primordio eius apponere. Id uerò est huiusmodi:

Hunc celer ad fontem deserta per arida pergat.

Quisquis eget lachrymis: quibus impia crimina terg at.

Hæc hactenus. Scripsère & alij multi, res ad salutẽ utilissimas, de his loquor, non quæ scientia implent, & sæpè inflant, sed quæ deuotione humili, humanũ animum accẽdunt, ut collationes patrum & patrum uitas. Quarum aliquæ nõ pietate tantũ, sed eloquentia refertæ miris modis, & lectorẽ adiuuant, & delectant. Qualis est Athanasij Antonius, cuius uita perlecta, multis profuit ad imitationem uitæ, quid ni, aũt cum Augustino ut ipse in octauo Confessionũ refert, uel audita profuerit. Qualis est. Et Seueri Martinus, & Hieronymi Hilarion, eiusdemq; uel Ioannes Aegyptius, uel Paulus primus æremita, quẽ placere tibi admodum sensi, nec immeritò. Est enim nescio, an deuotum, an disertũ magis, opusculũ, neq; in hoc numero, prætereũdi duo sunt Ioannis Chrysostomi deuotissimi libelli. Quorum alter de Reparatione lapsi, de Compunctio[n]e cordis alter inscribitur. Qui quoniam dinumerare omnes longum est tibi, cum uoles in [no]stro armariolo præsto erunt. His ut delitijs assuescas uelim, & his animum cibis pascas, mihi ceterum crede, nullis in Hippocraticis aphorismis tanta ægris spes salutis, aut tàm certa remedia. Nec te terreat, utilis consilij dilatio, satiùs est sero, q̃ nun[q]uam respicere, imò uerò nil quod benè fiat, serò fit. Etsi enim non careat mora periculo, cedit illud tamen accedente remedio, quòd si efficax est, serum utiq; non est, moræq; secum ac periculi finis adest. Tragicum illud animo reuolue:

Nam sera nunquam est ad bonos mores uia.

Quem pœnitet peccasse penè est innocens.

Pium uerbum etiamsi à Catholico diceretur. Quam conuictũ sanè meum tibi amicitiamq; utilem dicis, ad scientiam, ad uirtutem, ad hãc ipsam deniq; uitæ mutationem, & confes[sio]nis ac pœnitentiæ amorem, uellem ueræ diceres, & fortassis ut est cæcitas amantium, uerum putas, cum profectò præter raros, nudosq; licet fidos monitus, horum nihil tibi, uel fuerim, uel esse potuerim. Sunt fauillæ autem in animis nostris, cinere terrestri ob[ruta]e, & uel[ut] carnis absconditæ, quas cum spiritus, qui ubi uult spirat, flando exciuerit, fom[ite de]uotis & spei cœlestis adhibito, sacrum subitò surgit incendium, in his maximè, qui proprium statum, & pericula uitæ præsentis intelligunt, quibus ego te amice connumero. Tu diuini operis, me in partem uocas, essem utinam tibi, meisq; omnibus, uel exemplo. Neutrum sum, uereorq; uerè, ultimo potius sinu damnosus, Tuq; hoc ipse, si dimota parumper amoris nube, quæ magnis quoq; iudicijs officit, per obstantes tenebras oculum figas, sole clarius uidebis. N[on] hæc chare mihi, libens dico, libentiùs uel tacerem, uel gloriarer etiamsi liceret. Sed nihil est ue[rit]a te potentius, illa me hinc cogit, inde autem amor tui, ne scilicet tuis in rebus rectus iudex, in meis iniquo me labaris. Postremò, quod urgente stylum charitate dixisti ad opes tibi, q[u]oque nonnihil nostram amicitiam contulisse, tale fuit, ut non magis admirationẽ mihi, quam risum

risum pareret. Ergo ego tibi ad diuitias profui, cui etsi non pecuniam, ac pecuniæ radices, curam, sollicitudinem ac tempus eripui, quem à plateis urbium, sæpè ad solitudinē, & in syluas, sæpè à negotijs ad ocium traxi. Cui omnes æquè festos dies feci, cui denique & contēptū desidem, & exigui amorem, & quietis studium, & ad summā, totum meum gelu domesticæ incunositatis affricui. Itaque an hoc unum ludens dixeris, an prorsus in ratione rei familiaris erraueris, incertum habeo. Certè me duce diues nemo, quod nouerim, sed nonnulli pauperes facti sunt. Qui si reditus pateat, diuites iterum fieri nolint, sed ut in te desinam, dij precor læta omnia, si diù tamē simul uiuimus, quanquam nullum hic diù, loquor autem de diuturnitate mortalium, uereor, ne tu in finem, iure optimo de me dicas, quod de præceptore suo Antistene Cynicum Diogenē dicere solitum legisti. Ipse me (aiebat) mendicū fecit, ex diuite, & pro ampla domo, in dolio fecit habitare. Vale seu tu diues, seu pauper nostri memor. Ticini IIII. Idus Iunias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FREDERICO ARETINO, S. Epist. VII.

De notorum modestia.

MAgnam, parua ex epistola tua, delectationē cœpi, summus illis lepós ac festiuitas inerat, quod his multo est melius, non exiguum sanè mentis indiciū. Sorte lætus atque contentus tua es; nil humanis in rebus utilius, nullus rectior, ad salutem trames: regna enim, & imperia, opesque & potentiam optare omnium, assequi paucorum est. Optare autem quòd assequi nequeas, quid est aliud, nisi quòd habeas fastidientem, inefficaci animum labore cōsumere? Tu ergo, quod mediocri uel tenui quoque gaudeas statu, laudo & probo, teque his moribus ditiorem censeo, quàm si Crœsi atque Alexandri opes inopes, fragilemque potentiam aceruasses. Sic enim qua per hominem fieri potest, ut uulgariter loquar, fortunæ ad te aditū præclusisti, cuius ut uides, uitare illi impetū nequiuére. Mirum dictu, potētiæ domitrix: insolētis imbecillitate humili retūditur, more ignis, qui in obiectum maius acrius sæuit, ademptione leniendus obstantium, seu etiam extinguendus. Fortuna ergo hæc, quæ dicitur, non thesauros, nec munitas arces, nec instructas classes, nec prævalidos horret exercitus, quin his potius irritatur, atque accenditur, quorum toties se uictricem meminit, atque unde sibi clarior nunc etiam sit triumphus. At frugalitatem, modestiam, fortudinem, constantiam timet, à quibus uicta se sæpissimè recordatur. Sic tu uitam quàm multi spernerent, & querelis inanibus onerarent æquanimitate ac patientia, non modò tolerabilem, sed iucundam efficis ac fœlicem, ut nil habet peregrinatio hæc nostra miseriùs, sic nil communius quàm querelas. Pauca sunt fateor in hac uita, quibus placendi causę magnę insint, sed hominib. natis humana omnia, uel accepta, uel minimè certè flebilia esse debent. Magnæ autem parti hominum, nihil omnium placet, nisi quòd uel assequi nequeunt, uel seruare, hinc indignationes, iræque, & de sua sorte cuilibet querimoniæ immortales, ærumnosior sanè est inter delitias, mœstus ac querulus, quàm in suppliciis, aut paupertate tranquillus. Quales multos fuisse, & audimus, & uidimus. Tot demum inter miseros atque ingratos, ille solus est fœlix, Deoque gratus, & sibijpsi propitius, nō qui uel quicquid optat, adipiscitur, uel quicquid adeptus est, proprium atque perpetuum habet. Id enim nulli unquam obtigit, sed qui uel quicquid euenerit, sic aspicit, quasi unum illud optauerit, uel quicquid amiserit, sic cogitat, quasi amisisse sit melius. Benè igitur facis, nec semel tantum, sed bis benè, quam sortem tuam lætus amplecteris, sic & illi equidem pretium quæris, & quietem tibi, hoc nimirū esse fortunā, si qua esset, uel superare, uel fallere. Magnas illa tibi diuitias si negat, quin & has spernas, & paupertate tua gaudeas, negare non potuit, negat turbidos urbiū honores, quin rure solitano & agresti delecteris uita, præter te unum, nemo tibi præripiet, tecum contra illam uirtus militet, hac fretus, nullo usquam certamine uinci potes. Quam omnipotentem enim apud P[illegible]am nostrum legis, impotentem atque infirmā, obiecta illi uirtute reperis, nulla enim re, [illegible], potentior, quàm impatientia, & mollitie fit humana. O' fœlix, & meo quidem inuidiosę iuditio, quam semotis urbium plateis, & superborum duris ciuium liminib. dimissis, tibi redditus, nemorumque, & agrorum dulce silentium nactus es, humilemque plebeculam, & iustitia tegis, & stylo laudas. Nec immeritò, etsi enim acri sub iudice, nemo bonus, mali omnes, ita tamen aut minus mali, aut certè quos constat, mali ultimò diutiùs boni. Igitur his conuiue lætus ut facis, tecumque fœliciter agi eredito, quòd ad tempus saltem tristi diuitū, atque umbroso supercilio, quodque in primis monstruosæ uestis, seque indies transformātium habituum ludibrio liberatus es, quæ ut fugeres, nō Apenninus modò montiū mitissimus, sed Athlas, tibi uel Caucasus adeundus fuit. Populum tuum fermè omnem una ueste contectum, atque contentū uides, nisi festa luce, forsitan in terga paucorum, quos uel ætas, uel rei

rusticæ petitia primos fecit, albo interdum color acrius succelserit, uides duros calceos, nõ pedis impedimentum, sed auxilium, masculas togas uides, frigus arcentes, tegentesque, [illegible] tegi docuit natura, non insanias has nostrorum iuuenum, quodque est desperatius, & no[illegible]rum senum uultus modò tegentium, & pudenda nudantium [illegible]us non est satis infectũ, atque oppressum, probris omnibus animum habere, nisi oculo[illegible]os inficiant, ac sat[illegible]ent. His irascor, hisque iratum amatorem uerecundiæ Deum [illegible], de quibus me ubi ne qui[illegible]uã quæri scio, ne desino, tanta est indignatio, tamque offensus [illegible] stomachus spectaculi fœditate. Quam maximè ob causam, tuum rus, tuumque tibi ocium inuideo, eoque magis quòd sæpè, diuque illud expertus, peccatoque uerius, quàm fortuna mea urgente, in aduersum lapsus, u[illegible]usque nisi fallor status extimator idoneus factus sum. Certè tu oculos, nunc sobrio pas[illegible]btitu, purisque aures uócibus, utraque mihi diuersa sors est, ego superbos, tumidosque de nihilo, atque elatos ciues, atque aduenas, [illegible]umiles humo intentos cernis agricolas. Ego lites, clamoresque furẽtium, & tubas, & timpana, tu mugitus boum, labentisque riui murmur, & querelas uolucrum audis, Philomenam primus ueris nunciã auditurus, ego in urbibus, & quo molestius, nihil Animo meo est, inter turbã, & quadrigas premor, tu in syluis & collibus, inter innocuos greges ociosus, ac pro libito uagus erras, & frondentes ramos, & gemmãtes palmites, & prata ridentia, reduci mox uisurus ariete. Mihi totius anni facies, penè una cõcursatio, & lutum, & puluis, & strepitus, & lubricum, & cloacæ. Hæ sunt urbium delitiæ, quid hinc aliud speres, redeat licet nõ Aries modò, sed Taurus, Lædeique fratres nudi, rosea inter serta lasciuiant, nõ tollũtur urbana fastidia, sed mutãtur, at ruris facies, semper amabilis, & ingenijs appetenda nobilibus, seu hyemis asperitas, dulciter horrida feris, alitibusque caprandis operosa, seu uer floreum, uagis, aptum ac prõcliue discursibus, seu mesium parens et amica umbris æstas arida, seu diues atque uuidus autumnus, agrestes uario exercet in opere, inst[illegible] brumæ breuius, in mõtibus pastas oues, ad aprica reducit habitacula, hic arator sedulus, [illegible] uenator deuius, clamosusque anceps, hic immobilis, tacitusque piscator, hic fontes, & flum[illegible] & nympharum chori, & specus, & nemorũ, & musarum diuerticula. Et ad summã, tum qualitate ipsa rerum multiplicium tum uarietate dulcissima est uita illa, de qua olim, dum ea frui licuit, non pauca disserui. Vnum quod festiuè admodum literarum tuarum finis attigit [illegible] tactũ liquisse uoluerim, ne quid prorsus in tuo tibi rure displiceat, cum ex omnibus nempè quæ ibi sunt sobriam, honestamque percipias uoluptatem, unus ut intelligo, nõ perdius [illegible]dò, sed pernox, ac perpetuus clangor te anserum inquietat, habet non inficior atrium [illegible]tem, hæc improbitas, offenditur quietis, silentijque auidos, & anseres, & cicadæ stridulæ in ramis, & rudentes in pascuis aselli, & quæ sunt huiusmodi, sed in primis, ineptissimus in triuijs uulgi fragor ac strepitus, nulla enim usquam bellua crede mihi, tædiosior uulgo est. Cætera tamen ferè omnia uel hyeme, ue[illegible] noctibus saltem silent, quædam uerò noctibus importuna, luce ferias agũt, anserinum iuge tædium, sed quod facilè perferas, si in animum redierit, clangore anseris excitatum, quondam Capitolij defensorem, irrumpentes Gallos nostris abarcibus arcuisse, idque ob meritum multis post seculis, auis huius effigiem illic argenteam extitisse. Quod an illi excubitricis eximiæ famam quæsierit, an quod haud dubiè uigilantissimũ sit animal, non noui. Insuper idipsum an Cal. Nouembribus gestum sit. Atque hic ista, quam cernimus die, illo anserum celebritas funesta processerit, mira utique, si sic excubiarũ merces, nouum præmij genus mors. An ex hoc tantum, quod eo tempore opimior, esuique aptior cibus est, rursus incertum habeo. Sed utrumuis horum opinemur, hæc profectò saluberrima cogitatio, atque huiusce tædij remedium erit optimum, quòd nuper dum de remedijs scriberem, casu fortasse ideò prętermissum fuit, ut his ad te nunc literis insertum, singulariter, nunc tibi esse utile, ut scilicet quotiens ales illa præsertim noctibus strepit putes te ad resistendum uitijs excitari, & confestim arma corripias. Arma, inquã, non quæ apud Aeoliã Achilli Mulciber, aut Aeneæ, sed q̃ intus in anima cœlestis, ubi faber excuderit. Neque uerò minores tibi extimes uitiorum insidias, atque insultus quàm Gallorum Manlio. Proinde non anserem, sed angelicum tubicinem strepuisse credito, quotiẽs nocturnus anser increpuit, et te obsessum, & circumfusos hostes accerrimos, mundum, carnem, dæmonia, recordare, teque per tenebras, ac dumeta repentibus obuium fer armatum, de quo alibi pluribus tibi in præsens ista suffecerint, hoc addito, ut quotiẽs ore anseris experrectus, hostibus tuis diuina ope, ex altiore animi parte restiteris, arcemque defenderis, nihil hinc tibi, sed totum illi tribuas de quo scriptũ est: Non dormirabit, neque dormiet, qui custodit Israël. Et iterũ: Nisi Dominus custodierit ciuitatem, frustrà uigilat qui custodit eam. Et rursus: Obumbrasti super caput meũ, in die belline qua te maius gloria, ut Manlium, neque benè gestæ rei conscientia, atque hinc oriens excellentiæ appetitus, è seruati Capitolij rupe deijciat. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO, S. Epist. VIII.

De anno ætatis LXIII. frustrà infami.

Annus est hodie, & ambito zodiaco sol repetijt Leonem, ex quo tibi frater epistolam illam scripsi, qua securus ipse mei, sollicitum te fortassis fecerim, & si ut uerum fatear, magis me securum iugis meditatio, & quem illa mihi ingenuit cōtemptus mortis, ineuitabilis effecisset, quàm quod ea, de qua tunc scribebam Astrologorū comminatio, prorsus contemptibilis uideret. Neq; ideò rursus hoc dixerim, quòd illorū nugis plus fidei habeam quàm soleo, sed quia memoria præteriti temporis, uera ne an falsa nescio, an ni fallor uera, & obseruatio, quanta in tàm paruo numero annorū esse potuit, propè mihi persuaserant, ex parte uerum esse, quod diceretur septimum scilicet ac nonum annum, uitæ hominū molestos, alterius insultibus, & nouæ aliquid calamitatis aduehere, sed an tertius, & sexagesimus, ex his constans, geminato discrimine, duplo terribilior, ut hi uolunt esset, nō æque mihi persuasum erat, multoq; minus est hodie, in me contrarium ope gratiç cœlestis experto. Tunc uerò superstitionis illius Astrologicç parte altera, non in totum liber, & in rei exitum intentus, expectandum anni finem censui, utq; tibi solicitudinem breuiorem facerem, epistolam illam, diù postquàm scripta & signata erat, ad te mittere distuli, quo timere de me tardiùs inciperes. Expectatus finis ecce adest, annus ille terribilis, qualis fuerit, futurusue alijs sit, ipsi iudicent, mihi salubris ac iucundus fuit, raro unquam corpore saniorem, ætate qualibet me fuisse memini, priuatim aduersi nihil incidit, publicè uerò duo prosperrima, per hos dies euenère, ita dico, si stabile atq; perpetuum alterum fuisset, alterumq; futurū est. Illud enim transijt, hoc pendet. Si quidem Petrus Cypri rex, Alexandriam cœpit in Aegypto, Magnum opus, & memorabile, nostræq; religionis in immēsum amplificandæ fundamentum ingens, si quantum ad capiendam tantùm, ad seruandā urbem animi fuisset, qui sibi certè non defuit, ut fama est, nisi quod comitatus eius, ex transalpinis maximè gentibus collectus, melioribus semper ad principia rerum, quàm ad exitus illum in medio preclarissimi operis deserentes, ut qui pium Regem, non pietate, sed cupiditate sequentur, collectis spolijs abiêre, pijq; uoti impotem, auari uoti compotes fecère. Ad hæc Romanus Pontifex, uerè, inquam, Pontifex Romanus, honorificè nominandus, Vrbanus V. quem ut audire potuisti, anno altero, libera quidem, sed fideli epistola cunctantem increpueram, hoc præsenti anno Ecclesiam CHRISTI, quæ ab ortu meo, usq; ad hoc tempus inter Burdegales & Pictauas uaga, interq; Carpentoractes, Auinionesq; nouissimè consenuerat, atq; torpuerat, illa de fece eruit, & ad sedem propriam reduxit, magni ac multiplicis principium boni, nisi illud quod Ecclesiæ sanctæ sponsus auertat, bonorum hostis inconstantia labefactet. Hactenus tamen eò gratius, fidelibus animis quo insperatius, uide certè, quod uidere nunquam fateor speraueram, semper optaueram, dignum est, ut & boni huius auctori, totius Ecclesiæ cōsensu pio meis uocibus grates agam, idq; iam meditor, & fœlicem annum, hunc immerita liberum infamia, quodúe in alterius epistolæ fine promiseram, tecum gratuler amice. Non ut immortalis quidem, sed ut anno huic terrifico superstes, ipse enim irrediturus, abijt me relicto, qui ut me mortalem noui, sic & illud scio, quod tertio & sexagesimo anno ætatis, iam nō moriar, cui hodie quartus & sexagesimus natalis est dies. Nam ut uides, Augusti Cæsaris utor uerbis, communem seniorum omnium tertium sexagesimum annum euasimus. Non deos autem ut ille, sed Deum oro, ut mihi quantumcūq; superest temporis, id saluis nobis, superstites amici traducere liceat, in Reip. quod ille, ait, & multo maximè animatum nostratum fœlicissimo statu. Vale, Ticini, XIII. Cal. Augusti.

MCCCLXVII ad auroram.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER IX.

FRAN. PETRARCHA VRBANO PAPAE V. Epist. I.

Gratulatio producta in suas sedes ecclesia: & exhortatio ad perseuerantiam.

IN exitu Israël de Aegypto, domus Iacob de populo Barbaro, facta est in coelis gratulatio angelorum, atq; in terris hominũ piorum, ecce pater Beatissime beasti, quod in te est Christianum populum. Iam non ultra uagabitur, aut dominum, aut uicarium domini sui quaerẽs, sed illum in coelo sursum, & in anima sua intus, quoniã utraq; sedes Dei est, hunc in terra, & in propria sua sede, reperiet. Illa, in quã, sede, quam dominus p̃elegit, in qua & uiuẽs uicarius prim9 sedit, & moriẽs resedit. Orbẽ nostrũ serenasti, & quasi sol oriẽs lõgẽ noctis algorẽ simul, ac tenebras effugasti. O' foelicem te conscientia, tàm praeclari operis, fecisti quod iam impossibile homini uidebatur. Sed Deus proculdubiò tecũ fuit, ut ait apostolis: Sine me nihil potestis facere. Hoc in te rarum & eximium, quòd cum Deus ipse amator, & conditor humani generis, multis, imò omnibus se offerat, ab omnibus ferè repellitur. Mundus, caro, daemonia, superbia, uoluptas ac nequitia oppressêre animos, ut assurgere porrigenti manum Deo nequeant. Tu imbecillitatis conscius humanae, non modò nõ repulisti domini coelestis auxilium, neq; tibi ad aurem cordis salubria inspirantem consilia, spiritum extinxisti, sed inuocasti eum scio, pijs precibus, lachrymisq; potentibus coelum pulsare, quas cum ille, qui nullum in se sperantem despicit, auribus atq; oculis percepisset, poscenti opem laturus aduenisset, exiisti ei obuiam, & manu prehensum Dominum tuum, intimo in thalamo fidelis animę deuotione humili suscepisti. Idq; secretius ne comperto, aductu regis gloriae sui & tui hostes obstreperent, & ut soliti sunt, piũ, sanctumq; principiũ impedirent. Inde ubi secum in silentio deliberans, quae agenda essent, in illo tuo nobili, & glorioso proposito confirmatus es, in apertum exiens, illo duce, magnum opus aggressus, supra omnium spem magnificentissimè consumasti. O' iterum te foelicem, ô foelicem diem, qui te matris ex utero in lucẽ edidit, & ceu benignũ sydus aliquod mũdo dedit, nũc uerus mihi, uerè summus ac Romanus es Pontifex, uerè Vrbanus, uerè Petri successor, uerè uicarius IESV CHRISTI, eras, & ante nõ inficior potestate, dignitate, atq; officio, nũc quod est optimum uoluntate, pietate, atq; exercitio, neq; enim aut uoluntas sanctior, aut purior pietatis esse potest, homini quàm tibi est, semperq; fuit ut puto, sed nunc ita rebus ipsis eminuit, ut iam nemini esse possit occulta, neq; à quoquam promptius posset, aut cautius in actum deduci, sine qua quidem sterilis est uoluntas, quinq; Pontificum statu parium non animis, & sexaginta, uel eò amplius annorum negligentias, unus tu diebus paucissimis emendasti. Permitte mihi oro te, quã prẹter tuã benedictionem, nihil ex te cupio, nihil peto, sine adulationis suspicione pleno ore laudare, quòd plena dignum laude censeo, memor quanta cum libertate arguam, quòd reprehensione dignum iudico, paruus uermis, non modò terrarum dominos, sed duo illa mundi luminaria, duosq; illos gladios iustitiae, saepè olim, & teipsum nuper horum alterum ita pupugi, ut aut multa esset fides, aut multa dementia, huius ultimi iuditium aliorum sit, ego mihi fidei sum conscius, opto, ut benè eant res humanae, ut quas in statu pessimo uiuẽs uidi, in optimo moriens relinquam, si quo fieri potest modo. Quod certè post Deum, nisi per te atq; illum alterum, temporalia moderãtem, nullo modo fieri posse uideo, aut spero, perfecto autem si pungere audeo, cur ungere metuam, utrunq; enim Medicae manus est proprium, utrunq; ego pari fide facio, & si neutro forsan idoneus. Equidem licet pauca didicerim, multa legi, multa etiam in hoc uitae stadio decurrẽti uisa mihi, uel audita commemini, & CHRISTVM testor, ueri. Deum nihil me uidisse, unquam uel audisse nostro gestum aeuo, nescio an & nihil etiam legisse, quòd his tuis excellentissimis actibus comparari queat,

uel inten-

uel intentione, uel consilio, uel effectu? Magna pars principũ, & quòd mœstus dico, magna quoq; pars Præsulum, nil præter seipsos, ac utilitates suas, ac proprias uoluptates cogitant. Tu contemptis magno animo atq; oblitus affectibus, qui ut hominem alio forsitan te trahebant, solus omnium Pontificum nostræ ætatis, bonum publicum cogitasti. O uir ingens, sine exemplo temporum nostrorum uel raro nimium cum exemplo, qui uirtutem sic amare, sic uoluptatem spernere docueris, & si ueris extimatoribus nulla sit uoluptas gratior, quàm quæ de Deo, & de uirtute percipitur, & quòd constat nulla sit certior, nulla longæuior, sed loquor de uoluptate uulgari, qua nil repugnãtius est saluti. Illa quidem uiatores quinq;, qui te in hoc ordine præierunt, à recto calle terrenis illecebris, uncisq; carnalibus sinistrorsum egit, nunc intelligunt, quanto fuit melius rationem, quàm appetitum sequi, & rebus implere, quòd polliciti erant nonnulli ex eis, quanq; debiti promissio superuacua sit. Quantò fuit honestius agere, quod tantum exigebat officium, quam [illegible] lubrici titillabant sensus, postridie periuros, neq; aduersus ueritatem fictionibus [illegible], & cum illo ludere de quo scriptum est: Odisti omnes, qui operantur iniquitatem, perdes omnes, qui loquuntur mendacium. Nihil est minus Rom. Pont. quàm duplicitas, aut fictio, cuius & cõscientia, sole lucidior, & cõstantia perseuerantior esse debet, ut quod de Romano quodam duce, ab hoste etiam dictum fertur, à suo cursu facilius sol flectatur, quàm à suo ille proposito, ac progressu actuum piorum. Tu uerus Pater Ecclesiæ, nihil uerbo, multum corde pollicitus, ipsam Ecclesiam ægrotantem sentiens, expertorumq; consilio medicorum usus, ex infecto exilio, ad originis illam suæ locum, & ad aërem proprium reduxisti. Non tamen à te id facilè gestum, quàm à me facilè dictum est, magnus labor fuit, magna sedulitas, ingens ars, mirumq; alti pectoris acumen, uno attractu, tot tàm ualidas radices, sine offensione cõuellere. O quid loquor, imò uerò cum offensione acerrima, & multorum dolore grauissimo, sed docta manus, et suauis asperrima uulnera leui tactu mitigat. Gratias igitur Deo & tibi, ecce uideo, quod semper optaui, nunquam fateor speraui, uideo matrem meam, sua in sede, ubi te sospite diu ægra esse non poterit, te iubente reducta, te curante sanabitur. Intende illi nunc Alme Pater, toto sacræ mentis ingenio, quod tibi remediorum feracissimum is dedit, qui sponte necessitatibus, & tanto te prædestinauit officio, mores corrige, medere languoribus, auaritiam frena, pelle procùl ambitionem, sobrietatem perditam, repulsamq; restitue, fluxam siste libidinem, urge languidũ torporẽ, feruidã irã stringe. reduc cæcã ad rectũ iter inuidiam, supercilium elatũ, & tumidã compesce superbiã, quod nõ facilè potuissent, qui has inter pestes educati, consuetudinẽ in materiã uerterant. Tibi inter uirtutes his contrarias, enutrito erũt cuncta facilia, quod difficillimum fuerat perfecisti, age iam reliqua. Redue Ecclesiam tuæ creditã custodiæ in antiquos mores, quã in sedes pristinas reduxisti, ut undiq; fiat irreprehensibilis, & qualis olim fuit, toto orbe uenerabilis, esse rursus incipiat, ac dilecta, quod diù certè nõ fuit eorum pace dixerim. qui in culpa sunt, tu ad hoc natus ministeriũ, gloriosum imple fœliciter. Admone Cardinales tuos, omnes ac singulos ut meminerint se esse mortales, ne semper delitias, sed quandoq; mortem cogitent, & æternam uitam, figant oculos, uidebunt nihil stare, sed breuia, & uento ueslociora omnia, totumq; quod hic uiuitur, anceps, uariũ, tremulum, caducum, ubi curis inanibus, & fallaci spe, quasi in solido pedem ponunt, rerumq; contemptibilium curiositate ridicula confligantur. Audio enim, quo nil possem tristius, nilq; indignantius audire, quosdam ibi esse, qui murmurent se Beuuense uinum, in Italia nõ habere, nunquam fuissent unnam uites illę, paulòminùs dixerim, uites uelle, si CHRISTI Ecclesiæ, uenenosam usqueadeò uindemiam parituræ erant: Sed ô si habeant charitatem Dei, & hominum, si Petri sedem, si famæ decus, si salutem populi, si animas suas ament, quàm modicum id curabunt, sed ut curent, quod opinari etiam graue est, cuiusque an illos nescio, me illorum uicem pudet, quod si penitùs curant, nec hinc error affixus præcordijs extirpabilis ulla ui est, neque ulla arte medicabilis, ad habendum certè, quòd adeò inhianter sitiunt, aperta & facilis est uia, de quo satis ut arbitror, epistola ad te priore disserui, si unum adiecero, quod ne ullo pacto sileam, licet obstantet reuerentia, dolor cogit. Primi siquidem apostoli, quorum isti locum tenent, ubi'nam corporis sui sanguinem pro CHRISTO in terram funderent, pio studio quærebant, itaque ferè nullus inerucntus cœlum adijt. Heu mihi, mutata rerum facies, modernis Apostolis diuersum studium, ubi'nam scilicet terræ, sanguinem palmitum, uenis expressum suo infundant corpori, neque in conuiuijs tantũ, ubi locus ipse fortassis ueniam meretur, sed in serijs quoq; colloquijs, prima rei huius est mentio. Non quæ bonos uiros, sed q̃ bona uina tellus ferat, illa omnibus præfertur, illa Syon, illa Hierusalem, illa deniq; Roma est, sola digna, q̃ Apostolorum inhabitent successores, atq; idipsum saltẽ, cui uino palma deberetur, rectè utinã iudicarent, non tam diù terris omnibus

SS 5 prælata

prælata esset Auinio, non sine multarũ nobiliũ graui urbiũ iniuria, ibi enim boni nihil esse, nisi aliunde aduectus notius est, quã probari egeat. Sed obijciũt fluuiũ, qui & ipse, ante mille annos, utinã aruisset, seu potius nũquã terræ uiscenbus erupisset, si ecclesiæ CHRI[illegible]T[illegible] causam daturus erat exilij, ita uerò de hoc fluuio fabulantur, quasi alius [illegible]usquã sit. Sanè si ueteres historias legant, non Pontificum Romanorũ, sed reorũ, atq[illegible]o damnatorũ sedes est Rhodanus, quẽ isti nescio, cur ut paradisi fluuiũ uenerãtur, imò planè scio, quia scilicet uinũ Benuense conuectat, quintum naturæ additum elementũ. At tu in pane, & aqua dudum altè, fœlicius, qui poscam in delitijs habuisti, suscipe super his paternã iracundiam, increpa, argue, reprehende, castiga, pone frenũ appetitui alieno, qui iampridẽ tuo proprio posuisti. Solent uitijs irasci maxime, qui his carent, uix ad plenũ sontibus, culpæ particeps irascitur, neq; uerò quisquis irascitur ulcisci potest, & zelo, & potẽtia opus est, tibi quidẽ [illegible]stenũ, æremus, religio, & ieiuniũ dederun[illegible] Sed præ omnibus illa, de qua multa liben[illegible]ro, naturalis atq; innata frugalitas, ut gulæ [illegible]ens, Papatus tribuit ut castiges. Qui regis Israel intende, qui deducis uelut ouem Ioseph. Ne lasciuiant oues, uide pastor gregis egregiæ. Et memento, quamuis grauiora sint alia, duo tamen hæc uitia esse, quæ maxime bestialem, accliuemq; humi faciunt humanam uitam, gulam, atq; luxuriã. Doce [illegible]tres ac filios tuos, spernere quę amabant, amare, quæ metuunt, quæue oderunt: odisse seipsos, qui tàm diù oderint quod amandum erat, dignum literis aureis Augustini uerbum est. Nemo potest perfectè diligere, quo uocatur, nisi oderit unde reuocatur. Et post pauca: Nec fiet quisquis qualis cupit esse, nisi se oderit qualis est. Ostende sensibus uagis, adhuc malas domos Rhodani, & palustria rura quærentibus, loca illa salubria, ubi effectum est, quod ianitor cœli, doctor orbis, pariter ut de utroq; canit ecclesia, iudices sæculi, uera mundi lumina, per crucẽ alter, alter ense triũphans, uitæ Senatum laureari possident. Ostende illis digito, non procul inde ab ill[illegible]us [illegible]geutis ac deuotæ foribus Basilicę, ubi Simon Petrus ascendit in crucis patibulum, unde [illegible]ticulanus regni gaudens, migrauit ad CHRISTVM. Ostende paululum distantiùs, ubi P[illegible]lus Apostolus lumen orbis terræ, inclinato capite, pro CHRISTI nomine, martyrio coronatus est. Hæc enim sæpè de suis ducibus cecinerunt, ac legerunt, loca sancta, & arbitror non uiderunt, quæ cùm uiderint, hæserintq; animis, pudebit ut spero, prophanorum & infami[illegible] locorum, ad quæ non recto iuditio, sed obliquo affectu, & longo usu amorem immerit[illegible] conceperunt. Iube illos cogitare, atq; interius spectare oculis, uenerandum ac sanctissi[illegible] senem, Petrum, non peregrini uini cupiditate, sed iusto metu mortis absterritum abire, [illegible] hinc calle medio, CHRISTVM illi obuium, quo conspectu, statim uerbo unico ut aiunt, ad certam mortem intrepidus remeauit, uideant illum ipsum, mox in cruce pendentem, per quem ipsi sedibus aureis, ac scabellis eburneis, insistentes, accepisse se sentiunt, nisi ingrati sint, quicquid habent excellentiæ, quicquid opum, quicquid gloriæ. Post aspiciant mentibus gloriosissimi Pauli truncum caput, uas electionis, doctrinæ cœlestis, armariũ limpidissimum fidei nostræ solem. Illũ cordis auribus audiant, ipsa de morte altis IESVM uocibus, nouissimisq; suspirijs inuocantem, miraculi testes eximij fontes ibi sunt totidem, quot saltus dedisse sacrum caput fama est: His ipsis in locis, quæ cæsa ceruix attigerat. Si deuotè uoces illas audierint, deq; his fontibus, pio haustu biberint, & symphonias trãsalpinas spernẽt; & nõ siticulosos modò fonticulos, qui sunt ad Rhodani angulos, nõ requirent, sed succedet ut spero sitis altera, & ęterna uini Benuensis obliuio, quòd scriptoribus rerũ, & ueteribus, & nouis incognitum, nec usquã inter uina nobilia numeratũ, ab his aũt immodica & indigna laude, ceu deorum nectar celebratum meruit, ut à me nunc iustè nisi fallor, quãuis præmordaciter notaretur, & licet gustui sapidum, quia saluti tamen aduersum est, ceu dulce uirus aliquod, omnibus uirtutẽ sitientibus odiosum sit, & hoc tamẽ haberi etiã Romę potest, nullo negotio, ut dixi, & sine hoc, non tantũ parcè & sobriè, sed profusè & uoluptuosè, etiam ui[illegible]sci licet. Habent uerò multa sub oculis, nisi oculos obstruant, quæ uel terrestris uię, uel cœlestis patriæ gloriã cogitantes, nob[illegible]ori quodã sapore permulceant. Sed quoniã de his sæpè multa loqui contigit, hortante materia, & infinita res est, sacra miracula, almæ urbis amplecti, totum hoc tuæ prouidentiæ relinquẽs, ad id redeo, quod in re mihi mirandum, laudandumq; delegeram, quamuis ut uerum fatear, promptior sit admirationi animus, quam expressioni stylus, assurget tamẽ, ut quòd ille intus loquitur, hic describat, legendumq; alijs offerat, quocunq; charactere, modò ut intelligar, nullam hic eloquentiæ famã quæro. Sentio ego Pater Beatissime difficultates ac labores tuos, quos in executione præclarissimi operis passus es, non aliter inquam illos sentio, quàm si omnibus interfuissem. Audire mihi uideor Cardinalium blanditias ac susurros, ex cõdicto sacratissimis tuis auribus ingestos, ut ab incepto dehortarentur, teq; inde retraherent, quo cunctantem urgere affusi, ac supplices debuissent.

Quorum

Quorum certè propositum admirari cogor, nec mirari satis possum, stupor ingens, monstrũ incredibile, Romanæ ecclesiæ Cardinales, sic Romanã urbem, Romanamq; Ecclesiam uel odisse, uel formidare, uel spernere. Quis enim præter hos solos, fuit unquam, qui suum titulum gloriosum præsertim atq; utilem non amaret. Notum prorsus, ac triste prodigium, uiros tantæ reuerentiæ, tantæq; sapientiæ, ac doctrinæ, in solam matrem, optimè meritam, duros esse, & si dici licet impios, qui ut breuissimas, fugacissimasq; reliquias, incerti tẽporis in loco pessimo, sed dilecto exigant nõ attendunt, quid sibi, quid ecclesiæ, quid humano generi expediens, quid placitum Deo sit, præter enim paucos Italos, qui ut puto, expectabant redemptionẽ Israël, & qui in exilio uixerãt, in sua, & cõmuni omniũ patria mori optabant, præterq; germanũ tuum unicũ, qui tecũ ab infantia nutritus, teq; mirari, & imitari solitus, nil omnino aliud, quam ut uelle didicit, aut nolle. Cæteri omnes sic exilij finem, ut principiũ hærebant, ô consuetudo cunctis in rebus potentissima, de patria exilium, de exilio patriã fecisti, quæ omnia libentius, ut par esset, his scripsissem, quos hæc tangunt, nisi & numerus hospitum, & olim mihi notissima elatio animorum, respuens, indignanter quicquid auribus delicatis infertur, asperius obstitissent. Illi igitur scripsi, ad quẽ culpæ omnis expertẽ, pertinet sola correctio, quiq; nõ styli asperitatẽ, sed rei ueritatẽ, neq; cõditionẽ, sed intẽtionẽ scribẽtis examinat. Procedo aũt, & hos transeo, quos tuo iure cõpescere poteras, uel si cœpto hærerent, tuo itidem iure contemnere, ut tamen tua modestia nota esset, omnibus hominibus, aduersus hos quoq;, & peruersas horũ opiniones, inflexibilesq; sententias, multũ te laboris ac molestiæ pertulisse nõ dubitẽ. Illud notissimum ac maximũ, quòd reges ac principes, quibus re pro Ecclesiæ decore morigerũ præbes, his consentientes, à te aurẽ tota mente discordes, suauiter, grauiterq;, ut iniqua uota deponerent admonendi erant. Ante alios inclytus rex Francorum, Ecclesiæ filius, qui deuoto quidem, sed iuuenili amore matrem cupiens propinquã, nec cõsiderans, quantò honestius ac melius absutura esset, ad te abitum meditantem, quos potuit laqueos direxit, quibus sacros pedes apostolicos, ad omne pium, sanctumq; opus paratissimos implicaret, doctum scilicet ac disertum, ut perhibent quendam uirum, qui coram te ac fratribus tuis, cupidè nimis audientibus uerba faciens, in eo partẽ maximã suæ orationis assumpsit, ut cœlotenus suam Galliã attolleret, Italiamq; deprimeret. Magnum opus, atque arduum. Nec sibi tantum, sed cuicunq; difficile, ne dicam impossibile. Nequit enim sermo hominum res mutare, & si sæpè mendacio uerũ uelet. Et ô utinam præsens, te mandante, dignus fuerim, quã licet impar eloquio, & inferior statu, ueritatis auxilio fretus, illi calumniæ respondere. Ostendissem illi forsitan, te iudice, rem se aliter habere, quam diceret, & nũc si causæ suæ fidit, deq; hoc ipso literatũ inire certamen est animus, quamuis semper occupatus, & iam fessus offero me duello, pro ueritate, pro patria. Scribat igitur, uel q dixit, uel quæ potest. Ego illi Gallo, Italorum ultimus respondebo, & erit utilior disputatio scriptis cõmissa, quàm uerbis. Verba enim fugiũt, scripta manẽt, illa ad paucos, hæc ad multos, illa ad præsentes tantum, hæc etiam ad absentes, posterosq; perueniunt. Spero iudicẽ CHRISTVM habens & te, conuitiatori illi uiro, alioquin docto & insigni, sed in loquendo calore, atq; impetu animi prolapso, quo non decuit, facilè probaturũ me falsa esse, quæ minimè ut auguror, sibi mandata de capite suo dixit. Nosce mihi uideor regis adolescẽtis, canũ & senilem animũ, ac præcipuã quandam urbanitatẽ, linguæq; modestiã, magnis mihi olim in rebus expertã, iniunxisse illi, crediderim, ut te oraret, ut Galliã laudaret, iurare penè ausim, ut uituperaret Italiam nõ iniunxit. Sed hic nunciorũ mos, quorundam est, ut nisi de suo aliquid addiderint, nil egisse uideantur. Profectò autem multi sunt, qui non credant sua posse laudari, nisi aliena uituperent. Proindè ut breuiter summam perstringam, de rebus ac gloria Italorum & Gallorum, quidúe inter utrosq; intersit: adeò notum est, ut dubitari nequeat, ab homine, cui historiarum notitia ulla sit. Nam de ingenijs disceptare ridiculum, libri extant ueri testes, quid quæso de liberalibus artibus, quid de rerum cognitione, seu naturalium, seu gestarũ? Quid de sapientia, quid de eloquẽtia, quidúe de moribus, & de omni parte philosophiæ habet lingua Latina, quod non fermè totum ab Italis sit inuentum: siquid enim externi, de his rebus fœliciter ausi sunt, uel Italos imitati sunt, uel Italia scripserunt, in Italia didicerunt. E quatuor Ecclesiæ doctoribus duo sunt Itali ac Romani, duorum reliquorum alter iuxta, & propè intra Italiæ fines ortus, certè intra Italiã doctus ac nutritus, alter in Italia conuersus, & conuersatus, omnes in Italia sunt sepulti. Nullus est Gallicus, nullus doctus in Gallia. Ius utrunq;, quo utimur Itali condidêre, conditumq; Itali exposuêre, ita ut horum nihil, aut perexiguum externis cedat, & in altero quidem longè Græcos Itali superant, de altero nemo est qui litiget. Oratores & Poetæ extra Italiam non quærantur, de Latinis loquor, uel hinc orti omnes, uel hic docti. Sed quid ago, aut quid rem certissimam uerbis traho? Radix artium nostrarũ, & omnis

omnis scientiæ fundamentum Latinæ, hîc repertæ sunt literæ, & Latinus sermo, & Latinitatis nomen, quo ipsi Gallici gloriantur. Omnia (inquam) hic exorta, non alibi atq; hic a[illegible] sunt, possem singulatim de his agere, sed intelligentibus satis, reliquis nimis est dictum. Et quid, oro, tot tantarum rerum studijs, quod obijciant habent, nisi fortè ut c[illegible] genus sibi placens, & laudatrix sui, unus his omnibus fragosus Straminum Vicus obijcitur. Ad hæc, & omnis hic floruit Politia, & siqua usquã superest, aliqua in parte Italiæ floret adhuc, duo mundi uertices hic sunt, Papatus & Imperium, iam de armis, de uictorijs, de triũphis, de disciplina militiæ, de iugo deniq; gentium omnium, ac tributis annuis, loqui nolim, ne perturbem Gallicum ingenium. De moribus uulgaribus fateor Gallos, & facetos homines, & gestuũ, & uerborum leuium, qui libenter ludant, lætè canant, crebrò bibant, auidè conuiuentur. Vera autem grauitas, ac realis moralitas, apud Italos semper fuit, & licet, qu[illegible] flebile damnũ est, ut [illegible]us toto orbe decreuerit, si quæ tamẽ eius sunt reliquiæ, in Italia, nisi [illegible], sunt, siquid est [illegible]ueri moris, inter ipsos est, nusquam aduenæ tanto sunt in honore, & de quo nemo, ne conuiciator ille [illegible]dem dubitet, nusquam tanta est Ecclesia, seu potentiam illius, seu deuotionem non Ital[illegible]ntum, sed totius credentis in CHRISTVM populi metiare: Vt quæ hîc orta, hîc adulta, hîc ad summum gloriæ culmen euecta est, hîc Deo uolente, teq; agente, ut spero, in perpetuum permansura. Est fateor Gallicana pars Ecclesiæ opulenta & nobilis, sed Ecclesiæ caput, ut imperij, in Italia esse nemo sani capitis neget, siquis horum est incredulus, Romanum patrio titulum permutet, tunc quid fuerit, sentiet, & quid sit, interq; supremum caput, imaq; membra, quid intersit, intelliget, durum ualdè grande, aliquid debere, cùm nolis. Si Romani adeò nominis pudet, Romanas abijciant dignitates, & rẽs suas, ac patriam, ut uerbis, sic electionibus præferant. Ego uerò sat insanus sim, qui suadeam Italicas Ecclesiasticas dignitates suas abijcere, quibus solis magni, clariq; sunt, his qui non suas Italicas ciuitates ambiant, atq; usurpent, inaudita tyrannide stupente Petro, CHRISTO autem mirante etiam ac minante, & nisi ille de cœlo, tu de terris occurritis, quandoquidem incertum, quo germine hausto, Itali consopiti sunt, actum est de rebus nostris, seruam mox Italiam, & propriè quod dici solet, Ecclesiam militantem, imò & armatam uidebimus, & pugnantem de imperio, non de fide. Denique etiam triumphantem, priusquam ad cœlum, arcusq; sydereos sit peruentum, & singulos clericos, singulis urbibus triumphaliter præsidentes, donec experrectis, qui nunc dormiunt, omnia deformentur, & reformentur mutatione terribili. Quamuis autem probè nouerim, eos quòd suadeo non facturos, scribo tamen interim ipse, quòd meũ reor, quòd tu alme pater intelligas, & ipsi si audiant forsitan moueantur. Et profectò si adduci possint, ut patrijs suis bonis contenti, externum inuisum pondus abijciant, erit hoc nobilis odij atque indignationis ingenuæ, potius quam id maximè spernere quo maximè gloriantur. Magis eliget uir fortis ac magnanimus, feudum quamuis pingue deponere, quam ab inuiso domino possidere. Certè Domitius ille captus ad Corfiniũ, non opes, aut dignitatem aliquam, sed qua nil est homini charius, uitam ipsam quam à Iul. Cæsare nolens ac tristis acceperat, ubi primum honestæ mortis affuit facultas, uolens ac lætus, importunum quasi pondus abiecit. Expectaui, ego, fateor interdum, ut hi nostri proceres, idem facerent, & urgente odio ac cogente superbia, Italica dignitatum nomina, & inuisa ornamenta deponerent. Sed ut uideo frustrà expecto, certum est consilium eorũ, & quãuis iniquum & ingratum, uanum utique non est. Firmauerunt sibi sermonem nequam, ut Italiam rodant simul atque oderint, incumbent & cõtemnant, dumq; hos laqueos absconderent dixerunt, quis uidebit eos? Atqui ego eos uidebo, uident mille alij, uident omnes. Quis tàm cæcus enim usquam est, ut ista non uideat? Vident, inquam, sed taciti omnes, imò muti. Ego etiam, nisi mihi uocem pietas patriæ, & rerum indignitas extorsisset, cum alijs tacuissem, & fortasse consultius memorans illud Crispi pueris quoque notissimum. Frustrà (inquit) niti, neque aliud se fatigando, nisi odium quærere, extremæ est dementiæ. Scio enim, me ne quicquam loqui, & sentio hinc mihi magnorum hominum impendere odia. At profectò non maximi, cuius ex hoc certè non odium timeo, sed amorem spero. Alioqum neque ego te tàm fidenter alloquerer, nec tu me tàm patienter audires, quod ex tuis ad me literis, atque à te uenientium relatione cognoui. Neque demum ille esses, quem te fama loquitur, mundus credit, ego etiam scio, non uerbis pro loquentium diuersitate uariantibus, sed rebus quæ mentiri nesciunt fidem habens. Credant denique te, alij qualem uolunt, ego te scio, & CHRISTI cui in spiritu tuo seruis, & Petri cui in officio succedis, & Ecclesiæ cui præsides, & Apostolicæ sedis, cui insides, ad extremum totius Christianitatis, & in primis Italiæ armatorem, quòd nisi ita esset, nunquam tu Ecclesiam ex inferno illo, qui contiguus patriæ tuæ erat, tot retrahentibus atq; obstantibus, carnalium uictor affectuum, ad Italiam

redu-

reduxisses, ubi si tu uixeris, & in te sanctum uixerit propositum, nil Ecclesiæ metuendum uideo, nil penitùs non sperandum usq; ad recuperationem etiam hinc sacræ telluris, & peculiaris patrimonij IESV CHRISTI. Hinc Ecclesiasticæ libertatis, de quibus duobus, qui isti consiliarij parum curant, modo uoluptates patriæ saluæ sint, quibus ita se habentibus, totum hoc & laboris pondus, & gloriæ, humeris tuis sentis impositum, magnum opus, merces inextimabilis, infinita: proinde, non satis attendit ille quidem eloquens licet uir, qui ea loqueretur, quam quidam partem primam dixere prudentiæ, quòd si acriter attendisset, non uituperasset, eam mundi partem, quam tu unicè diligis, & in qua tua & Ecclesiæ potẽtia, dignitasq; fundata est. Nempe rem suam, ulli charam ac præcipuam paruipendi, patiẽter fortè aliquis, at libenter nemo audit. Planè quòd de cibis Galliæ, deq; uinis dixit, ad quandam, nisi fallor, iniuriam audientiũ pertinuit, ita enim Apostolicos uiros, ceu totidem pisces, aut uolucres cibi obtentu inescasse credidit, ac cœpisse, nimis iam proh pudor hæc per urbem fama uulgata est, in eligenda, scilicet Ecclesiæ sede, uoluptatum ac ciborum, atq; in primis uini copiam ac gustum, ad consilium uenire, quasi non de Christiana religione, sed de Bacchanalibus consultetur. Heu mihi, nec auditur Paulus ad Corynthios, in ... Christianos clamans: Nolite iugum ducere cum infidelibus, quæ enim participatio ... cum iniquitate? Aut quæ societas lucis ad tenebras? Quæ autem conuentio CHRISTI ad Belial? Adeo ergo indignans, mœstusq; animi. Quæ propositio CHRISTI ad Bacchum? Nunquid ideo, quia sacrificium altaris uino eget, Bacchus erit Christianorum Deus. Nec iam CHRISTI præceptis ac monitis, sed Bacchi delinimentis, furoribusq; parebitur. Heu mihi, rer & amplius, quid hoc est, quid audio? Debuit sanè concionatorem illum, ab his nugis tuæ saltem sanctitatis reuerentia, extimatioq; modestiæ, & conspecta tuæ frontis auctoritas deterrere. Sed tu illi quidem, ut te decuit breuibus uerbis ac grauibus respondisti: Domino autem suo, à quo missus erat, nullo melius modo responderi potuit, quàm re ipsa. Non modò enim non distulisti destinatum iter, sed accelerasti, recolens sæpè moras nimias, magnis principijs nocuisse, qui quidem Rex, si ut facit filialiter te amat, & fideliter ueneratur, gaudebit tandem ibi te esse, ubi & tibi salubrius sis & mundo. Inest, non sum nescius, molle quiddam animis nostris, ac tenerum, quo abesse nunquam uolumus quos amamus, quæ res sæpè, & amantis in perniciem uertit. Est autem hoc puerile magis ac fœmineum, quàm uirile, uiri enim non ubi sint, sed qualiter, quos charos habent cogitant, & malunt absentibus benè esse, quàm præsentibus malè, ut qui absentes corpore, animo sunt præsentes. Illos audiunt, illos uident, illorum prosperitatis ubicunque participes: at mulierculæ, puerìq;, quos diligunt, semper iuxta se uolunt, nec auelli spontè nunquam sinunt. Non discernunt enim, nec respiciunt finem, sola præsentia ac iocis, & confabulatione pascuntur, neque omninò alium ex amicitijs fructum quærunt. Illi quidem infamatori Italici nominis, tàm ardenti, ignoscas licet, qui ad causæ suæ uictoriam illud eximium arbitratus est, si patriam suam abundantiorem ciborum, quàm Italiam assereret, quasi non ad religiosissimum, summumq; Pontificem, sed ad coquinæ magistrum Apitium loqueretur, multa possem respondere, nisi me pigeret de tàm humili tamq; abiecta materia diu loqui, te præsertim audituro, sed si cum illo tantum mihi res esset, efficerem forsitan ut puderet, uirum talem coram uicario ueritatis, tàm multa locutum, quæ ueritas non probaret. Certè quòd omitti non debet, Galli sicut scriptum est, usum uitis, & oleæ, Romæ iam adolescente didicerunt. Et quòd constat, gens eadem, frugum, maximeq; uini dulcedine, primò Italiam ingressa, innumerabili quidem cum exercitu, multa & grauia bella nobis intulit, isq; ad Romanæ urbis tunc surgentis incendium, sed præcipitem atque effrẽnem gulam, puniente Deo, sic ad ultimum stratu, deleuiq; omnes, ne quis extaret in ea gente, ut nobilis ait historicus, qui incensam à se urbem Romanam gloriaretur. Quòd si mutationem temporum, aut rerum fortassis obijceret, sic præsentem illi & Italiæ copiam, & Galliæ inopiam, ac defectus multiplices enudari, inq; oculos ingeri posse confido, ut non rubor eum solus, sed fames etiã, sitisq; corripiat. Et hæc me, quòd inuitus facio loqui cõpulit, uiri illius animosa procacitas, atq; iactantia, quasi se attollere, & parua pro maximis celebrare decreuerat, quid nostra depressione, siue ullis omninò cõuitijs opus erat: nulli iniuriosum mendacium, sed tantum proposito mentientis accõmodũ, cõniuẽtiam sæpè promeruit auditorũ. At in alterius si prorũpat iniuriã, aduersario uix carebit, suscepi ego ueritatis, ac patriæ cõmunem causam, inq; angustias has coẽgi, quãuis & hæc multos habeat, his obiectis latiùs, atq; uberiùs responsuros, & illa pro se clamans, mille ex libris, quum & ipsa rerum specie taciturna respondeat. Alter mihi nunc error, ex ordine refellendus occurrit, ad me nuper hæc scribentẽ, haud spernẽda quidẽ narratione perlatus. Esse ibi quosdam tuorũ Cardinaliũ, qui negari nõ posse consentiant, magnũ aliquid fuisse Italiã, nũc candem

dem ferè nihil esse. Librata parum ác prærupta nimis assertione diffiniam, bone IESV quæ ista cæcitas? Quæ præcipitatio est? Qui liuor, quæúe impaciẽtia sic odisse? Ne idipsum, quòd sic oderis uidere possis, quamq; odio dignū sit agnoscere, est ne hoc fortè perfectum illud odium, quòd Psalmista commemorat, imò uerò longè aliud, penitusq; cōtrariū, perfectū enim odium est, sic malum odisse, ut bonum ideò nō oderis, sed diligas, malo quamuis adiunctū. Contrà igitur, sic malum amare, ut bonum oderis, imperfectū, pessimumq; odium est, & si magnū sit, nō quantitatē. Namq; secundū qualitatē odij signat ista perfectio, si mihi nō creditur, Augustinū audiant, loci illius expositorē. Hoc est (inquit) perfecto odio odisse, ut nec propter uitia homines oderis, nec uitia propter homines diligas, isti aūt sic oderūt nos, ut & bona nostra siqua sunt, & nostras uiq; optimas, toto orbe pulcherrimas regiones, solo Rhodani amore oderint, atq; accusent, nec ad illarū speciē ac decorem circūfusum, uel superficietenus intuendum aperire oculos possint, mirū prorsus, sed uulgare malū, ut qui in re aliqua uehementer errauerit, una animi ruina, multis succumbat erroribus: Ecce, quo nūc animos cogit, inquieti amnis, ac terrarum inamœna desiderium immensum, ut dum indigno affectu, quæ sunt ima suspiciunt, maligno defectu, quę sunt summa despiciant, cumq; urgente uerecundia fateantur, quod utcunq; poterat negari, suadente inuidia, negent illud, quod fateri præsens ueritas, ac uiolenta compellit. Antiqua etenim si negentur, auctoritati hominū, ac librorū fidei derogatur, at negando præsentia, uero ipsi, & intellectus, ac sensuū testimonio resistitur. His itaq;, qui scientes contrà uerum litigant, nil omninò, frustrà enim surdo canitur, hebetauit iuditium uoluntas. Reliquis siqui sunt, qui ignorantia labi possent, hoc modò responsum sit, Italiæ caput Romā, nec Italiæ tantùm, sed totius orbis, multis bellis ac cladibus, interq; alias longa suorū Pontificū, ac principū absentia extenuatam, & attritā, ac penè consumptam, dolens fateor, cuius uastitas, quantum non soli Italię, sed membris omnibus, hoc est mundo noceat, & in primis Christiano generi, uident omnes, nisi quorum liuor, tumorq; oculos premit, hæc tamē ipsa Vrbs tot uastantiū è manibus tibi cœlitus reseruata ni respuis, & diuinæ gratiæ, tuæq; uirtutis adminiculo restauranda, fœlicitatem tibi in cœlis æternam, atq; in terris immortalem gloriam allatura est. Potest haud impudenter optare nobilis opifex, ut aliquid rebus desit, quo suum ingenium, sua ars, sua uirtus appareat. De reliqua autē Italia quid dicam, nisi sententiā illam meam ueterem, &, ni fallor, ueram, non dico equidem, quam nunc est, memor uniuersalis pestilentię illius, cui nulla ætas parē habuit, à qua uigesimus nunc annus agitur, quæ postea alternatim exhaustū, discerptumq; orbem, quodam uelut anniuersario malorū torrente repetijt, sed nō minùs Galliā, quàm Italiā lacerauit, imò ad impetū pestis aëriæ, terrestris hominū rabies, & longissimi belli furor accessit, tamq; atrociter illis terris incubuit, ut dum malè fida pace, rebus reddita, per ea loca, ad regem missus, iter agerem, cuncta undiq; ferro, atq; igni euersa conspiciens, lachrymas non tenerem, nō enim sumus, qui ut isti, cætera omnia, nostri amore orbis oderimus. Sed indubiè ac fidenter affirmem, hanc ipsam Italiam, nunquam uiris atq; opibus, & pręsertim maris imperio potentiorem fuisse, quàm nostra fuit ætate. Nunquā si concordes animi, atq; olim benè ualidum caput esset, recipiendo orbis imperio, nec ferendis infidelium tot millibus, atq; indignis imperijs aptiorem. Non sequor animum, calamūq;, ne beatitudinem tuam hac in parte amplius fatigem, maximè cum de hoc ipso multa alibi quæstus sim, non ignarus tamen, his obstare Tarentum, Capuam, Rauennam, aliasq; magnas olim urbes, nunc non ita. Sed opponā illis omnibus, uel hanc unam, unde tibi hæc scribo Venetorum urbem maximam, imò regnum ingens, cui magna olim regna subiecta sunt, urbem longè dissimilem cæteris, utq; ego dicere soleo, orbem alterum, quæ tunc nihil aut minimum fuit, quamuis & Veneti ducis, & Venetiæ non urbis, sed prouinciæ nomen antiquissimū sit, urbis enim nomen, quod meminerim supra Vespasianū principem non legi, sed constat eam, non multis ante hoc tempus sæculis, in hanc magnitudinē excreuisse, sunt tamen & aliæ quas opponam. Ianua olim oppidum obscurum, ciuitas nunc præclara, patria quoq; mea, Vrbs quod uerbum sonat Florentissima, nondum tamē Romana Rep. iam florente fundata. Quid Bononiam tuam loquar, quam supradicti principis ætate, fœlicissimam dictam inuenio, quamq; ego siqua in terris est fœlicitas, uerè fœlicissimam puer uidi, deinde ut retrogradæ res mortaliū sunt, lapsu temporis, fœlicem, pòst & miseram ad extremum per hos annos proximos miserrimam uidimus, nunc te auspice, fœlicitati suæ redditam uidemus. Certè hæc & aliæ, in eodem tractu, non antiquæ admodum, bello Punico secundo, per Italiā tonante, à Romanis conditæ siue insigniter auctæ sunt, cœperuntq; esse quod non fuerant, nec multò post tempore, quasi ad nihilum redactæ sese maiores denuò surrexère. Quarū in epistola ad Faustinum, mœsto stylo ac pio, meminit pater Ambrosius nominatim Bononiam ipsam, Mutinamq; & Rhegiū,

& Pla-

& Placentiam, aliasq; tunc semiruptas urbes deflens: quibus hodie, & si non omnibus, plena tranquillitas, decor tamen, & sua manet integritas. Gaudendumq; quod hac una in re, uiri sapientissimi atque sanctissimi fefellit augurium, quo illas in perpetuum prostratas dixit: ac diruptas, & ad summam, tota hæc Italiæ pars, quæ candidas alpes, ac uiridem Apenninum interiacet, multò his temporibus est ditior, frequentiorq;, quam antiquitùs partes aliæ, humani morem status uarietate testantur. Cæterùm opinentur ut libet, nihil est enim opinione liberius, ad multa alia, ui coguntur multi, ad credendum nullus. Credât ergo, si uidetur Italiam nihil esse, quam totus sæpè orbis sensit esse aliquid, an nō saltem intelligunt, in hoc nihilo, totam ferè illam suam excellentiam esse inclusam, nec referre, quàm sit uilis arcula, quæ plena thesauri sit ingentis. His explosis alme Pater ad te redeo. Ecce ergo multa inter obstantia, per procellas rerum uarias, atq; aduersos flatus, uelo pietatis, & rationis gubernaculo, ac remis industriæ benè usus, sanctam & uenerabilem matrem Ecclesiam, sua in sede reposuisti. Difficilè est autem, quin paterfamiliâs peregrè remeans, in domo diù deserta atq; incustodita, multa sit reperturus correctionis egentia. Hic incumbe, hic omnem sacri ingenij uim exerce, ut sparsa recolligas, lapsa erigas, deformata reformes, nutantia firmes, consumpta restaures, euersam domum non destituit uir sapiens, sed attollit ac reficit, quod si in singulis domibus uerum est, cur non in omnibus, & in tota urbe, si ita res tulerit uerum sit? Iure igitur incensa, olim, ut dicebam urbe, Trib. Pleb. obluctantibus, migrandumq; censentibus, M. Furio Camillus ut restitueretur obtinuit. Extat oratio, & ciuis, & uiri boni, animo & moribus digna. Quod si tunc accidit, nouitate illa urbis ac temporum ruditate, quod nunc censeas, post tanta religionis, rerumq; cœlestium, ac terrestrium incrementa. Habes urbem conquassatam fatear, sacram tamen, & humano generi, sed præcipuè Christicolis uenerandam, urbem diuinarum & humanarum rerum omnium præcellentem gloria, urbium parentem, orbis caput, arcem fidei, ubi te fideles ament, unde te metuant infideles, non ideò deserendam, quòd lacera, & inculta est, sed eò attentius, atque obnixius repandam, quò maius hinc meritum reparanti est. Hanc siquidem Romulus fundasse, Brutus liberasse, Camillus instaurasse laudatur, ille, cuius proximè mentionem feci, uerum ea secularis imperij est laus. Spiritale autem imperium illic Petrus statuit, Sylvester auxit, Gregorius exornauit, horum laudes omnium, in te unum transferendi, naturam tibi oblatam uideo. Non horum uni, siue alteri, sed similiter omnibus comparari, ab incorrupta & memori posteritate mereberis, utriusq; enim imperij fundamenta, & incrementa, & ornamenta collapsa sunt, tuq; omnium instaurator. Ex quo miror ualdè, quorundam suspitiones hominum, qui te tâta gloria, tantisq; meritis contemptis, ac perditis, abire uelle aiunt, uel ad illud ergastulū, unde Ecclesiam eruisti, uel nescio quo. Nullus est enim uel sanctitate, uel gloria locus par, nullus ubi tantum ualeas & Deo placere, & hominibus prodesse, qui tui fines ultimi duo sunt, seu uerius, qui tuus in hac uita unicus finis est, gemino sub mandato. Quo pergūt, ubi sistunt, unde & pendent lex pariter & Prophetæ. Itaq; nec famæ contrariæ, nec trepidis coniecturis, confusisq; rumoribus acquiesco, nullo modo meum cadit in animū, te sic cœpisse, ut sic desinas, satiûs enim fuerat, non cœpisse. Nil in rebus est deformius, quàm præclari principij fuscus finis, ut quod ait Flaccus:

—— Turpiter atrum
Desinat in piscem mulier formosa supernè.

Quod si in pictura turpe est, in oratione turpius, in operatione turpissimum esse nō ambigitur. Multi sunt & penè omnes, qui præclarū nihil incipiunt, nec infames sunt, quippè nec cogniti, at qui se glorioso principio notū fecit, si id spontè destituat, infamiā non euadet. Tu nō solum cœpisti, sed magna ex parte peregisti, uidéne tuis manibus, tuum opus euertas. Id enim non modò quā non cœpisse, sed quam cœptū omisisse, multò fœdius. Solet namq; actibus medijs, quidam torpor irrepere, specie difficultatis obiecta, profectò autē consummata bona, atq; ad exitum perducta, rescindere inuidia est. Cœpto igitur nusquā calle deflexeris, nulla est rectior ad salutem, nusquam substiteris, tempus breue, longum iter, lenit laborē operis spes mercedis. Nunquam deniq; in tergo respexeris, nosti enim, quod nemo mittens manum suam in aratrum, & aspiciens retrò, aptus est regno Dei. Nec ignoras, ut uel apud scriptores gentium, Orpheus retrouersus, eductam ab inferis suam perdidit Eurydicem, uel apud nostros Loth è Sodomis exeunti, ut saluet animam suam, neque pòst tergum respiciat imperatur. Quod uel oblita, uel despiciens uxor eius, respiciensq; post se, in statuam salis uersa, exemplum atque utile condimentum posteris liquit, quo in similibus saliantur, ne insipido rerum gustu, ad ea quæ benè dimiserint animo, aut oculis se conuertant. Quibus ita se habentibus, fama & uulgus suo more ueris, falsa permisceant, meam mihi

nullus opinionem uerbis eripiet. Si te abeunte audeam, nisi uideã non credam, & si uideam uix credam. Sunt quæ uix oculis credantur. Magnam de te, tuisq; de rebus, magnam tua de sanctitate, de magnitudine animi, de constantia, de fide, de ingenio spem concepi. Credo ego, te forsitan blanda ægros animos spe solari, & id agere, ut inter honestæ moræ tædium, & inhonesti spem reditus, elabantur dies, utq; assolet, tempore cõtractum, & tempore desiderium euanescat. Perge oro Beatissime, & ita fac, fac si potes, potes autem omnia supra hominem omnipotentis domini uicarius, fac in titulis suis ædificent, qui tam diù, tamq; auidè in non suis ædificarunt, honesti lapides, honestæ trabes, honesta calx fuerit. Deniq; honestus labor, honestæq; curæ, & honesti sumptus in proprijs, qui alienis in finibus, quam honesti fuerint, quàm decorum, quamq; conueniens, quod ruente:

Roma pulcherrima rerum,

Vt Virgilius ait, qua nihil maius Sol uidit, ne sit irrita Horatij uatis oratio, paruis & turpis Auinio super astra se tolleret, & quæ uix competens cauda est, fieret mundi caput. Diffinire non est meum, eorum conscientiæ relinquatur, qui prostrata Metropoli Vrbi, omnium quæ sub cœlo sunt, qui labentibus tectis Apostolorum & suis, imò sanctorũ domibus, quarum æditiuos sunt professi, sparsis ac laceris, domos illic aureas erexerunt, inspectante uniuersorum Domino, ac iudice nescio, an etiam approbante. Fac incipiant Pater prouidentissime, fac incipiant, tantum uoluptas una aliam trudit, actum erit. Mox domorum ueterũ, ut cœperint obliuisci, & lutum Auinionicũ non mirari, longis erroribus infecti animi, subitò conualescere nequeunt, tempore læsi ut dixi, tempore etiam curabuntur, sed non solo tua mens, tua frons, tua uox, franget auctoritas. Interim dies ibunt, mentes uerioribus sententijs, oculi melioribus spectaculis assuescẽt, cum gustare cœperint, quid est Roma, imò uerius, quid est fides, & quid debitũ, quid honestas, siquis homo uel casus eos cogeret, unde tàm tristes modò ueniunt reuerti crederent, uel ad mortem, uel ad miserum exilium se compelli. Adhuc tamen & tua sublimis sanctitas, & mea fidelis humilitas scio, & sentio, contradictorib. patent, sunt qui dicant, planè enim illos hinc audio, Romanum aërem insalubrem esse, quibus iam ex parte responsum est, nulla enim non ciuitas, tantũ angustissima, sed angusta domus, tàm salubris fuerit, quam non suspectam faciant ruinæ. Quamlibet purus aër si inclusus esse cœperit, fit infamis, hæc Romanam Vrbem, eiusq; temperiem, atq; aëris puritatem, uel concutiunt, uel accusent, accedit & solitudo longior, & mœnium squalor, ac raritas incolarũ. Quæ omnia, quid aliud quæso, quàm illa, de qua supra quæstus sum, Romanorum pontificum, ac principum inuexit absentia. Quidúe aliud quàm eorundem possit expurgare præsentia, uetus est prouerbium, cuius Aristoteles meminit: Nulla melius æquũ re, quam domini sui oculo pinguescere. Vrbem tuam à suis pastoribus derelictam, prouidentiæ ac pietatis tuæ oculus impinguabit, ac reficiet. Illam tu quòd à CHRISTO IESV poscitur, & labentem respicies, & uidendo corriges, nam corrigi quidem illa, ni deseritur, curariq; potest, nõ te ergo deterreat breuis labor, quo æternum præmium meriturus sis. Redde illi te, imò redditum conserua. Redde illi (inquam) suum caput, statim & membra reddideris, & uigorem, & si nõ pristinum at magnũ, illum redintegrare nõ potest, nisi is qui facit mirabilia magna solus. Redde hominum frequentiã, quod stando, moræq; perpetuæ spem dando, & contrarij metum, omnem Christianis pectoribus extirpando perficies, ubi hoc feceris, mox & domos erexeris, & aërem correxeris. Quem si infectum naturaliter, quis astruat, obstat illa mirabilis ciuium multitudo, de qua epistola altera ad te scripsi, & quam nullius scriptoris ingenium æquare potest, illa uis animorum, atq; illud robur corporum, quæ nisi optimo in aëre, nec nasci potuerat, nec seruari. Obstat auctorum omnium illustrium cohors, & minimè Romanorum, ne affectus animi testimonij fidem leuet, nominatim eloquentiæ ille fons lacteus, & historiæ princeps, apud quem ita scriptum est. Non sine causa dij, hominesq; hunc urbi condendæ locum elegerunt, saluberrimosq; colles, flumen opportunum, quo ex mediterraneis locis, fruges deuehantur, quo mariti commeatus accipiantur. Mare uicinum, ad commoditates, nec expositum nimia propinquitate, à periculo classium externarum, regionum Italiæ medium, ad incrementum urbis natum, unicè locum argumentum est ipsa magnitudo. Et post pauca. Hic Capitolium est (inquit) ubi quondam capite humano inuento, responsum est, eo loco caput rerum summum imperij fore, quæ sequũtur sciens sileo, haud nolim siluisse. Non dico Virgilij apud quem inclyta septicollis,

Et fœlix prole uirum impium terris cœlo animos æquat.

Sed Hieronymi, iamq; is familiarior tibi est, qui aduersus Iouinianũ scribens, mentio eius, de qua loquor urbis oblata. Vrbs, inquit, potẽs, urbs orbis domina, urbs Apostoli uoce laudata, & sequitur uocabulũ Romæ aut fortitudinis nomen est, iuxta Græcos, aut sublimitatis

iuxta

iuxta Hebræos, in quo alia. Non est igitur mirum, quod grauissimus etiam hostis, urbem regum, huc, ut alij tradunt, urbem templum sibi usam, & senatū regum, hoc est, ex legibus cōstantē, non erubuit confiteri. Sæpe etenim uel inuitos, ad confessionē sui ueritas cogit. Id nō modò mirabile, sed stupendū, quod hæc ipsa urbs, sic & amicis, semper & hostibus uenerata, atque ante omnes alias in honore habita, solis filijs suis Cardinalibus odio sit atque contēptui. Quos tu uerus pater hortabere, ut hos animos ponant, nouos induant, sponsam tuam matrem suā diligant, illam sui præsentia, suisque operibus exornent, quæ & operibus illos ornet & gloria, neque tali matre nuda ac famelica externas uel hianter pascāt, neque sua indiga, & mēdica, in alienas effundant, quod in propriā refundēdum erat. Id enim fœdum sibi, odiosum CHRISTO nouerint, qui suo sanguine dicauit Ecclesiam, non solum cœlestibus & æternis diuitijs, sed temporalibus etiam ac terrenis. Quas in aliud quàm in ipsius in laudem atque obsequium, spargi nephas, sacrilegiumque est. Proinde tu uigila, Domini est enim uigilare, sermorū stertere, Homerus ait: Non oportet noctu quiescere consultorem uirū, cui populi sunt in cura. Surgere oportet prius dominos seruis, inqt Aristoteles, & dormire posterius, & quæcunque decet facere, neque nocte, neque die omittere, de nocte enim surgere, idem ait, ad sanitatem atque œconomiam, & philosophiam utile. Tua sanitas non [illegible] utilis, sed necessaria est mundo, tu nō solius œconomiæ, sed totius Reip. curam geris, multò maioribus uigilijs indigentis, tu non falsæ & inanis, sed ueræ ac solidæ Philosophię, uerę que sapientię Dei pauis studio uacas, omnes in te unum causæ coëunt, ut de nocte surgas, ac uigiles. Vigila, inquam, speculare superintēde, quòd est proprium Episcopi, atque uniuersa circumspice, uersatili atque acri, & uigili ingenio opus est, magnæ cunctisque rei executio, noctes insomnes, intētumque animum exigit. De tua quidem optima, ac stabili uoluntate certissimus, alienæ duos obices uoluntatis metuo. Quod tuū est, uel mollire, uel frangere, ne hic pudor atque hæc macula, frontē premat Ecclesiæ, neue hæc fabula sit præsentis, & sequētiū seculorū, ut uiuo salutem, tàm præclari duce operis, sanctissima Petri sedes iterum deseratur, tàm præsertim uili causa, uini scilicet, quod ab homine sobrio, facilè sperni potest, uel si nequeat, & trāsfertur agiliter, & transferendo fit melius, neque uerò ubi erāt, quo reuerti ardent, uinū illud nascebatur, quàuis esset aliquanto propinquius. Neque maiusculū hoc iter est, aliud quàm nautarū labor exiguus, quibus nullus satis est magnus labor, ad hoc unū natis, neque hercle, tā ebriosus unquā fuit aliquis, ut uini amore, in uineis habitaret. Colitē uinea, nō incolitur, & in uinea quidē uinū nascitur, legiturque, in torculari premitur, in penu cōditur, in aula bibitur & prima illa sunt uillici, ultimum hoc domini, uinea tua & illorū est, quaquā uersum, religio uera protenditur, nō tā uino, quàm rubenti martyrū sanguine fertilis, cuius uindemia ipsa est salus fidelium animarū. Sed quæcunque sit uinea, quisquis ager, ecclesiæ certæ, aula regia atque arx superior Roma est, quod & si quidam dissimulēt nemo est qui nesciat, ne apud Indos quidem puto, nemo etiam sit qui neget. Redeant ad cor, nec iam amplius contra stimulū CHRISTI calcitrent, durus est enim, neque iugū eius excutiāt. Nam suaue est, & omni leuius libertate, humani animi uitiū est error, obstinatio dæmonū est propria. Satis, superque satis erratū est. Sit iam modus erroribus, satis est perditi temporis, extrema ne pereant enitendū est, auertant aures animarum, ab impiorum suggestibus angelorum; periculosissimi enim sunt inuisibilibus flammis ac iaculis sæuiunt. Quos, ut ait Augustinus, in ipsis mētibus formidamus, adhibeantque illas domini præceptis aperiantque oculos, & uidebunt CHRISTVM rectum illis ad se iter designantem, illum audiant, illum aspiciant ac sequantur. Cesset pertinacia ac funesta duricies, non pudeat uinci, neque enim ab illo uincūtur, & se uincere uictoria summa est. Cuncta autem rite facturos spero, & tibi credere incipiant, & nouissima sua quæ iam uicina sunt cogitent hęc tam multa pater, ut Ciceronis uerbo utar, sanctissimè atque optimè, & dixi olim, & nunc addidi, non quia tibi necesse esset hæc audire, sed quia mihi propè necessarium non tacere. Scio enim illos multa quotidie contra hæc loqui, quibus obstare non superbum modò, sed insanum putent. Magni quidem illi sunt, sed maior est ueritas, & collocutorem modicum, nō dubito atque humilem reprehensorem, suo quasi quodā iure fastidiunt, sed si se homines meminerint, non fastidient rationem, cui si se subijciant, nec auctoritate nuda niti uelint. Quid his forte respondeant non habebunt. Illud nec relatu dignum, quamuis id multi prædicent. Esse ibi qui cupiant, sinistrū aliquid, quod CHRISTVS, cuius res agitur auertat, tibi uel Ecclesiæ prouenire, quo sis proniot ad discessum, atque hanc ob causam, placuisse illis motiunculam, quæ ad Viterbium fuit, atque inde spem nepharam concepisse. Ego autem nō dicam excellentissimis dominis, sed ne seruis quidem, nisi uilissimis hunc fuisse degenerem, imò immanem atque impium appetitum, suspicari audeo, qui extremi forsitan furciferi cuiuspiam ferum pectus inuaserit, illi equidem quisquis sit, si tàm malè quisquam esse potest, re-

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sipiscentiam ac ueniam, si has nolit, sibi æternum de aliena fœlicitate supplicium, [illegible] tatem uerò rebus prosperis, Ecclesiæ pacē, tibi constantiā ac salutē [illegible] pto. Peccator [illegible] dignus, in se tamen dignis precibus, illum ora, qui tibi tanti principij mentem dedit, ut [illegible] uum finem, & bonorum operum consumatricem optimam perseuerentiam largitur.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO BRVNO SVO, S. Epist 1[illegible].

De materia superioris epistolæ, & de crebra loci mutatione.

NEscio qua seu siderum ui, seu uolubilis animi leuitate, seu lege necessitatis [illegible] manarum, dura & ineluctabili ad [illegible] antinos, ut Flacci uerbo utar, claros [illegible] regum quoque uerticibus affigentes, seu alia quauis mihi incognita ratione, totā ferè usque ad hoc tempus, in peregrinationibus uitā duxi. Hic ut boni forte aliquid, sic mali certè plurimū tuli, & si roges, cur nō figitur pedem figis, repeto quod incipiens dixi, causam rei nescio: Sed effectum scio, de quo quoniam abundè alias [illegible] isse uideor, amplius nihil hic dicam, nisi quòd iam audisti, fuisse mihi hos circuitus lucro interdum non inficior, sed sæpius damno. Villicum habui ad fontem Sorgiæ trans alpes, ubi floridiores anni ma[illegible] gna mihi ex parte fluxerūt, cuius & temporis, & loci, & hominis libens memini, qui & [illegible] pore illo, nisi iam uelocitēr abijsset, nil iucundius, & loco [illegible] permansisset [illegible] & homine ni mortalis fuisset, nihil suo in genere lætius, nihil obsequiosius, [illegible] detrahere est, ipse siquidē fides erat. Is mihi, ex quo uagari inde cœperam [illegible] pro[illegible] uel redeunti, amica reprehensione solitus erat hoc dicere. Vt uideo sæpe [illegible] taberis, nunquā uerò, mihi crede, ditaberis. Nonnunquam seu exactū, seu instantis itineris [illegible] aticum, sic [illegible] bat, ut in illo penè falleret, & monenti, hoc aiebat expendes, & reuersō hoc aiebat, expen[illegible] sti. Idque constanter usque adeò, ut nō agelli custos absens, sed præsentissimus uitæ comes [illegible] se, inque omnibus hospitijs sedisse ad calculū uideretur, & mirabar, & ridebam, uera licet loqui sentiens, quod & nunc maximè sentio, prouerbium uetus est nostrorū hominū. Non facit muscum sæpè uolutus lapis. Et ut opes sileā quarū fluxus nemo uir magnus inter [illegible] quidā etiā inter lucra posuēre, quid de alijs dicam, sic uagando noticias plures forsitan quæsiui, sed amicitias pauciores. Quo enim uera amicitia, unū è maximis uitæ bonis in transitu quæreretur, cū minoribus acquirendis tempore, & cōstantia opus sit, & si aliquas, & [illegible] tas, uel sic uagus habui, quot consistens fuerim habiturus iudicio [illegible], naturā nullā prorsus rem, quàm ad amicitias proniore. Iam de ingenio ac doctrina facilis coniectura est, pro[illegible] enim plus aliquid ambiēdo uidit, quam uisurus domi fuerant, & experientiæ, rerumque [illegible] tiæ, [illegible] nihil est additum, sed detractum literis. Quot enim studio putas dies hi, discursus abstulerint, ut bibliothecculam ipse reuisens meā, non inter uetetē rantū libros aduena, sed in [illegible] mea etiam uiderer opuscula donec sensim, nō sine tempore, ac labore aliquo, in familiaritatem pristinā reuocarer. Quæ iactura haud quaquam leuis est, breuitatē, fugāque temporis extimanti. Et nisi me hic metus tenuisset, frenassetque impetum, ut erat adolescēti animus, & [illegible] suum improuidus, & uidendi auidus issem ad extremos hominū Seres, atque Indos, ultimamque terrarum Taprobanem adijssem. Scio quę tunc mihi mens fuerit, non me quidem illa ætate, me labor, non maris fastidia, non pericula terruissent, terruit amissio temporis, atque animi [illegible] stractio, cogitantem inde me, plenum spectaculis urbium, fluminumque, ac montium [illegible] uarum, sed literulis, quas ad id tempus iuuenili studio collegissem, uacuum & inanem, [illegible] inopem tempons reuersurum. Itaque consilium cœpi, ad eas terras, non nauigio, non [illegible] pedibusue per longissimūque iter, semel tantùm, sed per breuissimam charta, sæpè libris, ac [illegible] genio, proficisci, ita ut quotiens uellem, horæ spacio, ad eorū littus irem, ac reuerterer, non [illegible] læsus modò, sed etiā indefessus, neque tantū corpore integro, sed calceo insuper in attrito, [illegible] uerium prorsus, & lapidū, & luti, & pulueris inscio. Vnum sanè, in occiduis his meis an[illegible] [illegible] ctibus, dictū quàm re leuius, perpetior, quòd amicorū literas, eorum dico, quos disciplina & eloquio cla[illegible] no[illegible], quæ mihi & decore proprio, & amore dictantiū, pro thesauro erant, inter crebras locorū m[illegible] on[illegible] sic interdū perdidi, ut est meis simul etiam multa per[illegible] quæ man[illegible] sent, si uniscamno in[illegible] stere potuissem. Hoc nimirū est amice, propter quod in hanc multiplicem modo narrationē incidi, teque alijs multis, aut sim dubius, & magn[illegible] plicirū, atque intentū rebus [illegible] perpuli, familiari quodam impetu, qui de nihilo longas [illegible] texit historias poteram [illegible] nisi hoc esset hinc initium sumere, quòd epistolas tuas, a[illegible] ultimas, quarū [illegible] d[illegible] adhuc Ticini agerē, alteram Venetijs accepi, nunc Patauii quær[illegible] non [illegible] & r[illegible] ondere aliquid uelle, tēpus est enim, imò iam præter[illegible] sfue [illegible] siue ta[illegible] d[illegible] s [illegible] ea, siue illa ipsa [illegible] qua loquor instabilitas in culpa est, ut ex[illegible] [illegible] deam [illegible] potest, quæ si me fefellerit fallax est, cumque omnes assiduè tū [illegible]

fallit, fortasse ideò, quia plurium illis est debitrix, & est depositi maioris fides rarior. Vtq; incipia, epistolarũ tuarũ prima pars, ni fallor meæ mortis te rumore concu[illegible]m grauit[illegible] deie-ctum narrabat, donec uerior nuncius iacentē animũ e[illegible]exit, ad quod unũ d[illegible]o. No[illegible]i amice, noli obsecro his ampliùs unquàm moueri. Rē audies mirā ualde. Quartus [illegible] ut[illegible] e im[illegible]is annus est nunc, ex quo primũ fama [illegible]imilis, Liguria impleuit, quasi [illegible] homũculi, sed Imperatoris cuiuspiā esset aut regis, fuerunt qui de h[illegible] [illegible]s, & tanto studio meditarentur, ut reuersum tand[illegible] in [illegible]uporē me [illegible] ac [illegible]b[illegible]eret, t[illegible] præcox, tamq; immeritum nomen, tanto clarior iuuenis fui, q[illegible] sum senex. Sed [illegible] an[illegible]eo. Ex illo uix fluxit annus, quo non saltem semel meæ mortis fam[illegible] re[illegible]xe[illegible]it, m[illegible] & [illegible] ualetudine corporis hactenus semper ferè prosperrima, & med[illegible] re[illegible] usu [illegible], & [illegible]lia non nisi de potentioribus fingi soleant, q[illegible]m m[illegible]s mome[illegible] a[illegible] q[illegible] b[illegible] pos[illegible]it afferre. Mea quidē mors nulli ut reor utilitatē magnā, paucis dam[illegible], Re[illegible] nihil pe[illegible] aff[illegible]. Quid festinant? Quid mendacio anticipant? Quod ut uer[illegible] fi[illegible], eis [illegible]h[illegible]l, & si cor[illegible] for[illegible] e[illegible] dini, ac maleuolentiæ aliquid col[illegible]urum sit. Insistetē ho[illegible] causa[illegible] [illegible]estigat[illegible]s, [illegible] quod ad amicũ alterũ uirũ bonũ atq; eruditũ, simile ol[illegible] ac [illegible] pe[illegible], mea nō ociosa de hoc extat epistola [illegible]ed ut summā noris [illegible] m[illegible] ru hæ[illegible] e[illegible] esse, mira-beris unde mihi hostes, sed sic [illegible] nullos mihi offens[illegible] s odium, mul[illegible] d[illegible]a. Et hoc quoq; mirabere, cũ inuidiosum nihil omnino mihi sit, sed uilibus anim[illegible], qui[illegible]d uile min[illegible] [illegible]biecer[illegible], inuidiosissimũ apparebit. Fingunt [illegible] quod cupiunt, publicus mos [illegible]ul-t[illegible]um, & hi quid[illegible], nondum uitæ meæ, uel dieculā, uel momentum unum, his artibus de[illegible]a-xe[illegible], passioni autē suæ, multum per impatientiam a[illegible]didēre. In uno fateor, ut ioc[illegible]sa serijs m[illegible]m, iocosa utiq;, sed molesta, nihilominus in un[illegible], inquā, horũ me mendatijs læsum sen-si, [illegible]d cũ ante aliquot annos, Summus Pōtifex, nullis meis er[illegible]a eũ meritis, ut cui uis[illegible]s nũ-qua[illegible], & uix fama ambigua notus erā, nullis meis precibus, se[illegible] liberalitate, & clemētia s[illegible]a, sola præbendulā illā perexiguā quidem, sed locorũ mihi ubi à pue[illegible]tia educatus essem, con-sideratione gratissimā, proprio contulisset instinctu, tuq; id mihi uoti mei conscius nunc[illegible]s-ses, quærens qualiter literas executorias fieri uellē, uenit int[illegible]im unus ex his annuis interfe-ctoribus nominis mei, qui quos manu nequeunt, lingua uulne[illegible]nt, pers[illegible]sitq; Pōtifici me d[illegible]nctũ esse. Quo te etiā tunc rumore pergrauiter consternat[illegible]m fama fuit, & tunc quidē, q[illegible]d uulgare est [illegible]eterator ille sui præmiũ, ego alieni mendacij pœnā tuli, unum [illegible]i, duo d[illegible]re debui, simile enim per omnia, sed multò maiori in re, cũ hoc Romano Imperatore anno tertio passus sum. Quo audito utrobiq; cum amicis tunc iocatus, si cum dominis iocari licet, & nunc iocor. Siquidem quòd uiuenti datum erat, ut defuncto eripi, sic restitui rediuiuo po[illegible]uit, neq; hoc dico ambitione ulla ductus, in epistola quàm comuni nostro, & [illegible]niũ domino potrigen[illegible]ā, per hunc nuncium accipies, quid cũ eo pepigerim, uidebis, ut n[illegible]i-cet præter benedi[illegible] suā, illius è manibus aut cupiā, aut exposcam. Nec sat scio, an quod o[illegible]m d[illegible]ũ opt[illegible]i, assequi iā mihi expediens sit, posset forsitan paruo hoc a[illegible]mento, Patriar-chæ amantissimi patris mei desideriũ. Quo iampridē uellicor, & locorũ [illegible]r me illuc quan-doq; retrahere, ubi prædulcis quondam, & quieta fuit mora, nunc ô uol[illegible]es res humanæ. N[illegible] secura quidē s[illegible]is est satio, quod ipse hinc meis, illic dimissis in reculis sum expertus, [illegible]pter falsam hanc igi[illegible]r solam famā, [illegible]mara lentens iocis hoc dixerim. Te deinceps meis in re-bus si me diligis, neq; mendax fama, neq; ueritas comperta deijciat. Scis amic[illegible], & me, & te [illegible]ributo mortis obnoxios, quod nobis cum Pontificibus, Cæsaribusq; cōmu[illegible], imò lier[illegible]e cum omnibus qui sunt [illegible]runtúe de mortalibus, qui fuerunt nempè soluendo iam debito liberati sunt, ut nulli hominũ graue esse debeat, quod omnibus æquũ est. Necesse est, u[illegible] a[illegible] tu de me, aut ego de te hunc accipiam rumorē, nō hoc dicere, siquis res nostras ordo ager[illegible] par ex[illegible]im[illegible]s ut qui prior uestibulũ uitæ huius introij, p[illegible]st eo prius egrederer. Sed ah, [illegible]o-tiens me fe[illegible]e[illegible]it hæc opinio, quæ ne amplius fallat, & cupio, & precor. Vtcũq; res ca[illegible]u[illegible]a sit, siquidē uerũ nunciũ meæ mortis acceperis, non inhibeo ne suspires, ne sim durior, sed ne u-nā omnino lachrymulā effundas, iam hinc moneo, atq; [illegible]testor, n[illegible]q; multum doleas, imò (inquā) non plus doleas morientē, quàm nascentē doluiss[illegible]. Nihi[illegible] doleas igit[illegible] nihil [illegible]eas, non est Philosophicũ, nec uirile quidē flere naturalia, non m[illegible]us n[illegible]turale aut, [illegible]c pe[illegible]s est mori, quàm nasci, & fortasse melius, pro me p[illegible]tius Deũ [illegible] a[illegible]c[illegible], [illegible] e [illegible]e [illegible]hinc abeā, dũ abiero ut mitis mihi CHRISTVS occurrat, & meorũ [illegible] me[illegible] del[illegible]iũ [illegible]c mihi [illegible]tile, [illegible] honestũ, Deo placitũ. [illegible]letus autem hōr[illegible]m nihil, de me [illegible]q; libe[illegible]re, t[illegible]o ro meũ imò nostrũ nomen, meq; qua non ullum potes h[illegible] [illegible]da s[illegible]a, h[illegible] [illegible]e[illegible]ulc[illegible] riq; genus acc[illegible]pnsi[illegible]ũ, amici[illegible]æ ueræ est, reliq[illegible] supe[illegible]a [illegible], & [illegible] L[illegible] [illegible]mnia eò spectant, non ne meā ta[illegible] ed [illegible] [illegible]q; m[illegible]rt[illegible]æ [illegible]uo gra-

 [illegible]o[illegible]iem

[illegible] feras. [illegible] in hoc [illegible] p[illegible]imis erra[illegible] m quod ep[illegible] [illegible] uidet [illegible] nunquã hoc cal[illegible] [illegible]xatar[illegible] le[illegible] .V[illegible] moribu[illegible] au[illegible] c[illegible] ep[illegible] s d xi. Quo f[illegible] [illegible] an[illegible] s legere. [illegible] [illegible] do di[illegible] n[illegible] nnol[illegible] [illegible] imbecilli at[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] he[illegible] um quisquis d[illegible] t, [illegible] ærumnam dec[illegible] [illegible] di p causæ de[illegible] quodq; ait reg[illegible] propheta. D[illegible] [illegible], & an[illegible] gemitibus. Hæc d[illegible] ta p[illegible] iu[illegible] [illegible] loqui alter. At[illegible] m[illegible], [illegible] h[illegible] tantum, [illegible] fo[illegible] casibus, [illegible] rtut[illegible] m [illegible] opes at[illegible] ermes [illegible] æq[illegible] g[illegible] di[illegible] ur uerbo tecum [illegible] meo, ne dũ hu[illegible] sententi[illegible] liter t[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ium ora[illegible] o[illegible] imped[illegible] ergo pro tẽpore, mir[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] uerim [illegible] dum m[illegible] b[illegible] c tan[illegible] arcere relaxatum, quo[illegible] s a[illegible] [illegible] e-rè audi[illegible] qu[illegible] da[illegible] è[illegible] xeris necesse est, con[illegible] latore alio no[illegible] geas, m[illegible] dum adhu[illegible] [illegible] tum [illegible], præmonui[illegible] sse, ne ut mo[illegible] um fleas, sed [illegible] huius c[illegible] uere inc[illegible] [illegible] læta memoria prof[illegible] aris. Ven[illegible] cebat me [illegible] e depositum, & epi[illegible] lam quidem illam, [illegible] ultilo[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] ere, bene acceptum apud Pontificem Maximũ, ut tu a[illegible] d[illegible] quis ill[illegible] [illegible], quæ u[illegible] mate[illegible] ia s[illegible] bentis: clar[illegible] utiq; fides fuit, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] cc ca[illegible] o, nunquam me ad[illegible] uerb[illegible] m[illegible] nop[illegible] u[illegible] a re[illegible] pa[illegible] co[illegible], ha[illegible] e fi[illegible], q[illegible] ingenij fiduci[illegible] e [illegible] um [illegible] tor b[illegible] n liber[illegible] loqui a[illegible]. Adiu[illegible] abat impetũ [illegible] anim[illegible] lami libert[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] sermo erat, circunspecta profunditas, c[illegible] illos m[illegible] ltò, quàm mihi uel [illegible] [illegible] res c[illegible] s e[illegible] m, [illegible] c illorum moribus secum agens, nihil tàm uererer, quàm m[illegible] pr[illegible]. Egit hoc in[illegible] lis, & æterna prouidentia terribilis in consilijs super [illegible] o[illegible] minum, ut qu[illegible] princeps Eccl[illegible], sospitator orbi languido destinatus erat, consiliari[illegible] os su[illegible] s, familiarissimè scrutare[illegible] ntequàm illi [illegible] um uererentur, aut metuerent, aut qu[illegible] oq; uerendum, metuendumúe [illegible] mis præsagirent. Difficile est nosse homi[illegible] um more[illegible], [illegible] pocrisis uelo, fuscæ ac profundæ sunt humani pectoris latebræ, & in reli[illegible] uarum rerum [illegible] mentium color inter tenebras delitescit. Serò iam nubes fictionis obten[illegible] ur, u[illegible] r [illegible] intrinsecus, eo tempore, quo patebant, hoc mihi apud eum loquendi fid[illegible] m[illegible] d[illegible] non quod mei, & illorum eisem uel sim nescius, & quanta illis ueneratio debere[illegible], [illegible] pr[illegible] tur, implerent. Sed heu mihi, tota fer[illegible] hominum uirtus um[illegible] a est, u[illegible] a m[illegible], modus uestium, pedum motus, gestus corporis, oculorum flexus, fr[illegible], [illegible] er[illegible] ilu, sing[illegible] a hæc leniũ[illegible] ur. Interior animi forma negligitur, neq; præterc[illegible] [illegible] sententiã C[illegible] nis, quod carere debet omni uitio, qui in alterũ dicere paratus [illegible] on i [illegible] uitiæ [illegible] oris ubi in terra scribens: Vt qui [illegible] ne peccato est, primus in p[illegible] lapidẽ m[illegible] at h[illegible]. Verũ hunc omni uitio carentẽ uelim, Cicero ipse mihi si nou[illegible] dat, ego illum fateor, non no[illegible] & [illegible] expectandus sit, serò quisquã reor accusabitur. [illegible] quòd [illegible] homines ac[illegible] [illegible] propositum fuit, sed ecclesiæ statũ flere & si [illegible] fletu a[illegible] homi[illegible] [illegible] et & [illegible] ego me multiplici uitio laborantẽ sciã, meum tam m[illegible] ia m[illegible] nocent. Semper enim nocentissimi omnium sunt h[illegible], u[illegible] n[illegible] ex[illegible] plo mori[illegible] s ceu morsu uipereo nocuerunt, neq; ideo [illegible] ortas [illegible] [illegible] m uera loqui, nẽ mi[illegible] ta est, cum illis ueritas odium annexum, odio dam[illegible] [illegible] ret, si ad opes ut uul[illegible] s [illegible] a[illegible] aspirarem, nunc nil cupiens, quid metuam. Sol[illegible] [illegible] c[illegible] iũcta ess[illegible] na[illegible] te[illegible] um ex altero, cupiditas uerò & metus, frena fu[illegible] t a[illegible] rect[illegible] ẽ illũ ca[illegible] det[illegible] t. Neq; tamẽ his liber ea scriberẽ, ne scilicet [illegible] s in cœl[illegible] diceret, ni[illegible] quod [illegible] a nar[illegible] bam, si fortè nobil[illegible] [illegible] imam, [illegible] m[illegible] a [illegible] assole[illegible] licet [illegible] orat[illegible] ex[illegible] taret, & quo per [illegible] p[illegible] m fel[illegible] a[illegible] re, [illegible]. E[illegible] uidemus quod uix equide[illegible] ptare[illegible] spe[illegible] a [illegible] laudem arroget, nemo gloriam a[illegible] c[illegible] h[illegible] fo[illegible] an ac precãdo, cum in contra[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] sed De[illegible] agente irritæ, atq; inanes quo ill[illegible] s [illegible] p[illegible] a[illegible] est priorq; deuotio. Qui per[illegible] t tam ual[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] fol[illegible] gestans humeris huc euasit, maior[illegible] exe[illegible] [illegible] nt, u[illegible] del[illegible] um anim[illegible], nescio qui[illegible] sus[illegible] [illegible] unde effe[illegible] [illegible]

non quieuerim, sed multa nunc, et[illegible] uel æque acria, uel acriora profuderim, è quibus epistolam secundã, pauló [illegible] primæ partem texui, dici [illegible] nim nequit quanta indignatione animus, rumore [illegible] noui [illegible] erit, audito, quid in illa sancta quidem uia, non sancti quidem uiatores, contra sanctum [illegible] ducem, uel egisse ferũtur, uel dixisse. Scis me anni parem Venetijs agere, cuius urbis [illegible], it terralias iter apostolicum co[illegible] u[illegible] q[illegible] a[illegible] in[illegible] reliquarum dicitur, prima suit in ho[illegible] fa[illegible] quód è lõg[illegible] om[illegible] fere [illegible] am longissimã est Italia ambita, usque in intimum [illegible] liarum sinum atque [illegible] bditam [illegible] ubi uiæ accinctus Pontifex expectabat, gubernacul[illegible] deuotionis, & obedientiæ re[illegible] penetrauit, hinc multa didici: quæ quam molest[illegible] fuerint, eò melior [illegible] quod m[illegible] sunt auditu. Vnum de multis interseram, fu[illegible] illos ex illo e[illegible] ne[illegible] ne, qui confestim ut Venetus classem terris [illegible] p[illegible], ceu t[illegible] a[illegible] iter muliebri e[illegible], o[illegible] in se nautarum simul, ùecto[illegible] umque [illegible] ora conuerterent, qu[illegible] n & [illegible] s, ne [illegible] acl[illegible] excusario, blasphemi[illegible] parcerent. O malum Pap[illegible] p[illegible] nam terrarum miseros filios rapit, non quasi ad Chri[illegible] ca, a[illegible] ẽ Romã, sua in sede catholicæ[illegible] utum reges Ecclesiæ, sed [illegible] a[illegible] Sarracen[illegible] carceres trahere[illegible] tur, uerè ergo mise[illegible] i, uere [illegible] Pater ac p[illegible] mos[illegible] Latine dicitur, qui uolentes et[illegible] ac lucta[illegible] tes filios a[illegible] lab[illegible] d[illegible]. Ergo igitur clamor, [illegible] otus fidelium grex exclamat, [illegible] eatum, optimumque ac[illegible] m[illegible] m mundo Papam, [illegible] Ecclesiam ludibrio exuere a[illegible] tis, suo in solio atque honore repo[illegible] it, qui h[illegible] uituperat, quod [illegible] it unquam laudaturus non intelli[illegible] uerè Papã optimũ non modò antè [illegible] sed unum ex omnibus nostræ ætatis, & uerè pessimum atque impurum os, quod [illegible] ntra [illegible] issimum patrem latrat. Meritò itaque Deus illi, qui in his maledictis acerrimus [illegible] mũ[illegible] uit, manifestum ac terribile signum fecit, ut scilicet ex quo sanctam ciuitatem attigit, illicò moreretur, qui cum morti proximus esset. Ad Summũ Pontificem destina[illegible] e traditur, qui dicerent. Persuasum sibi à Medicis, ut si saluus esse uellet, ad suũ aërem, atque patriam re manceret, commeatumque deposcerent. Quod audiens Papa, quid responderit, ut nil pe[illegible] tus illustrium latet, usque huc famæ relatibus insonuit, quæ an[illegible] a sint, tu ad [illegible] acros pedes [illegible] uus indicabis. Ego enim rei nescius, rem scienti narro, se[illegible] facio, ut si in manus for[illegible] s alterius hæc uenerint, responsum omnibus notum fiat, marmoribus insculpi, & præ[illegible] us urbiũ, ac templorũ legi dignũ, atque æterna omnium, sed præsertim doctorũ, sanctorumque hominũ memoria celebrari. Cùm enim mandata nuncij peregissent, ille subitò ite(in[illegible]) & domino uestro, amico meo, & scholæ socio dicite. Cura in patriam eundi bona est, modò nouerit, quæ nã patria sit sua, nam terrenã patriã cogitare in hoc statu intẽpest[illegible] ũ, ac mortiferũ, cœlestis illa Hierusalẽ uera patria nostra est ad hanc ergo suspirẽt, ad hãc anim[illegible] te[illegible] ,cuius tamen in limine duos se maximos, potentissimosque hostes [illegible] meminer[illegible] Ap[illegible] los CHRISTI Petrum scilicet & Paulum. Quorum uolunta[illegible] mau[illegible] rest[illegible], meque [illegible] us executorẽ, præ cũctis dissuasoribus, omni quo quiuit ing[illegible] dauit. [illegible] os ergo, [illegible] m adhuc licet compũctione cordis, & lachrymis ac precibus mit[illegible], ut eos sibi pr[illegible] pitios, nec [illegible] strusum patriæ limen inueniat, hic insistat, hoc cogitet, omissisque curis ina[illegible] b[illegible], unam hanc arripiat, qua placati Apostoli CHRISTVM placent, lætamque ui ianuam regni cœlestis aperiant. Euntes hæc sibi meis uerbis nunciate. O responsum uerè angelicum. Quo accepto Cardinalis, [illegible] o sorte almæ urbis, nõn ita multo pòst, bene ut[illegible] fœliciterque, & sani credulus cõsilij expiauit, & in sanctis quę oderat, atque horrebat locis, tanta est [C]HRISTI misericordia, sepulturã meruit. Hoc ut modo dicebã, scienti nescius narro, quo nihil un[illegible] tam dici altiùs, nihil grauius audiri, ut si ita est, & tu mihi nõtu facias, et ego alijs fecerim. S[illegible] nùs scribas, ad contextum mihi, si uacat responsi formam apostolici, ut si oporte[illegible] na[illegible] am epistola mutetur uerborum forma. Quæ si ita permanserit, sciant qui hæc audient, rẽ [illegible] ne narratã, tuo & ueri testimonia constare, & sic esse ut hîc legi[illegible]. Nam si d[illegible] uersum scribas, ita hic erit ut [illegible] pseris, omninò enim, nec obliuione, nec lat[illegible] bri[illegible] digna re[illegible] est, ueni[illegible] forl[illegible] ã p[illegible] me, qui digniore hanc honestat eloquio, uel ego [illegible] as[illegible] s alibi maiore nexu incumbam, non dico, ut laudem materiã stylo æquem, sed [illegible] inc[illegible] tam pol[illegible] memoriæ [illegible] ansmit[illegible] ã. Qui[illegible] nunc his querelas infantiles [illegible] indi[illegible] as u[illegible] s adijciam, q[illegible] enuẽse ui[illegible] ũ non habe[illegible], de quo satis usque ad risum ac fa[illegible] dium d[illegible] ta[illegible] me[illegible] E[illegible] ô [illegible] cte [I]ESV si in [illegible] crederent, non'ne confiderent aquæ hydrias in uinũ o[illegible] mã[illegible] e co[illegible], n[illegible] præcesl[illegible] it eos uinũ illud, sed sequetur, ne timeant quocunque ic[illegible] nt[illegible] tum est [illegible] m[illegible] do, [illegible] eo[illegible] tc[illegible] si u[illegible] sic fortè conuiuijs abstinerent. Q[illegible] or immo [illegible] præte[illegible] e[illegible] f[illegible] d an quæso materiam su[illegible] seque[illegible] quod [illegible] iut[illegible] æstum non [illegible] at[illegible] am que[illegible] uli, &

ru[illegible], & tàm mœsti ueniunt, sstiuis caruere calöribus. An ego, so[illegible] non fui [illegible] annis in dea[illegible] loci illius oblitus sum. Ego uero et [illegible] neq; ap[illegible] be[illegible] fuer[illegible] ta[illegible] en certe nostrarum occidentalium regionum, [illegible] gan[illegible] sermo iste non recipit, nec sum memor, ubi B[illegible] [illegible] rium, unũ remedium uitæ est [illegible] Ioannis XXI [illegible] uria, ut ferè o[illegible] lico tenus [illegible] rũ Card. nalium, lym[illegible] atico [illegible] discurrens, altis atq; m[illegible] atq; [illegible] s, mali fine [illegible] pluui[illegible] temperiem precaretur. Mem[illegible] [illegible] tum. om[illegible] xus atq; æ[illegible] atis, u[illegible] anus, cutum quasi squamas, qua[illegible] more serpentu exu[illegible] e, ut si quis rarus ardoribus, [illegible] on tàm carn[illegible] [illegible] reus put[illegible] tale usquàm, nostræ [illegible] axe, [illegible] hos V[illegible] credo, sed non est [illegible], immoderatè uel diligere u[illegible] disse. Si possi[illegible] em multum, ac uiolentem in inferno esse, inueniet [illegible] tra cœlum, pr[illegible] inferno al[illegible] horumq; similibus permotus indignatione ueh[illegible] sima, [illegible] ertate i[illegible] a, uiam quam natura mihi, dederat stud[illegible] auxit, ætas [illegible] ta qu[illegible] leges Ad te enim primũ ueniunt, tuum ultrò sub[illegible] ne[illegible] solet, ne[illegible] amor officiat, seuerè iudica, & uide, an nimia sit [illegible] mia e[illegible] potest. Illud neq; tuum, neq; cuiusquàm animum [illegible] Roma-tium quo nil ma[illegible], imo cui par [illegible] orbis habet [illegible] quasi [illegible] stylum c[illegible] hibere debuerit, [illegible] enim, ut [illegible], magna hinc pa[illegible] orta est, [illegible] nulla u[illegible] particula oc[illegible] da uideretur, præsertim [illegible] & si u[illegible] m, nihil [illegible] um peritu[illegible] re po[illegible] sci entem [illegible] cta lucidius, quò manil[illegible] palpasset, ueternosorum me dicus u[illegible] ucrum. Narrauit igitur, nõ ut ex me illa d[illegible] ceret, sed ut mihi, atq; omnibus nota co gnoscen[illegible] obnixius, uel curandis his, uel amputandis incumberet, ne paucorum ma-culæ, lepra serpente, uniuersalis Ecclesiæ corpus inficiant. Quia in te, & si mihi parum aucto-ritatis esse sciam, ueritati [illegible] men undecunq; prodeunti, auctoritas sua est. Quæ latenti q[illegible] dã, ut animos ligat, attrahitq; quid enim refert buxea an eburnea, an & aurea, & orna[illegible] mis[illegible] stula consonans, & suis constans numeris uox erumpat? At tu, tamen cum hæc [illegible] quæ summo nunc etiam Põtifici dirigo, solus, tacitusq; perlegeris & tecum cuncta [illegible] ris, uoca in consilium quem soles, & quem uelle me, pridem nosti, iuniorem hunc A[illegible] Columnensem, sic enim honestius, clariusq; illum dixerim, quàm Episcopum Aescul[illegible] totam deniq; quam primæ epistolæ anno alterõ legem dixi, cuius te memorem spero, [illegible] qu[illegible] q; dictam credito. Addere consilio Columnensem alterum Stephanum & ipsum [illegible] rem, horum enim ego nominũ maiores iunior colui, hos iuniores amo senior, sed h[illegible] tra hunc querelæ causam non mediocrem, ualdè enim amanti, nulla non gratis off[illegible] quam sibi si se[illegible] obtulerit, non occultam uelim. Cùm ante diem Cal Nouembri[illegible] rediens, Ap[illegible] ici reditus reuocante, fama me in Mediolanensi rure tunc agen[illegible] erosa illa sua humilitate uisitasset, atq; illic inter nos raptim, multa pro tempor[illegible] [illegible] sententiæ [illegible] ratio recollecta, subi[illegible] more torrẽtis effusa essent, inq; hoc colloquio, a[illegible] gratæ mihi fluxissent horæ, uix tandem digressi fumus, ipse quidem totus, ut res d[illegible] go uerò m[illegible] i tantùm [illegible] parte, oculis illũ quoad licuit, animo usq; in finem com[illegible] ut ille d[illegible], quod cu[illegible] mum Romã peruenisset, latè mihi de omnibus scriberet, [illegible] rum noscen[illegible] orum auidum [illegible] sciebat, & ego ex more amantium, atq; optantium, dies numerans promissi exitum [illegible] ectaui, sed tarditati fuæ gratias, hac iam expectatione [illegible] b[illegible] tus sum. Neq; iam mirer, si in unusculum mihi optatum, sibi facile, promissumq;, non[illegible] cùm rem magnam, neq; mihi, sed sibi, familieq; suę utilem neglexerit, in quo pace sit di[illegible] [illegible] a qui mos in amicitijs [illegible] us est, excusare illum nolo, nec ualeo. Posset (in[illegible] am) al[illegible] hemens occupa[illegible] a[illegible] se animũ trahens, seu necessaria profectio, [illegible] forta[illegible] ominũ tremulæ ac [illegible] morbus mihi incognitus, segnitiem excusare. Il[illegible] id excu[illegible] d hic[illegible] a[illegible] escentem conterraneum nostrum, nu[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] uel fama [illegible] eo[illegible] dic, quo me ui[illegible] it, casu obuiũ, paucis in[illegible] habitis [illegible] xus amicitia est, ut neglecte me, qui an[illegible] [illegible] is ser[illegible] turum se spoponderat, il[illegible] im mul[illegible] po[illegible] a n[illegible] [illegible] sæpe interim familiaribus, ac[illegible] co[illegible] s epi[illegible] [illegible] repo[illegible] ita, non equidem inuideo, me[illegible] [illegible] ha[illegible] tate & [illegible] onstant a, ea nouar[illegible] [illegible] ne[illegible] hæc[illegible] s, aut l[illegible] ge[illegible] is[illegible]

minus ideò si uisum erit, ad examē uoca, liberi enim consilij, & magni ingenij Vir est, meq; & si nō magnificat, multum amat, patrem sanè meum Patriarcham absore doleo, consultorem optimū ac iudicem. Age ergo, uel solus, uel cū his, seu cum alijs, quod decori me[illegible], uno quidem nostro conueni[illegible]ns extimabis. Vnum esse uideo in quo me æmuli mei notent, quod in laudibus [illegible] multus sim, dicent me forsitā hoc tramite ad Ep[illegible]p[illegible]m aspirare, sed hac me suspitione liberet, ante acta uita, nullis blanditijs res egebat [illegible] ad eum gradum scandere, dul[illegible]e est mi[illegible]co, sed in do[illegible] Romanorum ducum, gloriæ datum, qu[illegible]d [illegible] gloriam [illegible], qu[illegible] nominatim laudatos C. Marium, Magnumq; [illegible] & Augu[illegible] Cæ[illegible]rem [illegible] Ego triumphos, nec merui, nec contemp[illegible], De[illegible] gr[illegible]as, qui mi[illegible] ani[illegible] ea quæ maximè ab hominib. mei generis ap[illegible], idq; ne sem[illegible] nō cōsilio gestum dici posset, iterū q; iterū, [illegible] se mi[illegible] reddidi [illegible] Et [illegible] est, in quo illi non crederem, nec par[illegible]em cui in om[illegible]bus ò [illegible] cuiuscunq; urbis Episcopatum u[illegible]let attollere. Sat meis sa[illegible]us sum, & si non me [illegible] lien[illegible]s impiicem, ut peccatori, benè mihi est, usq; quod [illegible] ciperet. Omne penè hominum genus noui, mul[illegible]s uidi [illegible] ex [illegible] fœlic[illegible] nul[illegible]ū. Omnis altitudo uel ruinæ proxima est [illegible] præ-rupti [illegible], quo ergo tot laudes, dicat al[illegible]quis IESVM CHRIS[illegible] co[illegible], & conscie[illegible]tiam meā testor, nunquam me hactenus, quod de illo sen[illegible] te potuisse, in[illegible] ego illum, dum sic meritur[illegible] uilus est, nec tamen interea dignas lau[illegible]s [illegible] quo ad[illegible] me paratū, nec affectibus, sed uect[illegible], unde operam dare omnes intelligerent, ubi ani[illegible]m totum factis [illegible], neq; reprehensioni ullus relictus est locus, tota [illegible]mente laudaui, & laudabo dum [illegible] potero, nisi [illegible]uod absit, quodq; nec dæmones, nec homines dæmonibus pares efficient, præclarissimi [illegible]tor initij, rursum reprehensibilis uideretur, uerba enim oportet, aut conformari rebus, aut mendacio deformari. Laudaui eū quantum [illegible], & potui, non quantum debui ac uolui, laudibus suis u[illegible] est stylus meus, non me fallit dilectū licet amor uiri, nunquam tamen uisi, nescio an uidendi. Non accepti beneficij memoria, non spes, aut cupiditas expectati, sola ueritas me [illegible]mpellit, non hominem celebro, sed uirtutem illam amo, illam stupeo, illam noui, cuius en[illegible] uidi faciem, facta uideo, & accedit ad gratiam fateor hinc externa uiri origo, hinc interna acies dissuadentium. Nam si aut ille non alienigena, aut hi non tàm alieni animis, tamq; infelli Italiæ hostes essent, non tāta uel illius laus, uel mea esset admiratio, omnis enim uirtus eo clarior, quò maioribus obiectis asperitatibus, exercita atq; cōsiucta est. Illud enim fieri potest, ut multū & iudici[illegible] meo, & gloriæ eius adijciat præcedentiū uita Pontificum. Valdè quidē contrarietas eminet [illegible]ro-pinquarū rerum, quæ distantium latuisset. Vbi unum dicam, quod Stepha[illegible]o illi, cuiu[illegible]lò antè mentio iucid[illegible], commiseram, sed augurot eum, non aliter id implesse, q[illegible]m reliqua. Expectas audire, quid nam rei sit? Quærentem an apud summū Pontificem, pro [illegible] aliquid esset acturus? Oraui, ut post recommendationem mei nominis hu[illegible]teuem adderet historiam, cuius testem faceret, Annetim Senecam, eo libro qu[illegible]m d[illegible]s edidit. Ea uerò est huiusmodi. Alexandro Macedoni Magni nomen Asiaticis ui[illegible] iam adepto, Corynthij fama illecti, [illegible] legatos, ciuilitatē suæ urbis obtulerant, qd' tale erat, quale si regi Magno, paruum regni sui oppidum id offerret, ut in oras ultimas, pro tam leui causa ridiculosa esset, ac stulta legatio, nisi [illegible]ud rem suapte perexiguam, natura magnam, atq; [illegible]ptabilem red-didisset, quod uidelicet [illegible]norem illum, ac ius ciuium, nul[illegible]unquam al[illegible], præter Her-c[illegible] tribuissent. Quo respectu, Rex immensi animi, & non sol[illegible]m parua, sed mediocria cūcta despiciens, minimum id non spreuit, sed gratanter amplexus, exemplo docuit, ut rem uilem [illegible]aritas charam facit, his præmiss[illegible], peti ut inferret, haud ignarum me quàm modicum, imò [illegible]dm nihil, Romano Pontifici, tàm pusilli hominis amor sit, posse tamen eò sibi gratum esse, quod illum non unus tantū, sed omninò nullus alter eorū, quem ætatem nostram [illegible]cidissent, Pontificum habuisset. Et si causam quæreret, cur ouis ul[illegible], & insi[illegible]ma pastores [illegible]gis d[illegible]minici non amassem responderent. Quia etsi quid[illegible] ex[illegible] ma[illegible]fici, q[illegible]dam d[illegible]cti ac facu[illegible]i fuisse uideàtur, quidā quoq; de me priuatim bene me[illegible]us ta[illegible]i me mea, multos sua fallit opinio, usq; ad hoc tempus suum respexit o[illegible] qu[illegible]am multa hodie colloquendi ardor [illegible], altero quoq; ridiculo te sipen[illegible]m hūc [illegible]tiam. Surgo ex more, nocte media, ad dicendas CHRISTO laudes, [illegible]am[illegible]em [illegible], & si mihi Deus dixerit, quare tu enarras iustitias meas, & assum[illegible] [illegible]um cō[illegible]sus tamen de misericordia, iustificāte impios, tantam inde du[illegible] [illegible]am uo[illegible]tatem percipio, ut nulla pars temporis mihi tàm grata, tamq; ex integro mea [illegible], tel quū

enim sæpe alijs, illud mihi uiuo, neq; ex omnibus, quæ mihi diuina largitas dedit, quæ non pauca erant, nisi ego peccando omnia euertissem, quicquam est, quo me arctius obligatum Deo sentiant, quàm quod me unum fecit, ex illorum numero quod nomen eius laudando inuocant, ac sic orando. Ad quod quidem intempestiuè silentium noctis aptissimum experior. & hic mihi mos, dudum cœptus, ac deinde per omnem uitam, nisi morbus insignis interrupit, usq; ad hunc seruatus est, diem & usq; ad ultimum Deo præstante seruabitur. Sacro ergo quadragesimali tempore, & cum uigilijs, & ieiunijs attrito corpore, & Ecclesiastico officio longe fatigato animo ad soporiferam aurorã, nocturniq; simul finem officij, propinquarem, tecum uotidie pro Papa nostro Apostolico orandum occurrebat. Amicitiam nostrã iuro, raro cum eo loci perueneram, quin me risus lentus ex indignatione ortus, arriperet, quan quam non ridendi tempus illud esset, sed gemendi. En dicebam tacitus, non tam se pepro parentibus, proq; benefactoribus meis oro, qui Ecclesiam Christi in exilio detinet, & uiduã patitur Petri sedem. Orabam tamen ut poteram, ex quo autem hic amicus Dei fecit, unde tota & militans, & triumphans gaudet Ecclesia, semper ad illum orationis locũ sic affectus uenio, & ad [illegible] pæ, quasi tanti cuiuspiam præcellentis, seu etiam CHRISTI nomẽ reuerenter inclinat [illegible] tenas preces altius, expressius q; pronuncio, ut ob hoc unũ pene [illegible] uideat dixisse. Quam in me mutationẽ, ipse nonnunquam miror, sed mirari desino causam sciens, facit hoc ingẽs, & spectata summis in rebus uiri sanctitas, scis ut nihil in [illegible] amabilius est uirtute, neq; id ago ignorans, peccatoris oratione, patrem illum beatum [illegible] non egere, cùm potius benedictione ipsius ego egeam, sed meo alacer [illegible] dum quod mœstus agebam lętus ago, oransq; pro alio prosum mihi. Ecce amice quantam huius diei partem occupationibus tuis eripui, neque exitum inuenio, adhuc enim unum illud occurrit, quod scripsisti, Patrem illum, altissimi ingenij, uberrimæq; doctrinę, à te ut in illam [illegible] miliarẽ, humillimamq; epistolam, glossas ei aliquas scriberes exegisse, quod nouo certe [illegible] ut ioitem stupore circundedit. Nam quid hoc aliud dictũ est, quàm si prævalidus, atq; agilis, ardus ac semipedalis per transuersum riuuli transitum, pontem quærat. Sed sic est, nunc intelligo, quod ipsi dicere solent non omnes per omnia dictum prius, à Vergilio,

——non omnia possumus omnes,

Verissimum q; illud est Crispi: Vbi intenderis ingenium ualet. Assueuit his studijs Dei nutu rector Ecclesiæ futurus, non quæ ociosorum auribus mulcendis, sed quæ populorũ moribus corrigendis. Idonea essent, benè atq; habet. Tu illic es, modò nostra hæc humilia quidem, sed fidelia legere, interdum uel audire dignetur, uiua adest expositio. Vltimum si rectè memini, tuis erat in libris, ante omnes te mortales opuscula mea optare, quæ tuo utinam desiderio digna essent, sed hic est mos amantium, non res extimant, sed auctorem. Ego uerò ut amici uerbo utar, omnia in te cupio transfundere, qualiacunq; sint, id examinandum tibi linquero. Etsi norim, quid ex his, quib. suprema manus imposita est, maximè cupias, id ut primum habeas, curabo, & si ut ueterum fatear facillimum cogitatu est, quantæ tortus ex [illegible] partes sint, unũ longè memorabile, penè mihi abstulit obliuio. Scribis te honoribus uanis, & externis auctum rebus timere, de hoc potius quàm sperare. Sed de diuina interim benignitate confidere, benè ais. Ita enim Dauidicum illud, à quibusdam uidetur intelligi: A altitudine diei timebo, ego uerò in te sperabam. Tali hinc timore, & hinc spe armatũ, nec prosperitas extollet, nec prosternet aduersitas. Vale iam dicturus eram, dum repentè inexspectatus affuit amicus, Romam ueniens, data salute & reddita, quidnam scriberem quæsiuit, audiraq; rei summa, unum [illegible] bus meis notum, animoq; gratũ [illegible]. Cardinalem illum, de quo sigillatim suprà dixi, [illegible] morte contritum, ut deuotius nihil, atq; ita prioris pertinaciæ tuisse pertinaciæ, ut alium [illegible] sibi uellet hæredem, nisi solam titulũ sui Ecclesiam, quam præ cunctis horruerat, cuius in [illegible] ctionem, omne suum patrimonium iussit expendi, atq; ibi sepeliri mortuus uoluit, ualuisse illi consiliũ Apostolicum intelligo, imò CHRISTI consilium uicarij sacro ore prolatum, quo sera licet, nõ efficax illius animæ mutatio facta est. Et hinc sibi prouideant collegæ eius, ut dum datur obstinatos animos, ad amorem suarum sedium, inflectant, nec expectent, pro sanioribus consilijs diem mortis. Anceps enim expectatio est, tu iam tandem uale, nostri memor, & quas aspicis lituras, signa familiaritatis existima.

FRANCI

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER X.

FRAN. PETRARCHA SAGRAMORO DE POMERIIS EQ. AC MONACHO CISTERTIEN. SVO, S. Epist. I.

Ad Perseuerantiam hortatur.

SEMPER & uiuis uocibus tuis, & l[illegible]is delectatus sum, tu mihi es testis, olim in mundo charissime, [illegible] in CHRISTO long[illegible] charior amice, ut omittam quotidiana[illegible] quia, [illegible]or per[illegible]s multa, & uaria duræ ill[illegible] ac di[illegible]cilis peregrinationis, atq; inamœni circuitus, quę cum multo labore, nec sine periculo, per terras barbarorum simul egimus, primum ac maximum, & pènè unicum mihi in tuis affatibus fuisse s[illegible]latium. Nihil tamen nunquam ex te, seu de te lætiùs, nihil melius uel audiui, uel audire poteram, seu legere, quam quod nuper tuis iam sacris digitis scriptum legi, anxius nempè ad euentum rerum tuarum, incertusq; animi remanseram, sentiens te hic ut Augustini uerbo utar, parturitione nouę uitæ, turgidum abire, illinc notos uitę ueteris nodos timens, quorsum hæc inter erumperes, recensq; propositum quis'nam exitus exciperet, expectabam. Ecce euasisti, mundū. O' uiator fœlicissime, & breuis ambiguæ uitæ uiam, ante uesperam, tuto cautus hospitio conclusisti, & per quot labores, & per quanta pericula scio ego, sciunt omnes, nemo autem certius, quam tu, qui te uiuum esse, & tantis asperitatibus resistere potuisse. Credo nunc, tecū tacitus, mireris, tuum ipse terreum ac mortale corpus, aspiciens, uerè aut ut nullum sæpe animal fragilius, sic interdum nullùm durius est homine. Itaq; nunc leuissimis prostratus impulsibus, ceu non suam & malè hærentem subitò animam ponit, quod de multis accepimus, quorum quosdam gaudium ingens, uel inanis etiam lętitia, alios dolor, nunc magnis, nunc paruis ac leuibus conceptus ex causis risus alios, alios uuæ passæ granum unicum. Deniq; Fa[illegible]ium Senatorem pilus unus in potu lactis absorptus, præcluso spiritu necauit, possent ne oro, magis friuolæ causæ mortis existere? Contrà uerò, nonnunquam uel uulneribus, uel ruinis inuictus, ita spiritum tenet, ita emisisse illum creditus aliquando reuocat, quod de multis aspeximus, etiam ac legimus, ut nihil omninò uiuacius humano corpusculo uideatur. Horum tu[illegible]nus ex numero es, quod ut clarè uideas, hûc parumper flecte animum, & post cursum uitæ præcipitis iam sublisse, respiciensq; in tergū remetire memoriter uias tuas, libra actus, annos numera, curas examina, desideria contemplare, tunc intelliges, per quot lapidosi itineris anfractus, quam quietam domum per quos fluxus procellosi maris, quàm tranquillum littus attigeris, & duci tuo gratias ages, qui per medias te Syrtes, & per Scyllam, ac Charybdim inter Syrenes ac scopulos, ad salutis portum, salua puppe perduxerit. Vt salubrem enim tibi augeam stuporem, noli illos cogitare, qui e uitæ huius tempestatibus enatant. Illos cogita qui merguntur, qui quoniam non comparent, pauci uidentur, cum sint plurimi. Dies, imò ætas tota me deficiet, numerantem casus hominum non communium modò, sed illustrium, miserabiles ac famosos, unum ex illustribus, ex plebeis alterū attingam: quos & noui ambo, & notissimi nobis olim uiri, tibi nondum forsitan auditi Luchinus noster Veronensis, heu, mihi qualis, & quantus uir tuus, & quàm nostri ama[illegible]s, nunquam nos p[illegible]oprijs nominibus, sed te filium, & me fratrem uocitare solitus, p[illegible] fidelem amiciriam, gloriosamq; militiam, ut terrenæ tandem, ac labentis gloriæ cœlestē superadderet, profect[illegible]s contra Turcos, illic in littore [illegible]aris Euxini honestissimo quidē in actu, atq; exped[illegible]tione sanctissima, sed procul à patria uitā clausit, naturali licet obitu, uniuersæ tamē, ni[illegible] me amor fallit, Italiæ flebili ac damnoso. Ossa Constantinopolim reportata sunt, ne q[illegible]id de tant[illegible]bis, t[illegible] exper[illegible] belli duce su[illegible]eresset, præter memoriam, & luctum, f[illegible]umq; unicum [illegible]dolescent[illegible], qui uirtute anim[illegible]mus patri erit ut speramus. Martinus Theutonicus ille semitalis, qui crebrò

hinc, & missus ad imperatorem [illegible] at, illic [illegible] sylu[illegible] Theutonicæ, quas ambo tran[illegible]mus eodem ipso tunc comite, quasúe tu p[illegible]ea solus, totiens pererrasti, latro[illegible]m [illegible]ue[illegible]stium in manus lapsus [illegible]o perijt. At [illegible] uide qu[illegible]ens euasisti, uerum totien[illegible] perire potu[illegible]sti. Nosce liberatricem in se sperantium [illegible] manum, quæ pro nobis clauo transfixa, mortis sæpe tuum, meumq; caput [illegible]ipuit, non ut immortales essemus, sed ut meliùs moreremur Pon[illegible]ub o[illegible]s tempus illu[illegible] quo per eas syluas armatorum comitatu septi, te[illegible]lis balistis, e[illegible] testibus & [illegible]tis gladijs, multa per d[illegible]m millia Theutonica passuū agebamus, tum ab [illegible]æ duc[illegible]us tuti n[illegible]hil, ab alijs uero periculi multum esset, nisi nos prædoni[illegible]us cuncta [illegible]ntibus abscondisset, at[illegible] inuisibiles effecisset, ille de quo scriptum: In die malorum pro[illegible]t me, in abscondito ta[illegible]aculi sui. Et rursus: Obscurentur oculi eorum ne uideant, & d[illegible]lum eorum [illegible]per incurua. Et tunc quidem multi eramus, ad solamen fortè aliqu[illegible]d, ad p[illegible] fug[illegible]hil. At tu pos[illegible]o[illegible]um, cum famulis tuis, solus, aduersis tempestatibus, [illegible]iens, penetrasti, d[illegible] tibi dicerem [illegible] satius labor fuit, n[illegible] te scirem, anno uno, septi[illegible]s quod uix fieri posse quisquam creda[illegible], iter ill[illegible] artatem exegisse. Qua[illegible]uam, quid [illegible]num memoro, nisi quod hoc tibi crebrius fuit, n[illegible] tua quidem optione, sed superio[illegible]perio. At quem locum non modò occidens sed [illegible] or[illegible]a bet [illegible]acessum ub[illegible] qua[illegible]s obuersus pelagus? Quotiens enim, & quot ma[illegible] iunior? Quam deinde Barbariem non ad[illegible] Quæ discrimina [illegible]m [illegible] cerem. N[illegible]ties inice tot laboribu[illegible], c[illegible]m ferreū [illegible]orpus [illegible] tibi, pelle & c[illegible]stuit te, os[illegible]bus & neruis compegit te, c[illegible]tus ille opifex Deus. Nunc qui[illegible] dicam [illegible]e nō ferreu[illegible] modò, sed chalybeum, plusq; aliquid est inuentum, quod non tu[illegible] tribue[illegible] naturæ, sed illius gratiæ. Ille te contra omnē difficultatem, inuisibili adamante solidabat, qui formauit te, & posuit super tē manum suam, s[illegible] quid de te esset acturu[illegible], scientia illa sua mirabili, ad quam non possumus, qua cognos[illegible] omnia nouissima [illegible]ntiqua. Is te deniq; ad hunc finem, ab utero tuæ matris elegerat, qui iam diu antequàm nascereris, antequàm forma[illegible]eris in [illegible]ero, [illegible] te, qui pro [illegible] atq; omniū salute, nec latibulum uteri uirginalis, certè nec patibulum [illegible]s exhorruit, qui te ideo tot laboribus passus est exercer[illegible] ut finaliter requiescens, intelligeres quid intersit inter seruitium Dei & hominum [illegible]seruititium dico, sed imperium. Profectò enim illud dulce tutum fœlix, hoc amarum, a[illegible] miserum. Proinde [illegible] præteritorum memorē catenus uelim, ne ingratus domino tuo [illegible]qui tam multis ingr[illegible] & non tuis gratus ac fidelis [illegible]eris. De reliquo autem te hortor, ut omnem mundi falla[illegible]natum, a[illegible]ugitiuam, fallam [illegible]ulcedinem paruipendens, & cum Apostolo præteri[illegible] obliuiscens, atq; in ea, quæ antè [illegible]unt, extentus totis uiribus ad superna cōtendas. Erige teipsum, dominus dexteram dabit, attolle animum, & oppressos somno carnis, fumoq; rerum mortalium caligantes aperi oculos, atq; expurga, & uide unde emerseris, obstupesces, & flens dices. Nu[illegible] cœpi. Hæc mutatio dexteræ excelsi, nisi quia dominus adiuuit me, paulò minùs habitass[illegible]n inferno a[illegible]ma mea. Raro siquidem clarius cuiquam CHRISTVS affuit q[illegible]am tibi, quod facilè senti[illegible] ad cursum rapidissimi temporis, & uolatilis uitæ fugam respici[illegible] adolescentia u[illegible] peri[illegible]a, ac labores tuos pro uanitate suscepto, fœlicemq; ex[illegible] simul q; multorum g[illegible] in[illegible]m lapsus, recensueris, hoc est enim, quod & milites in[illegible] & nautas in fracta præcipitat. [illegible]o occisos aut naufragos omnes præmia uictorum [illegible]ducum lucra dinumerant [illegible]es, ut est dictum, cogita quo tibi fœlicior uideâre. Memento etiam qui[illegible] al[illegible]quan[illegible]neris, quid feceris pro amore h[illegible]inum, qui difficilè quæ[illegible]tur, & fac[illegible]lim[illegible] perditur, [illegible] quæsitus nocet, fac nunc aliqu[illegible] pro illo, cuius amor fol[illegible] pietate p[illegible]ta[illegible]s, semper [illegible] æternus est. Cogita quid egeris pro extimatoribus [illegible]simis, qui & meri[illegible] magna [illegible]enuant, aut dissimulant, atque irrenumerata prætereunt, & leuissimas culpas exagge[illegible]nt, puniuntq;. Age aliquid pro illo, qui nullum bonum, sine præmio di[illegible]sit, nunquam ad se reuersus, sine supplicio, mala multa dimiserat. Amast[illegible] liqu[illegible]s, qui te [illegible] a[illegible]abant, ama illum, qui te amauit, antequàm tu eum nosses, qui amatus nunquam, non a[illegible]auit, cum sæpe non amatus amauerit, & amando se cogerit amari. Illum ama[illegible] quem [illegible]e summa est uirtus, à quo amari, summa fœlicitas, serui[illegible]perb[illegible], ac mortali[illegible]s & [illegible]us seruire uile ministerium fuit, illi seruire ipcipe, qui est [illegible], & h[illegible]milis cord[illegible]q; iam [illegible] morti[illegible], & cui seruire regnare est. Si summum fidei [illegible]tium est, [illegible]s, [illegible] cum libertate reg[illegible] erit. Scis ut minores sileam, quato pro C[illegible] ho[illegible] nou[illegible]q; Rom[illegible] Imperi[illegible] fecisti, quæ & si notissima sibi essent, ne dissimula[illegible] [illegible]en[illegible]terulis meis te[illegible]ent, quotiens illi fidē ac labores tuo[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible]ui, & [illegible]uid t[illegible] uel [illegible]a[illegible] mea[illegible]a pfuerint uidisti. Itaq; recol[illegible] te i[illegible] [illegible]ra[illegible] iam quie[illegible]m p CHRISTO egeris, age qu[illegible]tes, [illegible] mundi

mundi laboribus, quies hæc inquàm fr[illegible] s labor eſſet, nec ſterilis modò ſed peſtifer. [illegible]que qui labo[illegible] iol[illegible]ſimo [illegible] al[illegible] [illegible] as, quie[illegible] imo tramite, is ad cœlum fœlic[illegible] rerum pe[illegible]o. Se[illegible], factus es amicus CHRISTI militabas mu[illegible]o, Deo militaris. [illegible] m erat & lab[illegible], & [illegible]uluis, & ſtrepitus, & mortes, & u[illegible]era, & in [illegible] acrequ[illegible]s, æremus, ſilentium, & cœleſte h[illegible] bi[illegible]culum, & per[illegible]. I[illegible] ſ[illegible]m [illegible]tat, eſcam uermium corpus al[illegible]e, atque ornare, & [illegible] offeren[illegible] ap[illegible] re[illegible] apem, [illegible] aſſatim, auro ac gemmis, & cand[illegible]dis linte[illegible] obuol[illegible]am, te[illegible]plum [illegible] animam n[illegible]gere. Huius autem religioſæ militiæ [illegible]dium eſt, amicum [illegible]lere, [illegible]rpus at[illegible]erere, & in [illegible]m redigere, & obedientiæ uincu[illegible]is aſtringere, & ci[illegible] al[illegible]g[illegible] De[illegible] t ho[illegible] [illegible]uo multa perpeſſus, multa metuas, in car[illegible]re & com[illegible] ha[illegible]ere. I[illegible] un cr[illegible]enta arma, nunc purpu[illegible]s ueſtes induere, qu[illegible]bus aut terreres h[illegible] ut m[illegible]as de[illegible]ctares, hæc te humilem, pallidamq́ induit cuculam, [illegible] a d[illegible] [illegible]as & [illegible]eas D[illegible]. Illa te docuit fortes equos, tenſis tibijs urgere, hæc [illegible] a[illegible], a[illegible]lutis brauium pigritantem animam excitare, equos autem, [illegible]um [illegible] D[illegible]di cum illud horrificum meminiſſe, quod inſani [illegible]uites no[illegible] a[illegible]: No[illegible] in f[illegible]d[illegible] qui uoluntatem habebi[illegible], neque in tibijs uiri [illegible]acitum erit e[illegible] i m[illegible], a[illegible] p[illegible]mum conſcientiæ morſum, ac pauores abdito[illegible]asq; h[illegible] minuin laudes, & [illegible]m operoſam, hæc animi puritatem ac ſecuritatem p[illegible]etuam pollicetur, & contemptum laudum humanarum, ut in domino laudetur anima tua, & in domino glorietur, qui de [illegible]antis [illegible]lam malis eripuit, bonorumq́ participem tanto[illegible]m recto ad uitam duxit itinere. O' Cistertium ſacra domus, ubi hæc fiunt. O' Cistertium [illegible]x ſch[illegible]la, ubi iſta diſ[illegible]untur. O' beatum te, qui intra illud ſanctum limen, & teipſum quem perdideras, & pro multi[illegible] dominis, pauperibu[illegible] & malis ac duris, unum bonum, manſuetum, largum ac diuitem Dominum inueniſti, qui dat omnibus affluenter, nec improperat, qui rog[illegible]s iuſte ni[illegible]l neg[illegible], & ſi [illegible]ert uultu[illegible] illiu[illegible] donare, ſæpe etiam nec rogan, expectat ut merita noſtra tranſcendens, ſic & uota præueniens, habes domin[illegible] qui non te decipiet, non calumniabitur, non contemnet, ſed e[illegible]te pluris faciet, quò te magis ipſe contempſeris, habes dominum, qui non lædet, nec te lædi ſinet, non te periculo obijciet, non labori, niſi iuſto & pio, & meritorio, & utili, & delectabili, & honeſto, habes dominum, non huius urbis aut illius, nō regni, aut imperij temporalis, & ab altero quæſiti, ſed qui cœlum, mare, terram, & quæ in eis ſunt, quæ creauit omnia, pugno continet, nutu regit, cuius regni non erit finis, nec tamen hac tanta poteſtate difficilem, aut ſuper[illegible]um. Nunquam tibi amicus humilis familiarior fuit, quàm hic erit, ſi tota & pura mente uol[illegible]eris, nihil enim ſecum fingi poteſt, nihil diuidi, to[illegible]. Cor atque animam tuam cum nemine uult partiri, zelotes eſt. Si quem fortè, niſi [illegible] p[illegible]ter ſe alium a[illegible]es iraſcitur, & quemcunq; conſortem dedignatur, nec immerito, n[illegible] e[illegible]m ha[illegible]et, & ipſe de ſe ait: Videte quod eg[illegible] ſum ſolus, & non eſt alius Deus [illegible] c eo dictum [illegible] Neque enim eſt alius extra te. & iterum: Non eſt ſimilis tu[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible]mine. Quanto m[illegible]nus ergo in hominibus. Qui[illegible]cunque ſe per orbem reguli attol[illegible]nt, quotcunque ſe dominos dici uelint, uerè unus eſt Rex regum, & dominus domin[illegible]um. Et ſi te aliquando totum dare homini libue[illegible] nihil in t[illegible] habenti, niſi conſenſum [illegible]uum, da nunc, imò redde totum Deo corpus, & an[illegible]. Cogitatus atque opera q[illegible]æ il[illegible] ſunt. Et ſi ea [illegible] forſan eripue[illegible]as, ut alterius fierc[illegible]loratus aderit, ut indigno poſſeſſore ſpoliato, [illegible] ius ipſe recepi[illegible], & tu fidem tua[illegible] [illegible] ergo uitæ primit[illegible]as abſtuliſti [illegible] reliquias, ſal[illegible] bona fide inte[illegible]ras, liberaliter, cu[illegible]ra debitore paciſcitur, & libenter obl[illegible]citur. Nempe ſi in laudem I[illegible]li Cæſaris, ait Cicero. Quod nihil [illegible]leret n[illegible] iniurias obliuiſci, quanto id di[illegible]ius in laudem CHRISTI dicitur, qui niſi obliuioſus i[illegible]rum, noſtri autem & ſuæ miſericordi[illegible] memo[illegible] eſſet, fruſtrà per Prophetam diceretur: Cùm iratus fueris miſericordiæ recordaberis: ite[illegible]: Reminiſcere miſerationum tuarum domine, & miſericordia[illegible]um, quæ à ſ[illegible]culo [illegible]t. Ac deinde: Delicta iuuētutis meæ, & ignoran[illegible]s meas ne [illegible] L[illegible] [illegible]: Secundùm miſericordiam tuam memento mei tu: Me[illegible] uarum p[illegible] [illegible]m, & ſuarum miſericordiarum ſponte memin[illegible] Q[illegible] Qu[illegible] li[illegible]ens, [illegible] eximi[illegible] habet recordetur, & cogitet: Q[illegible] nō the[illegible]uros [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]um ibi eſt, crebrius, auidiusq; conſidere[illegible]. Quod [illegible]s, d[illegible] lo[illegible] bar[illegible] [illegible]orem laudator idem ait. Nullam de u[illegible]ibu[illegible] s [illegible] re[illegible], nec grati[illegible]em quanto id uſti[illegible] R[illegible] [illegible] de qu[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] a eſt ter[illegible] uauis do[illegible]n[illegible] un[illegible] [illegible] mnta [illegible] domini, qa nō [illegible]mus [illegible], tuarū ne [illegible] ſte[illegible]

farum

farum, obliu[illegible]niũ, mo[illegible] m[illegible]tati, & malæ conf[illegible] lis, obliuiscet, inquam, & deleb[illegible]atem [illegible]m, & quantum d[illegible] longè faciet à t[illegible] & a peccato tu[illegible] dabit te [illegible] & proijciet [illegible]ud, [illegible]t quæ [illegible]o [illegible] tur. Non fefel[illegible]t qui promi[illegible] di[illegible], [illegible]et in[illegible]tates nostras, & pr[illegible] pro[illegible] maris, iam peccata nostra, neque[illegible] d[illegible], [illegible] omn[illegible]m [illegible] ut u[illegible] dauit, [illegible]m, abunde [illegible] f[illegible], cùm [illegible]s, & factu[illegible] con[illegible] Denique p[illegible]es [illegible]n [illegible]per te au[illegible]eres [illegible] de aut optar[illegible] te unum [illegible]t, ipse enim nullam [illegible] n[illegible]n amplectitur, dum [illegible]s do[illegible] na[illegible] te excit[illegible], [illegible] debeas, & fort[illegible]s eo lætius, quo & [illegible] cum gau[illegible] fi[illegible] am[illegible] patrim[illegible], reue[illegible]us excipitur & am[illegible] in deser[illegible] ouis, & [illegible]ma domi [illegible] cred[illegible]ta, [illegible]ius inuenit [illegible] omninò ma[illegible]s e[illegible] g[illegible]m, super u[illegible] [illegible]re pœni[illegible] n a[illegible] quàm super [illegible]nagintanouem iustis, [illegible]n e[illegible]ent pœni[illegible] Quod n[illegible]tum [illegible] iusti ad peccatum incitentur, sed u[illegible] in[illegible] a desperat[illegible] trahantur. A[illegible]de ad [illegible]n [illegible]enset, nec timor, aut pudor impediat, non te deu[illegible] sed tu illos t[illegible]me, bonus e[illegible] comitatus peccatoris & acceptus Deo est, metus & u[illegible] dia, modo spem ac fidu[illegible]m non [illegible]cludan[illegible] tibi de te metus, d[illegible] do[illegible]no tuo f[illegible] tu[illegible]bi[illegible] illum [illegible], [illegible] atque [illegible] dominum ex anim[illegible] re, plus [illegible] st[illegible] atque iratum p[illegible] e[illegible]ne æque ac [illegible] & [illegible] m[illegible] ab [illegible]num domino si [illegible] omni tempore, [illegible] [illegible] sa[illegible] f[illegible] ar[illegible] die, noctuque adire [illegible] poteris atque alloqui. Semper [illegible] [illegible]u[illegible], exau[illegible]et, quan[illegible]m necn[illegible] peterc[illegible] necesse, & [illegible] necessa[illegible] dem d[illegible] erimus. [illegible] Pater qui[illegible]us indig[illegible]us, & [illegible]ecessi[illegible] tuin est no[illegible]um primum quæramus igitur, unũ illud, hoc est, Regnũ Dei, & hæc om[illegible] ci[illegible]tur nobis. Si quando aũt tibi [illegible]orta[illegible]is dunor, aut tardior uideretur [illegible] pecta[illegible] ni[illegible]is, no[illegible] fidere, neque tædio, uel angoribus affici, noli impatientiæ a[illegible] te aditum tibi uel quod cupis, uel quod expe[illegible] Quod si forte, qui per aul[illegible] mortaliũ domi[illegible] berrimus mos est, intercessione tibi opus, apud dominum, ea cre[illegible] prona semper, ac [illegible]cilis ad gratiam uia est. Non eges pecunia, non dolis, aut blandi[illegible] pietate, ac fi[illegible] li uirgo mater, qua nil unquam mitius sol uidit, nil humanius nostra habuit natura. [illegible] humilitas tanta est, ut & eam cœ[illegible]o dignam fecerit, & ad terram cœli dominum inc[illegible] tueri, quando hanc uel sol[illegible] uel præci[illegible]uam respexisse uidetur, Deus homo m[illegible]x dum [illegible]neam genitricem [illegible] sibi de specie, præparet, denique omnis in hac u[illegible] pe[illegible]et, ut præter solam filij sui animam, in nulla unquã alia tam excellens fuerit [illegible] de[illegible]um licet peccatorũ pr[illegible]o porrigit, & pia illis ueniã posci[illegible] instãti[illegible], & si enim peccatã od[illegible]it pec[illegible]tores non odi[illegible] [illegible] miseretur, eo[illegible]imque cõ[illegible]onẽ diligit, ac salutem p[illegible], recolens illorũ peccato[illegible] quæ ex peccato nascitur miseria, diuinam misericord[illegible] [illegible]tam, tanti sibi ho[illegible]s ta[illegible] fœlicitatis materiã excitasse, & ut mater Dei fieret [illegible] persisteret, [illegible]u[illegible] unqua[illegible]to orbe fœcundius, nilque esset intactius. Sin forta[illegible] interdum magni[illegible] cuius pr[illegible]tum accidit, ut apud intercessorem, intercessore [illegible] sit, ipsum hunc tibi ambi[illegible]um n[illegible]lari[illegible] putabis, optimũ remedium præsto est, [illegible] tardum ordinis tui princip[illegible]em [illegible]e amare, & tui præsentia gaudere, mihi per[illegible]ua[illegible] qite optare ut in d[illegible]o su[illegible]undo prætuleris, benè ac fœl[illegible]ter [illegible] sit, [illegible]m nullus tibi p[illegible]tior ad se[illegible] em, nullus dominæ gratio[illegible] [illegible]ur, n[illegible]s a[illegible] delectan[illegible] du[illegible]es, fid[illegible] ronibus, & quid multa. Habes intercessores atq[illegible] h[illegible], at[illegible]: habes loca solitaria ac deuota: habes demum [illegible] [illegible]usi tibi ipse de[illegible]ueris, [illegible] ut [illegible]ero non facies, piger in sæculo, inque oculis hom[illegible] [illegible]n fuisti, ubi [illegible] sæpe utilis, & damnosa sollicitudo est, piger in æremo ante D[illegible] non eris, u[illegible] [illegible]udo semper utilis, & funesta pigritia est. Illic enim de rebus [illegible] nũc u[illegible] atque [illegible]anibus agebatur, hic de tua æterna agitur salute, publicus mu[illegible] [illegible] & uulgaris est [illegible]tas, p[illegible]a & fugitiua sectari, magna & mansura despicere. [illegible] cætero [illegible]n er[illegible] m[illegible]ia, sin[illegible]la discussisti, quod optimum est t[illegible] [illegible]disti [illegible]is a[illegible]nis, [illegible]ulti decrepiti non uiderunt, experien[illegible] [illegible] c[illegible]d d[illegible]n[illegible]um est [illegible]re. Itaque ne diu[illegible]is ab orãd[illegible] [illegible] ac c[illegible] medico ægri[illegible] difficil[illegible] t[illegible]m [illegible] [illegible]co al[illegible]s, sibi enim n[illegible] oc[illegible] [illegible] mat: [illegible]dit[illegible]uli. Ne[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] mi[illegible]rat[illegible] miser[illegible] [illegible]em [illegible]rdia [illegible] est. Neque u[illegible]idas, q[illegible]

[illegible] pietas, magnum fateor [illegible] um, [illegible] ubi uerò perminimum, si tu ho[illegible] ipse est Agnus Dei, qui tollit peccata mundi. Qui non uenit uocare iustos, sed peccatores. [illegible] unum hominem non leua[illegible] ies æger, [illegible] ait. [illegible] Medico, sed qui malè habent. Si [illegible] domo discubuit, ne quis unquam dubitaret, [illegible] ipsum uenturum, leprosos quoque mundauit, & [illegible] Domine [illegible] potes me mundare. Respondit. Volo mundare. & lepram ip[illegible], dicto [illegible] sola be[illegible] ne discussit. Si quod in anima tua ius peccandi [illegible] fortitan [illegible] ipse obsessos à dæmonibus liberauit. Si tempest[illegible] ac [illegible] præteritæ, nunc etiā tua quatitur nauicula. Ipse [illegible] pescuit [illegible] & [illegible] mergeret [illegible] undis, extulit, & Paulum terna [illegible] gio [illegible] as tua, ut surgere non possit [illegible] motus, si affectus [illegible] ntes, si manus aridæ, atque operibus [illegible] ipse [illegible] erexit. Ipse [illegible] dos salubri humore restituit. Et [illegible] fort [illegible] longa [illegible] ad salutem ferre potes, nec qui feiat habe[illegible] lium. Idem est [illegible] octo annis immobili, iussit ut [illegible] ret, surrexit, [illegible] gra[illegible] s. Si [illegible] adhuc cupiditatū an[illegible] rū, uelut [illegible] Petri [illegible] manu tangens [illegible] incolumem [illegible] tat [illegible] lis me[illegible] pr[illegible] ana[illegible] picos [illegible] cæci [illegible] teriores oculi tui fu[illegible] ipse cæcos illuminauit. Si [illegible] es [illegible] festi[illegible] is, si uel Dei laudibus, uel pec[illegible] atorū confessioni muta sunt labi[illegible] ipse sur[illegible] dire, & mutos loqui. Si postremò mortu[illegible] is pe[illegible] cat[illegible] si mala consuetu[illegible] es in[illegible] mortuos su[illegible] uit, [illegible] quatriduanos iam fœtentes e sepulchris erutos uitæ reddidit. [illegible] es ei[illegible] quod non dederit, quodque no[illegible] libent[illegible] simè sit [illegible] aturus, pete intrepidus, sed reuerens, q[illegible] d necesse habes, porrò ut dixi unum est nec[illegible] ssa[illegible] m, cum da[illegible] nosa, & superuacua multa sint. Neque importunus fieri metitas[illegible] ipse impo[illegible] nitatem hanc docuit. Ipse ait: Petite & accipieti[illegible] quærite & inuenietis, Pul[illegible] e & aperietur uobis. de Dijs gentium [illegible] atyricus loquens ai[illegible]

Charior est illis homo quàm sibi.

A[illegible] irauit ad uerum, sed non attigit, cùm enim omnes dij [illegible] um dæmonia, non carus illis, haud dubiè, sed odiosus est homo, inuidentibus no[illegible] is omnem fœlicitatem, atque omne sanctum gaudium, & de nostra miseria ac dolore gaudentibus, rectè [illegible] dici uelis, tu deorum nomen ad Deum uerum, atque unum transfer, uerè illi charior est homo, quàm sibi, [illegible] m semper est charus, qui ut [illegible] tum est, diligit omnia quæ sunt, & nihil odit eorum quæ fecit, nec dubium quin in primis ipsum, qui ad eius imaginem ac similitudinem à principio factus est, [illegible] ipse p[illegible] st [illegible] ri uelle dignatus est, hominem amet, in similitudinem hominum factus [illegible] m is, [illegible] tur inuentus ut homo, non potest non amare, quod est, a[illegible] plus [illegible] p[illegible] s, ut qui melior, antiquiorque est multò, totu[illegible] mor, atque æter[illegible], am[illegible] n s[illegible] uel nos ipsos, quippè an[illegible] etiam quam essemus, nisi e[illegible] ama[illegible] creat[illegible] me[illegible] amandus, imò quidem r[illegible] damandus qui amare incipit, [illegible] amore uictor & [illegible] de quo ait Ioannes Apostolus: Diligamus dominum, quia ipse [illegible] nos dilexit, & [illegible] au[illegible] S T V S dilexit nos, & t[illegible] didit semetipsum pro nobis, quanquam quid alio[illegible] te[illegible] [illegible] se amator, & Deus n[illegible] de patre suo loquens: Sic Deus dilexit mundum [illegible] ut filium suum unigenitum daret. [illegible] il aliud profect[illegible] quàm hominem, mundi appellatione signific[illegible] ns, at non ut Deo semper sicut & [illegible] bimet charus est homo. Et si enim quod Apostolus idem a[illegible]. Nemo unquam carnem suo odio habuerit, sæ[illegible] tamen per effectum patuit, multos [illegible] iam amando [illegible] nimam odi[illegible] se, atque ita fu[illegible] se [illegible] uel manifesto odio, uel amori od[illegible] um hab[illegible] t. Sic dilectus, Domino[illegible] que t[illegible] o cha[illegible] or, qu[illegible] m t[illegible] [illegible] pe[illegible] fiducialiter, nil hæsitans, nam & [illegible] b amāte petis, [illegible] ab habente quod petitur, dare a[illegible] tem, [illegible] solito & optante, negante autem nihil, quod dono di[illegible] num sit [illegible] s rep[illegible], na[illegible] hoc de terreno Imperatore plausibiliter dictum est, quan[illegible] o [illegible] at[illegible] cœl[illegible] q[illegible] [illegible] nia quæ optari possunt, & quo nihil est melius, fœlici[illegible] & [illegible] de[illegible] eri [illegible] [illegible] s si[illegible], nil inde detrahitur, dicerem, sed additur, nisi q[illegible] atque p[illegible] ectū [illegible] tionem & augmentum respuit. Certè aliquid quotidie d[illegible] [illegible] ri[illegible] rdia quæ nō potest maior esse, [illegible] or, [illegible] supra [illegible] turanto, indi[illegible] us es munere ut in[illegible] hoc [illegible] accip[illegible], sed quid [illegible] d in Alexandro [illegible] cætera [illegible] um in æterno [illegible] â n[illegible] ehendi

P[illegible]

potest,sed laudari debet ab omnibus. Nam [illegible] quæreret, quid nos accipere deceret, aut [illegible] nobis,aut supplicium daret,sele igitur respicit, se metitur, & secundum ma[illegible] am[illegible] diam suam,miseretur nostri. Non secundùm opera nostra, gratia enim salu[illegible] dem,& hoc non ex nobis,ut Apostolus ait: Dei enim donum est, n[illegible] ex [illegible] glorie[illegible],f[illegible]t quidem quisque no[illegible]trum [illegible]ód pec[illegible]aton[illegible] est [illegible] proprium Redemptoris, [illegible] omnis d[illegible] , ad[illegible] spes salubn[illegible] quod petitur,dono utiq[illegible] n[illegible] d[illegible]um est. N[illegible]m neq[illegible] qu[illegible] al[illegible]quid, [illegible] nia commoda,petis ti[illegible] pes inopes,honores inglorios,potentiam imbecillem, [illegible] sericordiam ac salutem animæ tuæ,qua una inuenta, multo eris di[illegible]ior, quam quisquam [illegible] gum cum pompis suis omnibus,[illegible]ter quas cæci supe[illegible]iunt terra & cinis. Sed iam sa[illegible]is est, summa omnium hæc sit, inq; hoc finiam. Multi olim tibi erant domini, per quos [illegible] perire,principes ac reges terræ unus tibi nunc est dominus,per quem potes saluus [illegible] excelsus præ re[illegible]ibus terræ is[illegible] terribilis, & qui aufert spiritum principum, terrib[illegible] reges terræ [illegible] ne cole igit[illegible], & hunc ama, ut effectum tui nominis impleas,[illegible] nim aliquando aliter,p[illegible] ate materiæ tempi[illegible]se uidear,non potes [illegible] acer am[illegible] di, huius [illegible] scrip[illegible] : Nolite diligere mundum, neque ea, quæ in mu[illegible]do [illegible] niam omne, q[illegible]od est [illegible] mu[illegible]do c[illegible]ncupiscentia carnis est, & co[illegible] superbia ui[illegible]æ. [illegible]t iterum: Adult[illegible]ri nesci[illegible],quia amicitia huiu[illegible] est [illegible] go ut digne sacri amoris nom[illegible] habue[illegible] ama,cœliq; [illegible]um [illegible] quære, de quo dictum est: Quærite faci[illegible] eius semper,& hunc in[illegible] arri[illegible] nimæ ulnis amplectere, utere consilio Augustini, projciente in eum [illegible] metuere [illegible] subtrahet ut cadas, projcete securus, excipiet & sanabit te, & puto iam sentias, iam [illegible] incipias ab illo, qui quoniam Dei perfecta sunt opera, crede mihi, perficiet quod [illegible] Non lassabitur, non lentescet, non quæret occasiones, qui pos[illegible] iem[illegible] in finem [illegible] tur,teq; nec in uita destituet,nec in morte,sed tunc maximè aderit, ut[illegible] accipiat per angelos suos ad sedes pacificas perferendum,& per sace[illegible]tes [illegible] more commendet,die ultimo resumendum,ut plena fœlicitas tua sit. Ecce qui ta[illegible] uo & labili pro præmio laborasti,paruo & dulci labore,imò mu[illegible] a cum requie,dom[illegible] optimo seruiens,infinita & æterna præmia consequeris. Idq; acri[illegible] tecum reputan[illegible] & [illegible] tura præteritis conferens,nec tristitiam unquam,nec fatigationem senties,nec to[illegible] hæc tam multa hodie tecum, non quia tu multis egeas, sed ut te alloquens, me [illegible]dem do[illegible] cendo discitur,sæpe datum alteri consilium danti profuit. Quod me autem uerbo, sed [illegible] tò magis exemplo tuo excitas piè facis. Quod epistolam uerò meam petis, non aliter [illegible] si ad tam honesti principij perseuerantiam , meo tibi opus esset hortatu amice id qui[illegible] omnia & humiliter, atq; urbanè,uerè enim in me præter opinionem tuam,meamq; [illegible] dem,quid est unde, seu realis, seu uerbalis auxilij & multum speres,possem uero [illegible] quæcunque olim germano illi meo,eodem callè Carthusiam tunc ingresso, quo[illegible] sterrium,ingenti epistola,quæ deinde sibi ac fratribus suis templi latu[illegible] quod [illegible] necessarium,& mihi non fac[illegible]le uisum est,è duobus sanè, quæ postulas, præter epi[illegible] ci,quod magna pars eorum,qui se amicos dicunt,aut neutrum tamen faciunt [illegible] Feci ego quod minimum,P[illegible]mos septem m[illegible],quos in miserijs dudum meis,ipse m[illegible] com posui,iam efficaciter utina[illegible] uam inculc[illegible],utrumq; en[illegible]m præstare studui,leges eo[illegible] cunque sunt,idq; patien[illegible] facies , si hos quidem ipsos, & te [illegible]isse,& me multos [illegible] nos,luce una nec integra [illegible], memineris. Librum Vitæ [illegible]tariæ quem ad [illegible] tuæ solatium requiris,in præsens mittere nequeo,duos namq; nec dum plure[illegible] hab[illegible] rum tu portasti tuo ultimo d[illegible] essu , ad illum cui inscriptus est antiquum, probat[illegible] trem meum,quem quàm lat[illegible] susceperit,tu in uultu eius,ego in literis su[illegible] le[illegible] me substiti quem licetnon tanti faciat iudicium meum,quanti amor fe[illegible] men eo nolim[illegible] scriptor fortè quod per rarum,fateor,fidus affuerit,cre[illegible] te speran[illegible] & hoc, & quicq[illegible] poter[illegible],pro tua consolatione ptono,uol entiq; animo semper fa[illegible] præsertim [illegible] ad [illegible] religionis,pacemq; animi proficias, & CHRISTI amo[illegible] tu frater [illegible] sanctis ac pijs lachrymis (quibus ad frangēdam peccat[illegible] iramq; Dei lenic[illegible] atque auertendam, & gratiam consequendam nihil [illegible] ualde fam[illegible]iarem il[illegible] fa[illegible]tum senseris.per me oratus,pro hinc [illegible]rabis,ut qualis [illegible] [illegible] bonus,& [illegible] placitus sit, in quo ut ipse nouit, ultima, imò unica spes [illegible] Viue nostræ memor amicitiæ, & uale Venetijs.

XV. Cal. Aprilis.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVIDONI SEPTIMO, ARCHIEPISCOPO IANVENSI SVO, S. Epist. II.

De mutatione temporum.

SCio iam mihi hinc obstare, illam Flacci sententiam, ubi de moribus senis agens, difficilem illum dixit, & quærulum, sequè puero, acti temporis laudatorem, non nego id quidem ita esse, sed licet id mihi sæpe alibi fortasis, huius nunc tamen epistolæ, nō aduersum dico, quamuis enim ego querulus, & laudator ueterum, hæc tam[illegible] seu ueterum laus, seu quærula præsentium uera erit, se per hos mentiri sol[illegible]tum ueritas sin[illegible]t. Cui & si auctor fidem deroget, ipsa sibi fidem facit, dico ego, teque falsurum spero dico & [illegible]queror, & si uirum decet lugeo, quid ita peioribus annis senectutem a[illegible]imus, [illegible] pueri[illegible] est? Nisi quod auguror, ut arbori[illegible] sic hominis ætatem esse, ut sicut illa co[illegible] atq; a[illegible]as tempestates, ita hęc mundi di[illegible]tates, & procellas rerum du[illegible]ior [illegible] [illegible]set. [illegible]d hæc consolatio, no[illegible]s accommoda est, alijs non ita Na[illegible], & senescentibus pubescunt, & pubescentib. senescebant, fied[illegible]q; po[illegible] & h[illegible] tra[illegible]a maneat senectus, & illis pueritia inquieta [illegible] an[illegible]erit, quamobrem om[illegible], ad rem [illegible]m ue[illegible]nio. Profectò enim, ut uiuendo ad malorum tolerantiam do[illegible]iote[illegible]imus, ad n[illegible]ta frag[illegible]tes facti sumus, & quod nemo neget, indigna[illegible]es ad omnia. Nihil est enim indignantius senectute. Motus hic animi, & si placaten[illegible] ac[illegible]gere, sentit tamen, sicut ætas nulla profundius, fessa iam, & uitæ confectæ fastidijs, hęc sententia mea est, quàm non audiendo, nec legendo, sed experiendo didici, quamq; an tu probes nescio, certè quod de ætatis mutatione in peius, ac ruina dicere institi [illegible]approbare, ipsa te [illegible]le clarior ueritas coget. Nec iniucundum [illegible]uto nec inutile fuerit, aliquantulum nunc etiam præt[illegible]riti temporis meminisse, quàm longissime igitur potes, retrò mecum uerte oculos. Et primam quidem illam uitæ partem, quàm t[illegible] domi tuæ, ego in exilio meo egi, neque uerò magna hinc elicias argumēta, ubi tam exiguum lumen sit rationis, animiq;, in ipso sanè infan[illegible] pueritiæq; confi[illegible]to, fori[illegible] in Galliam transalpinam. Eam scilicet quæ prouincia Prouinciæ nunc dicit[illegible]r, [illegible]im Arelatensis prouincia dicebatur, uno propè tempore transuecti, ambo, confestimq; qualem ætas illa pa[illegible]tur, amicitia iuncti, usque ad exitum duratura, unum uitæ iter arripuimus. Atque hic ego, tuam Ianuam sileo, unde tunc nobis transitus fuit, cuius tu ortus in finibus, nunc Pontificatus in uertice constitutus, nosti omnia, & ego quidem de his latiùs, Duci urbis illius, & consilio scripsi olim, epistolamq; illam tibi cognitam, & probatam scio. Meta puerilis nostræ peregrinationis illa fuit, quæ ab antiquis Auennio, à modernis Auinio dicta est, inde quoniam Romano Pontifici, & Ecclesiæ secum ibi tunc nouiter peregrinanti, neque in suam sedem, usq; post annum sexagesimum reuersuræ, locus angustus erat, domorum ea tempestate inops, incolarumq; colluuie exundans cōsilium; nostrorum senum fuit, ut mulieres cum pueris, ad locum proximū se transferrent. In qua transmigratione, & nos duo iam pueri, nec d[illegible]m puberes, cum reliquis simul, sed ad aliud, hoc est ad scholas Grammaticę missi fuimu[illegible] Carpentoras, loco nomen, urb[illegible]a[illegible]ua quidem, sed prouinciæ paruæ caput tenes memoria tempus illud quadriennij, quæ ta[illegible] iucunditas, quanta securitas, quæ domi quies, quæue in p[illegible]li[illegible] libertas, quæ p[illegible]os o[illegible], quodue silentium. Tu crede idem sentias certe, ego adhuc illi tempori [illegible] ac ô[illegible]mu[illegible]mporum auctori gratiam habeo, qui id mihi spatium, tàm tranquillum dedit, ut [illegible] ullo rerū turbine, pro ingenij [illegible]cillitate, doctrinæ puerilis, tenerum lac haurirem, [illegible] ad cibi solidioris alimentum con[illegible]lescerem. Sed mutati sumus dicat aliquis. Hic est, ut mutata simul nobis omnia uideantur, sic oculo, sic palato, alia quidem sano, ægro alia eadem res uidetur. Mutatos fatear, quis enim nō dicam carneus, sed ferreus, aut saxeus tanto non mutetur in tempore? Aeneæ atq; marmoreæ æuo cædunt statuæ, urbes manu aggestæ, & quæ iuga montium premunt arces, quodq; est durius solidæ ipsis ex montibus rupes erunt, quid facturum rear hominem, mortale animal, fragilibus mēbris, & cute tenui compactum. Sed an mutatio tanta est, ut manente anima, iudiciū aut sensus abstulerit, satis extimo, si nobis quales hodie sumus, quæ tunc fuit ætas illa redeat. Non omninò talem uisum iri, qualis eo tēpore uisa est, ne nihil penitus annis actū dicam, alia cer[illegible]te [illegible]debitur, nunquā tamen non longè melior, multoq; tranquillior, q[illegible]m quæ nūc agitur? A[illegible] quia fortasis, minutissimum illud opus, Myrmecidas quadrigæ [illegible]am tegebant, ut per[illegible]h[illegible] aliqui musca rotarū radios, non discernunt o[illegible]l[illegible], seu cal[illegible]trati non dinumerant [illegible] m[illegible]edes, partesq; alias humani aciē obtuitu[illegible] te[illegible] f[illegible]rantes. Neq; Iliadem illam [illegible] a[illegible]eó fuisse d[illegible]criptā, ut tota un[illegible] n[illegible]deretur, at Cicero, clarè, [illegible] p[illegible]egerint, idcirco sic caligāt, ut urbes, [illegible] mores, habitus, domos, templa,

templa, non uideant, sic mens habet, ut immutata & deformata omnia non agn... non sæpe postea ciuitatulam illam reuidimus, à seipsa usqueadeò diuersam, ut al... gis animi uideri posset, iamq; enormem mutationem rerum omnium nō uidere. ... tis annis, ex quo inde discessim..., totiu... quod ant... non fuerat pro... dicam rec... domus dæ ... facta est, cessi... ocium, ... tas, cuncta ... atque clam ... mutatio, qui translati alio, & locis mutatis, & accedente ... haud dubi... mutabamur ipsi iam ciues uix suam patriam agnoscebant, quod cre... tum lamentatione didicimus. Sed hæc mutatio, pro iustitia fuit, dixerit quispiam, quæ raro sine clam... exerceri potest, ego autem de mutatione ipsa, non de causa disputo. Nunquid uer... ud etiam ... fuit, quod post annos, ea ipsa urbs, & circunsusa regio, quæ secursima & A... cui subest sedis reuerētia, penè annis exempla & inaccess... debatur, ... xercitu nō uexata tantum, sed uas... atq; ad extrem... rum redacta ..., hæc nol... Siquis illic unq... euentura uatici... fus pariter atque insan... eretur uates? Sed teneo ordinem. Et quanquam de m... bus possem, ut memoria tamen tua, nostræ astipuletur assertioni, de his quæ simul am... dimus, cupidius tecū loquor, inde igitur simul quoq;, nam quid diu... magna ... tis gessimus, uicina iam pubertate ad Montem Pessulanum, florentiss... um tūc op... iuris... ad studium delati, aliud ibi quadrienni... exegimus, cuius tunc potestas pe... iores Balearicæ regem erat, exiguum præter loci angul..., Francorum re... subdi... per præpotentium importuna uicinia est, breui ... oppidi dominium ad se ... nam uerò tunc ibi quoq; tranquillitas? Quæ pax? Quæ diui... mercatorum? scholarium turba? Quæ copia magi...torum? Quanta ibi ... omnium p... publicarum... priuatarum rerum, quanta mutatio, & nos scimus, ... es, qui ut... uiderunt tempus sentiunt. Inde Bononiam perreximus, qua nil p... cundius, ... berius toto esset orbe terrarum. Meministi planè, quis studiosorum ... uentus, quis ... Quæ uigilantia? Quæ præceptorum. Iurisconsultos ueteres re diuinos crederes, quorum hodie propè nullus est ibi, sed pro tām multis, & tām magnis ingenijs, una urbem ... uasit ignorantia, h... stis utinam, & non hospes, uel si hospes, ac non ciuis, seu quòd mul... uereor, regina, sic mihi omneis uidentur abiectis annis, manumq; tollere. Quæ nam ... terra, tunc ubertas rerum omnium, quæue fertilitas, ut iam præscripto cognomine ... terrarum pinguis Bono... diceretur. Incipit illa fateor quidem huius Pont. Max. qui ... rebus præsidet consilio, ac pietate reuiuiscere, atque pinguescere, uerum hacten... illius urbis non modò præcordia, sed medullas rimareris, nihil macrius, nihil aridius ... nisses. Facetè ut in malis iocari solitus erat, ille uir optimus, ad illius regimen, Legatus de latere, ut ipsi uocant, missus nouissimè, ad quem ... endum anno retro tertio, cùm ueni..., post patui hospitis lætos, & nimis honorificos amplexus, sermonem uarium exorsi ... quærentiq; mihi publico de statu. Hæc (inquit) amice Bononia olim fuit, nunc aute... cerata est, Piceno nomen oppidi traxit in iocum. Sentis puto, ut dulci quadam cum ... tudine, inter hæc mala, & b... narum memoriam rerum uersor, hæret memoriæ me... & iuæ indelebile, fixumq; uestigium, illius temporis, dum studiosorum unus ibi age..., uenerat iam ætas ardentior, iam adolescentiam ingressus, & debito, & solito plus a... bam. ... bam cum æquæuis meis, dies festos uagabamur longiùs, sic ut sæpe nos in ca... lux deseteret, & profunda nocte reuertebamur, & patentes erant portæ, si quo casu cl... essent, nullus erat urbi murus, uallum fragile, iam diliectū senio, urbem cingebat ... nam quid muros? Seu quid uallo tāta opus erat in pace? Sic pro uno multi erāt aditu... commodiorem sibi carpebat ingressum, nil difficile, nil suspectum erat. Vt muro, ut ... bus, ut propugnaculis, ut armans custodibus, ut nocturnis excubijs opus esset, ... tyrannidis, pòst externorum fecère hostium insidiæ atq; ins... tus. Qu... ruminans, circa Bononiam demoran stylum cogo, nisi quia tām recens, illius ... Bononiæ memoria est, ut quotiens hanc uidere cōtingit, somniare crediderim, ... ipsis meis uidetem, se multos iam per annos pati bellum, libertan seruitus, c... ... udis mœro... ... querelæ, choreis uirginum prædonum cunei successère. V... ...es atque Ecclesias adhuc stantes, miseramq; urbem, altis uerticibus despectan... ... diceba..., diū q... us potius, quàm Bononia uideretur. Sed ... acto ibi ... illam dico, qu... pro A... ... tem... derat, Rhodani turb... ad ripam, ... pro in finem, & si uno semper tenore iudici, non tam propter se, quàm propter co... & ca-

& coacta [illegible] etasq; totius orb [illegible] as, mul[illegible] atq; ante alios mihi, pes
si[illegible] omnium [illegible] Tanto tame[illegible] pe[illegible] a [illegible] it quod nemo, nisi prorsus im
pudenti mendacio, negare audeat, [illegible] olim us. [illegible] im optimus uideri possit. Nam
[illegible] ngulis immorer, quanquam null[illegible] unquam [illegible] ulla charitas, & quod de Hanni-
bale dic[illegible] nihil ueri, nihil sancti nullus Dei metus [illegible] urandum, nulla religio, ibi
[illegible] propter [illegible] d[illegible] te præsid[illegible] tis ele[illegible] em [illegible] a ueræ reugionis ars esse
[illegible] uerit, etam [illegible] amen, [illegible] c[illegible] s a pare[illegible], m[illegible] as ac libertas, quæ ita
[illegible] s petiere, ut cum cæte[illegible], à publ[illegible] corum snau[illegible] d[illegible] hactenus, & ignoto depri-
[illegible] ur iugo, & metu graui ho[illegible] ium, sine fine circumso[illegible] ntium necesse f[illegible] erit, nouis urbem
[illegible] nibus circumplecti, & ubi noctibus totis aperta [illegible] a fuerant, luce media por[illegible] ū adi-
tus armis obstruere, neque id ual[illegible] it, quin mal[illegible] tuta se [illegible] ac [illegible] s redime[illegible] da a[illegible] ro, &
pre[illegible] us salus esset. id [illegible] Dei nur[illegible], se[illegible] pe[illegible] re[illegible] el[illegible] ar[illegible] s [illegible] u[illegible],
[illegible] asident negle[illegible] diu nim[illegible] se, in m[illegible] m ac[illegible], quod
siue hac causa, siue in[illegible] ta uirtute, iam in Pont[illegible] e fact[illegible] u[illegible] c[illegible] r[illegible] os d[illegible] aut Deus
ino[illegible] iat, aut mors quod cepi[illegible] e iam uisa e[illegible]. Cæterùm m[illegible] a[illegible] d[illegible], patien-
tiùs ferant membra, nec miretur qui[illegible] q[illegible] a, si quos à limine [illegible] opi[illegible] præsens Romanus Pon-
tifex ipse non arcuit, eius[illegible] em absentis reuerentia [illegible] n c[illegible] ne [illegible] a enim [illegible] s mali con
[illegible] o, recens bo[illegible] erpellet, [illegible] n [illegible] abil[illegible] a[illegible] m [illegible] tè
[illegible] appetitum, plagam illam [illegible] rrocin[illegible] axo[illegible] e nu[illegible] an[illegible] llam f[illegible] V[illegible] m hic
[illegible] m longiùs eam, quod me premit d[illegible] am, nitarq; hodie, quod ueium no[illegible] m, tecum
[illegible] o iuuenescere. Nosti ut [illegible] illo surgentis uitæ flore, cuius ante memini, quē Gram-
m[illegible] m in stramine, uelut in delitijs egimus, cùm semel parens meus, patruusq; simul
[illegible] i ea fermè t[illegible] c ætate erant, qua nunc sumus, ad Ca[illegible] en[illegible] oracensem, quam modo di
[illegible] b [illegible] t[illegible] la[illegible] ore uenissent, patruum ipsum, qua[illegible] aduenam, uol[illegible] as cœpit, ex
[illegible] e[illegible] redo & [illegible] tate retorta, præclarissimum il[illegible] tem Sor[illegible] ię uiden[illegible], qui per
se ol[illegible] n[illegible] s, [illegible] parua de re gloriari, cum amico, id est, [illegible] m licet, meo [illegible] ngo postmodum
[illegible] meisq; carminibus aliquanto notior factus [illegible]. Re audita, pueriis & nos cupid[illegible]
[illegible] t, [illegible] duceremur, & quoniam non sat tuto committi equis uide[illegible] antur, [illegible] nguli n[illegible]
[illegible] dati sunt, qui equos ipsos, nos'que ut fit à tergo complexi regerent. Atq; ita ma-
[illegible] optima, quas quidem uiderim, quæ c[illegible] ne mea, amore autem c[illegible] m[illegible] nis mi-
[illegible] m [illegible] t, uox tandem exorata, sed multa pauente ac mon[illegible] e profe[illegible] sum[illegible] s, [illegible] m ill[illegible]
[illegible] sola re[illegible] rdatio læta est, cuiusque tu nomen, & cognomen retinens, doctr[illegible]
[illegible] famæ plurim[illegible] m addidisti. Cùm ad fontem Sorgię, uentum esset, recolo enim, [illegible]
[illegible], q[illegible] am si hodie [illegible] isset, insueta tactus specie locorū, pueriles inter illos cogitatus meos
[illegible] pot[illegible] i. En naturæ meæ locus aptissimus, quem q; si dabitur aliquando, magnis urbi-
[illegible] p[illegible] turus [illegible] m. [illegible] unc ego mecum tacitus, quæ mox postea ut u[illegible] ilem ætatem a[illegible] ti-
[illegible] ant[illegible] m non oc[illegible] meo mundus inuidit, late claris indicijs notam fe[illegible] ult[illegible] s [illegible] c enim
annos, sed auocantibus me sæpè negocijs, rerumque difficultatibus interru[illegible] tos egi, tanta
tamen in requie, tantaq́ue dulcedine, ut ex quo, quid uita hominum esset agnoui, [illegible] lud fer-
mè solū tempus uita mihi fuerit, reliquū omne supplicium. Iam tunc indiuisibiles animi,
distracti studijs eramus, tu liri[illegible] ūm & [illegible] stra, e[illegible] o ocium sectabar, & nemora, tu calle poli[illegible]
[illegible] diu[illegible] tas honestas [illegible] uæs[illegible], quæ me mirum dictu solitarium, contemptorē, profugu[illegible],
[illegible] ed[illegible] as syluas usq[illegible] e ad [illegible] n[illegible] diam insecutæ sunt. Quid uerò tibi nunc ego [illegible] d agreste si-
len[illegible] um, [illegible] lud nitidissimi amnis asiduum murmur, illum boum sonoris in uall[illegible] us mu[illegible]
[illegible] m, [illegible] llos uolucrum in ramis non diurnos modò cōcentus, sed nocturnos explicem? Sc[illegible]
omnia, [illegible] si me hac in parte non penitùs sequi ausus, quotiens tamen urbanis tumu[illegible] bus,
te[illegible] ari posses, quod perrarum erat, cupide illuc ut è procellis in portum fu[illegible] ere s[illegible] us.
Q[illegible] ie[illegible] s autē reris, me uox atra solum, procul in campis [illegible] uenerit, q[illegible] otien[illegible] [illegible] r æstatem
med[illegible] a n[illegible] cte surrexerim, & nocturnis CHRISTO laudi[illegible] s per[illegible] ol[illegible] s, [illegible] s e[illegible] o, ne so[illegible] no
[illegible] mulos inquietarem, nunc in agros præsertim, sub lu[illegible] luna, [illegible] ne [illegible] tes exie
[illegible] Qu[illegible] tiens hora illa, nullo comite, non sine uoluptate horrida, im[illegible] ne[illegible] pe-
[illegible] e[illegible] tm quo uel comitatum luce ingredi horror est. Vnde autem [illegible] ta fiduc[illegible] a [illegible]
[illegible] pè um[illegible] s, laruasq́ue non metu[illegible] lupus [illegible] quam in ea ualle ui[illegible] s c[illegible] at ho
[illegible] llu[illegible] b[illegible] lci in pratis, pis[illegible] to[illegible] es in [illegible] perui[illegible] ile[illegible], illi quid[illegible] m ca[illegible]
[illegible] bant [illegible] tri[illegible] ue [illegible] ertatim me colebant, seq; [illegible] o[illegible] dum o[illegible] oq[illegible] u[illegible] ri[illegible]
[illegible] quippè cum suum loc[illegible] [illegible] n amic[illegible] m mil[illegible] ant[illegible] m

VV[illegible] esse,

esse, sed fratrem, optim[illegible] renti[illegible] b[illegible] deliberans, sic mihi te ta[illegible] atque ide[illegible] f[illegible] n[illegible] teretur, illum immobilem ac pac[illegible] um loc[illegible] m [illegible] d ut cre[illegible] ctus Ecclesiæ, de [illegible] o dixi, & m[illegible] m[illegible] a facu[illegible] pertas [illegible] rerum, & c[illegible] temonti[illegible] a[illegible] atque [illegible] poiles, in re[illegible] es, adh[illegible] c me [illegible] bi a[illegible] ente, l[illegible] uenæ [illegible] tim tuere cœperant [illegible] fa[illegible] regum [illegible] ede, attonito[illegible] c, [illegible] re, ne[illegible] d[illegible] mod[illegible], sed a[illegible] e, [illegible] o u[illegible] c[illegible] arma or[illegible] m. Siquidem non m[illegible] p[illegible], q[illegible] am inde disce[illegible] a n[illegible] & infamis ma[illegible] us f[illegible] rum, sedig[illegible] u[illegible] ac[illegible] larum fidens, omni[illegible] regis, ad ext[illegible] em[illegible] sus, ut fac[illegible] re[illegible] essent, ac de fu[illegible] fac[illegible] arent, [illegible] o d[illegible] n[illegible] de[illegible] autum r[illegible] a[illegible] e[illegible] a te[illegible] reliqu[illegible] om[illegible] ex[illegible] u[illegible] nec illud h[illegible] pni[illegible] u[illegible] ex[illegible] uo Cr[illegible] amiss[illegible] e[illegible] Te[illegible] c[illegible] s[illegible] nce[illegible] restitit, properabantes[illegible] q[illegible], q[illegible] abi[illegible] n[illegible] do[illegible] a[illegible] felici messi[illegible] s, tam idante [illegible] tem[illegible] cem con[illegible] u[illegible] a[illegible], u[illegible] æ[illegible] nes i[illegible] expugnabilem [illegible] est tati [illegible] c[illegible] ia[illegible] ignorantes abie[illegible] e[illegible] ic diris è faucibus, præter spem, seru[illegible] e tam [illegible] e[illegible] a[illegible] manus, præd[illegible] tam nobilis peruenitet. I nunc & [illegible] us Clau[illegible] cis in rece[illegible] ac[illegible] s spem habeto nil clau[illegible], n[illegible] ltum, [illegible] est [illegible] ribu[illegible] don[illegible] bus, omnia penetrant, omnia prouident, a[illegible] iman[illegible] r nul[illegible] us [illegible] m[illegible] as, [illegible] celsus est lo[illegible] us, in quem non scandat armata cupiditas, [illegible] luta leg[illegible] uinclis [illegible] ita me Deus amet, ut præsentem loci statum cogitans, m[illegible] orę p[illegible] eriti, uix op[illegible] sum [illegible] e[illegible] e illum, ubi in mont[illegible] bus noctu solu[illegible] ac [illegible] ecurus er[illegible] a[illegible] cr[illegible] Ver[illegible] e ruris illius ignobilitate, sed solitudinis meæ suauitate pensata, pl[illegible] rs[illegible], [illegible] re d[illegible] xerim, ut antiqua equidem nouis iungerem ex qu[illegible] bus rerum [illegible] tio n[illegible] dinem deserui, sed reuertor. Quarto igitur post [illegible] m Bononia re[illegible] m an[illegible] uiro fæ[illegible] c mihi & multum, nunquam uerò qu[illegible] ntum me[illegible] r laud[illegible] T[illegible] næque alueum, & Pyreneos colles adij, cœ[illegible] o sæpè turbido, sed [illegible] n[illegible] o[illegible] qui [illegible] del[illegible] s d[illegible] cam nisi quod de alijs eadem Th[illegible] losa, eademque V[illegible] o[illegible] a, Aqui[illegible] nomine, re. omnes prorsus aliæ, sibique ipsis præter unam soli [illegible] supe[illegible] m, on n[illegible] similes, inde autem reuersus, quarto idem anno iuuenili ardore uidendi q[illegible] c[illegible] uiseo[illegible] urbem petri, in quo quidem itinere ac reditu, sic iuuentæ calcar urg[illegible] m[illegible] s regni [illegible] ng[illegible] los Flandriamque, & Barbaricam, atque Hannoniam, [illegible] erio[illegible] m[illegible] niam circumuiui, quo cum nuper ex negotio red[illegible] ssem, uix aliquid om[illegible] sum r[illegible] o[illegible] lent[illegible] ssimum in cineres uersum regnum uid[illegible], & nullam penè domum [illegible] a[illegible] urbi[illegible] m a[illegible] t ar[illegible] m mœnibus cincta esset, de qu[illegible] tunc ad uenerabilem senem [illegible] c[illegible] ta[illegible] ensem [illegible] ipsi latiùs, ac dixi, qui post obijt, ante non multum tempus [illegible] Vbi est enim illa Pariseos, quæ licet semper fama inferior, & multa fu[illegible] um me[illegible] bens, magna tamen haud dubiè res fuit, ubi scholasticorum agmina. Vbi [illegible] d[illegible] c[illegible] m d[illegible], ubi cunctorum gaudia, non disputanti[illegible] m, ubi nunc auditu[illegible], [illegible] fragor, non librorum, sed armorum cumuli cernuntur, non syllogismi, n[illegible] excubiæ. atque arietes muris impacti resonãt, cessat clamor ac sedulitas uiatorum, [illegible] mœnia, [illegible] ent syluę, uixque ipsis in urbibus tuti sunt, cessit enim, penitusque abijt, q[illegible] p[illegible] m nacta, tranqui[illegible] itas u[illegible] ebatur, nusquam tam [illegible] lla securitas, n[illegible] quam tam [illegible] ricula. Quis hoc unquam, quæso, diuinasset, quod Francorum Rex, quam[illegible] unum ar[illegible] net inui[illegible] ssimus hominum, uinceretur, & in carcerem duceret[illegible] cio re[illegible] m[illegible] ret[illegible] Tolerabilius tamen hoc efficit [illegible] uctor mali, rex, [illegible] ege [illegible] c[illegible] d prorsu[illegible] serum, pudendumque, reditu in patriam prohibitus & reg[illegible] [illegible] im, [illegible] egnat, coactusque cum prædonibus pascitur, tutũ per suas t[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] nc[illegible] l[illegible] am, [illegible] lo inre[illegible] no fœlicissimo, no[illegible] dicam cogitasset, se[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] cr[illegible] ed[illegible] hoc post[illegible] t fu[illegible] o[illegible] biles re[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] u re[illegible] utum fuerit, nos enim non credimu[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] cana peregrinatione reuersu[illegible] quar[illegible] i[illegible] pol[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] m t[illegible] que prius, n[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] ar[illegible] ima[illegible] q[illegible] dam e[illegible] t[illegible] r[illegible] [illegible] te[illegible] erant tamen ad[illegible] c cine[illegible] e in i[illegible] gene[illegible]

ctus, & iam gelidus cinis est. Erat ex cineribus ueterum renatus Phœnix, unicus senex ille gloriosissimus Stephanus Columnensis, eius quē supra memoraui, mei ducis, magnæq; & illustris, sed caducæ nimiũ genitor familiæ: Vir, cũ suis sæpè mihi dictus, dicendusq;, erãt alij, quib. ruinæ illæ saltẽ patriæ charæ essent, quorũ nullus, aut ibi nũc, aut humanis in rebus iam superstes est. Quarto rursus anno Neapolim perrexi, & licet sæpè post id tempus Romã, Neapolimq; redierim, primæ tamen impressiones hærent animo, erat ibi tunc Robertus Siciliæ, imò Italię imò Regum rex, cuius uita fœlicitas, mors exitium regni fuit, ipse quidem, me digresso non diutiùs superuixit, & planè si cœlo obstante uetebatur, ingruentibus malis occurrere ut solebat, uix cuiquam tempestiuiùs mori contingit, ut mihi planè ad eximiam uitæ felicitatem, talis mors accessisse uideatur. Ego autem anno demũ quarto, sic tunc uitã, quaternario patiebat, illuc rediens, [illegible] rediturus, nisi me Clementis tunc Roman. Pont. iussus urgeret, muros quidem, & plateas, & mare, & portum, & circunfuso colles, uitiferosq; eminus hinc Phalernum, hinc Vesæuum, Indi capreas quoque & inarimen, & Prochytam, ictas fluctibus insulas, & fumantes hybernis m[illegible]bus Ba[illegible]as, notam mihi Neapolim non inueni, lumina uero cladium multarum, at[illegible]e impend[illegible]is signa miseriæ clara perspexi, cuius me tàm certum fuisse uatem doleo. At quid inde senrem, non uerbo solum, sed & literis tonante iam fortuna, nondum tamen fulminante, te[illegible]atus sum, quæ ita post illicet impleta sunt omnia, & multa insuper addita, ut uaticiniũ ipsum meum, quamuis horribile, infinita malorum serie uinceretur, quæ deflere, quam en[illegible]are facilius multò sit. Non multo antè id tempus, [illegible] has terras, in quibus adolescens studiosus fueram ociosus, & iam uir reuersus, amicitia [illegible]ente, illius, cuius adhuc memoriæ multũ debeo, [illegible]salpinam hanc Galliam, quam tantummodo prius attigeram, totam uidi, non ut aduena, sed ut accola, urbium multarum, Veronæ in primis, & mox Parmæ ac Ferrariæ, de[illegible] Pataui, quo me illa, quæ discutere nescio, catena cadem traxit amicitiæ, sed ulterius [illegible]optimi, cuius casum, [illegible]nquam sine dolore meminero, qui cum undique maximus, clarissimusq; euir esset peregrini, paruiq; hominis, & solo nomine cogniti, nec unquam, ut ipse aiebat, nisi semel uisi, idq; in transitu familiaritatem, diù sic ambiuit, quasi per hoc magnum aliquid sibi, suæq; Reipub. quæsiturus, & eius quidem urbis incolatus illo superstite, continuus mihi sicut auguror futurus, eodem rebus exempto perpetuus, tamen f[illegible]it licet interruptus, ex causis. Proinde urbs hæc, quo primum tempore ad eam ueni, sic recenti peste illa terribili attriti erat, ut dehinc primogeniti illius prouidentia ac studio, & usque ad hoc tempus, inconcussa pace, fateri oporteat, unam hanc ex omnibus erectam, potiùs quàm deiectam. Ad id uerò, quod anno antequã illuc uenirem, hoc est, antẽ pestis initiũ fuerat, impa rem sibi ac dissimilem prorsus, ut reliquas, Mediolanũ serius, ac Ticinũ noui. Et quid iis dicam. Nulla omniũ est, quę fuit, nõ dico ante multa sæcula, sed nuper nostra memoria, uisa enim, non lecta loquor, uel audita. Ipsa urbs Mediolanum, quàm ante mille quingentos annos florentissimã lego, & quæ ut puto, nunquã magis, quãn ostra floruit ætate, nũc non floret ut solita est, quamuis adhuc magnitudine, & potentia, atque ut dicitur pondere suo stet, ciues suos interroga, fatebuntur hæc ita esse, tristiusq; aliquid de suo addent. Quid nũc Pisas, ubi uitæ septimum annum egi, seu quid Senas loquar? Quid dilectũ mihi primi exilij, atq; originis meæ locum Aretium, uicinumq; illi Perusium, quid'ue alias dicam, una omniũ conditio est. Non sunt hodie, quód heri, ut cùm sit mira uarietas rerum, tamen incredibilis ac stupenda celeritas. Possem te modò per Italiam totam, imò & per omnem Europam passim circunducere, noua ubilibet ad inceptum argumenta reperturus, sed uereor, ne meipsum, teq;, & alios, siqui hoc nostrum colloquium audituri, lecturiq; sunt, fatigem, si te per omnes terras, stylo ducam, quaũ recens simul, & misera, & aperta mutatio est: delectatus tamen sum. Nescio an sat propriè hoc dixerim, nisi sit quædam in mœrore delectatio. Sed profectò libuit mihi tecum hactenus fando peregrinari, per transactos annos, ac loca distantia, eaq; maximè, in quibus aliquãdo tecum fui, & quod iter pedibus, aut nauibus mensi sumus, calamo remetiri. Nullo autem pacto, harum rerum per memoriam indicta patria transire possum. Illa uerò, quid est aliud, quàm uarietatis infaustæ argumentum euidens, quæ nudiustertius conuenientissimum nacta uocabulum, inter alias non Italicas modo, sed Christianas urbes, rebus omnibus, usq; ad inuidiam florebat, mox deinde crebris malis, extra incendijs ac bellis, interfectis ac pestibus usq; ad misericordiam deformata omnes certè mortales, ante alios quidem suos ciues, admonet, q[illegible] in rebus pereuntibus spes habenda. Hic mihi contentiosus fortè aliquis obuiet. Est enim genus hominũ quibus quo-

niam uirium nihil est, ad ueritatem defendendam, & quiescere nesciunt, fallacijs hanc oppugnant, idq; sibi artificium facere, quod negari igitur nequit in his, quas dixi urbibus, ue[illegible] hoc esse fatebitur, in alijs forsitan non ita, atq; hoc respectu mutationem uniuer[illegible], nul[illegible] esse, quod quantum uni decreuerit accrescit alteri. Cui ego respondeo, ostendat mihi in occidente, aut in Arctoo, uel in una urbe contrarium, & uicerit. Certè enim hęc ipsa, unde tibi nunc scribo, & cuius ad ultimum incola factus sum, non tàm oblectationem, quàm securitatem, & [illegible] etiam quæres. Venetorum urbs, quamuis & consilio ciuium, & locorum situ, inter omnes alias nostri orbis prospero ac tranquillo sit in statu, fuit tamen aliquando prosperiore, tunc [illegible] licet eum uisendi gratia, cum præceptore meo, huc primum è Bononia adolescens ueni, & hoc quoq;, sic esse non negantes ciues audias, etsi, quod nec ipse negauerim, aliquid, imo quamplurimum ædificijs accesserit. Sin me lōgiùs cauillator traxerit, fatebor, me quid apud Seres, Indosq; agitur nescire, sed Aegyptum, Syriamq;, & Armeniam, totamq; Asiam minorem, non alio rerum incremento, nec meliori uti sorte, quàm nos? Nam Græciæ calamitas uetus est, sed Scytharum recens, ut unde nuper ingens annua uis frumenti, nauibus in hanc urbem inuehi solebat, idem nunc seriùs onustæ naues ueniunt, quos urgentes miseri uendicant parentes, iamq; insolita, & inextimabilis turba seniorum, utriusq; sexus, hanc pulcherrimam urbem Scythicis uultibus, & informi colluuie, uelut amnem nitidissimum, torrens turbidus, inficitq; si suis emptoribus non esset acceptior, quàm mihi, & non amplius illorum oculos delectaret, quam delectat meos, neq; fœda hæc pubes, hos angustos coarctaret uicos, neque melioribus assuctos formis, inamœno aduenas contristaret occursu, sed intra suam Scythiam, cum fame arida ac pallenti, lapidoso in agro ubi Naso illam statuit, raras herbas dentibus uelleret, atq; unguibus, & hæc quidem hactenus. Sed instabit, & uarietatem quæri dicat immeritò, quasi huius tantummodò sit ætatis, cùm sit omnium. Ego [illegible] nihil quęror, sciens ab initio rerum, uolui omnia, nihil stare, nec dico, quid putas causæ est, quod propria tempora meliora fuêre, quàm nunc sunt? Stulta est enim ut ait Salomon huiuscemodi interrogatio. Mul[illegible]æ quidem possunt esse causæ Deo notæ, & quædam fortassis hominibus, non quæror er[illegible]o mutata tempora, nec causas quæro, sed mutationem astruo, contra opinionem iuuenum nostrorum, qui hæc inter mala geniti, quia aliud nil uiderunt, nil aliud fuisse cōtendunt, inscij atque increduli, & mutationem temporum manifestam, prorsus ac flebilem, mutatis studijs nostris, atque animis imputant, quos mutatos fateor, & gaudeo. Sed mutatio hæc, nihil ad alteram, neque enim minus rapido acta impetu rota, ingens uoluitur, quam formica interim, per illam segnis incedit. Illud denique in litem ueniet. Mutationem hanc, non rerum esse, nec temporum, ac nec mundi quidem, sed solorum hominum, quod ipse etiam i[illegible] p[illegible]te non negem, sciens mundi appellatione, sæpè homines accipi, quibus haud dubiè l[illegible] est, & quorum usui mundus obsequitur, & sanè mutationum huiuscemodi, multæ ip[illegible] hominibus causæ sunt, & siquis altius fodiat, fortassè omnes, sed aliæ apparent, latent aliæ. Certè quod pietas, quod ueritas, quod fides, quod pax exulet, quod impietas, quod mendacium, quod perfidia, quod discordia & bellum regnet, & toto sæuiat orbe terrarum, quod prædonum manus impiæ, quasi iustæ acies, pro libito uagentur, & uastent ac diripiant qui[illegible] quid est obuium, neque his urbes obstare ualeant, neque reges, quod infecti mores, deprauata studia, deformati habitus, palàm est, nonnisi in hominibus radicem mali totam esse, quamuis ego ut iam dixi, non de causis, nunc, sed de rebus tantùm disputem, quæ pro[illegible]o nobis pueris adolescentibusq; non erant. Rara bella inter regna uel populos de finibus, aut de iniurijs gerebantur, societas contrà omne genus humanum nulla usquam nostro æuo fuerat. Erant societates mercatorum, quas ipsi uidimus, quibus ante omnes, patria d[illegible] floruit mea, per quas, quantæ commoditates afferentur, hominibus difficilè est dictu, dif[illegible] cilius creditur, per has enim totus ferè nostræ orbis regebatur, reges ac principes uniuer[illegible]o rum ope & consilio fulti erant. Alterius generis societates, peregrinorum, magno agmine deuota loci Hierosolymam, Romamq; petentium cernebantur, fures ibant singul[illegible]m noctu pauidi, nullæ furium diurnæ acies campis explicabantur, nulli armati societatum duces, famam sibi gentium cladibus propria feritate quæsierant. Quintus & uigesimus annus [illegible] ex quo auribus primum nostris horrisonum hoc nomē intonuit, quod malum breui quantum creuerit, quorsumúe processerit uidemus, ac miseri ciues, & agricolæ, imò & re[illegible], & Pontifices usq; ad summum, maximumq; omnium experti sunt, qui ut suprà attigi, a[illegible] Rhodanum, unde nuper abijt, semiobsessus ab illis, atq; ad indignam redemptionem extitit coactus, quod nec ipse tunc tacitus tulit. sed inter suos merito quid[illegible] aliter quęstus est,

ego ad eum scribēs silui. Quis terribilem igitur & infandam hanc mutationem temporum, non agnoscit, aut quis negat? Consequens enim est, ut aut sensu careat, aut pudore, dissimulari nequit, sese oculis ingerēs pessimarum, ac nouarum rerum fulgor horrificus ac lugubris, quando ea nunc quotidie mūdus infoelix patitur, quæ nuper hominum nullus audierat. Quid de alijs? Nomen pestis auditum erat, & in libris lectum, pestis uniuersalis exhausura orbem, uisa non erat, nec audita, hæc per annos iam uiginti, ita omnes terras protecit, ut intermissa quidem alicubi forsitan, aut lentescens extincta, utrique nusquam sit, adhuc ita indies, dum uisa est abijsse reuertitur, breuiq; gaudio circumuenta aggreditur, & hæc ipsa diuinæ nisi fallor iræ testis, ac scelerum humanorum, quæ si aliquando finirentur aut decrescerent, cœlestes quoque mitescerent ultiones. Terræmotus præterea auditum, lectumq; erat nomen, at rem ipsam ab Historicis, rei causam à Philosophis quærebamus, & motiunculas nocturnas, fortè aliquas raras quidem, & ambiguas, somnioq; simillimas curiosi ibi homines fingebant, terræmotum uerum nostro æuo nullus senserat, uigesimus annus est nunc, unum enim mali utriusque principium fuit, ex quo alpes nostræ, quarum motus insolitos, ait Maro, VIII. Calend. Februarias tremuêre, inclinata iam parumper ad occasum die, Italiæque simul, ac Germaniæ pars magna contremuit, tàm uehementer, ut adesse mundi finem inexperti quidam crederent, quibus insueta prorsus, & nunquam cogitata res erat. Veronæ tunc in bibliotheca mea solus sedens, quanquam non in totum rei nescius, repentina tamen & noua re percussus, solo tremente sub pedibus, & undique concursantibus, ac ruentibus libellis, obstupui, & egressus thalamo, familiam, moxq; populum trepidissimè fluctuantem uidi, omnium in ore cinereus pallor erat. Qui hunc proximè secutus est anno, Roma tremuit, usque ad ruinam turrium ac templorum, simul & partes Hetruriæ tremuerunt, de quo tunc sollicitus ad Socratem nostrū scripsi. Anno idem septimo tremuit inferior Germania, totaq; Rheni uallis, quo tremore Basilea cōcidit, non tàm magna urbs, quàm pulchra, & ut uidebatur stabilis, sed cōtra naturæ impetum nihil est stabile. Inde ego paucis ante diebus abieram, Cæsare ibi hoc nostro, bono quidem, mitiq; principe, sed ad omnia lento, per mensem expectato, qui mihi tandem in extrema barbarie quærendus fuit, de quo motu, ad Ioannem urbis illius uenerandum præsulem scribere animus fuit, quod ab illo satis honorificè uisum me non obliuiscerer, & an scripserim non memini, apud me autem exemplum epistolæ non extat. Cæterùm die illo, in ipsius Rheni ripis, hinc atq; hinc octuaginta, uel eo amplius castella, solo æquata referuntur, futurum nostra illa prima ætate portentum memorabile, si pastoris leue tugurium tremuisset. At malorum usus metum ac stuporem mortalibus excutit, & in his quidem mutario, de qua loquor, eminet causis latentibus, ut dicebam, nisi quod credendum est ut alia, sic & hæc culpis hominū prouenire. quarum nullus est modus, aut numerus. Interesse autē, quod illa homines faciunt, hæc uerò permittēte quidem, aut iubente Deo propter humana flagitia, quæ si quando desinerent, desinerēt & flagella. Postremò quæcunq; sit malorū causa, quisquis agēs hæc ueritas est. En pater, ut die uno, annos nostros omnes tibi ante oculos congessi, meritò quidem longè impares, numero autem pares, quem ego nuper ad amicum scribens, bona fide sum professus. Tu an idem facias, an adhuc quod nonnulli senum solent, Iuuentam respiciens aliquid etiam nunc occultes nescio. Viue fœlix, & uale nostri memor.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PAVLO DE BERNARDO VENETO, S. Epist. III.

Transfretantem uotis reditus prosequitur.

LVsi tecum amice, nec lusisse me pœnitet, bonam tibi epistolā ludo extorsi, ad quā quid opus est multis? Sentio uera esse, quæ dicis omnia, scio me amari abs te, quantum amare hominē potest homo. Neq; hymeneos tuos, nostrę amicitię obstare suspicor, sed fauere, coniugalis enim sarcina, quæ ut blanda interdū, sic leuis est nunquā, quò te actius premet, eò me dulcius suspirabis. Neq; uerò silentium tuum in argumentum tepescentis animi traxerim, amicorū omnia bonam in partē trahere solitus. Si tu mihi seu colloquio, pręsens, seu absens, literis creber sis, credā te tuis affectibus morem gerere, si rarior, occupationibus meis, alterum apud me feruidi amoris, alterū discretæ, uerecundæq; modestiæ signum erit. Non est ergo quod uereare, ne quid mihi non dicam de tui amore, sed de tuarum quoque rerum iuditio exciderit, idem, totusq; es, atq; integer apud meum cor. Reliquum est, ut quoniam ad Transmarinum iter accingeris, faustam tibi nauigationem, & uotiuum reditum precer, planum tibi æquor, & fauentes hinc Zephyros emitti, il-

[illegible]luc Euros redeunti tribuat, non Neptunus atq; Aeolus, quorum alterum sortitũ cum fratribus insularum, oræq; maritimæ temporale dominium, alterum quidẽ tempestatum fagum, Aeoliarum tamen inopem regem, Iliacis constat [illegible]uisse temporibus, sed maris & terræ, cœliq; regnator CHRISTVS omnipotens, de quo scriptum est: Qui producit uentos de thesauris suis. Et iterum concludens: Sicut in utre aquas maris, ponens in thesauris abyssos. Ille qui imperat uentis ac fluctibus. Ille (inquam) te incolumem comitetur ac reuehat no[illegible]is, quos cum chara thori socia, desiderio plenos linquis, quiq; tibi naui ascensuro, unà secum dicimus illud Achilleæ coniugis apud Gratium: [illegible] t fœlix, nosterq; redi.

Vale Patauí v. Calend. Septembris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA DONATO APENNIGENÆ GRAMMATICO SVO, S. Epist. IIII.

Consolatoria super illius filij, suiq; simul nepotis immaturo obitu.

TRes ordine mœstas epistolas tuas, per hos dies habui, quarum prima tetigit quidem, at secũda impulit, tertia uerò animũ concussit, sternere enim, neq; ullus me iam rumor, ut spero, neq; si mihi credideris te potest, parabam consolationẽ, imò admonitionem breuem, quid enim tu consolatore indiges? Solari alios, & meipsum solitus, quãuis & insignes Medicos suis morbis alterius opem medici quærentes, sæpè uiderimus, & facundissimos Causidicos, sua in lite, externi patrociniũ oratoris, unde est illud uulgò tritum: In propria causa aduocatum quære. Etsi enim id Cato ille senior uir durus, corporis atq; animi rigore fretus incõparabili, & prisco eloquio, & acri admodum fi[illegible] ingenio, non quæsisse unquam legitur, quater & quadragies accusatus ab æmulis, sicut, ut nemo unquam crebrius, semper a se defensus, semper à iudicibus absolutus, si communem tamen usum respicis, uix usquã adeò sibi potest mens humana suis malis obsessa consulere, quin amici cõsilij, & fide opis indigeat. Sed quid tardis ac rudib. inconculcandũ est, nec in conculcando proficitur, id nobilibus ingenijs ostẽdisse uel strictim sufficit. Illud hac in parte mirabile, quod corporeis morbis, illicò Medicus accersitur, morbis animi non ita. Quos tamen & periculosiores esse, non est dubiũ, & curari posse faciliùs, corporum enim morbi incurabiles, multi sunt, animorũ nullus, modò curari uelit is, qui patitur. Quamobrẽ peruersitatem hanc miratur Flaccus, nec immeritò. Miratur & Cicero, qui erroris huiusce causam, & subtiliter quærit, & deprehendit egregiè suo in Tusculano, ni memoria fallor luce tertia. Eo igitur ne in hoc tuo statu importunè philosophari uelle tecum uidear, te remitto.

Cæterùm quicquid id erat, quod parabam in filij tui ægritudine orsus eram, ne deficeres animo, & ut aiunt ante tubam tremeres, sed inter spem ac metum rectus incederes, paratus ad utrumlibet, hæc primo nuncio meditantem, secundus auertit ac tertius, non iam mor[illegible] afferens, sed mortem, plus mihi negotij allatũ dixerit quispiam, ego cõtrà sentio, demptum plurimũ ac penè totum. Multum erat fateor, ut in filio tàm dilecto, ipse tua languida uiscera, & grauissimis disiecta doloribus, inuictus aspiceres, ut tamen id magnificè faceres, suadere iam cœperã, ac monere, & quod in te forti animo passurus fueras, fortiter patereris in altero, si alter dici poterat, quem genueras, quẽ alueras, quem docueras, cui totus incubueras, utcunq; res accepta esset, hortabar ut patientiam atq; constantiam, quam illustres multi olim uiri, in seipsis exhibuerant, atq; hinc insignem gloriam consecuti erant? Exhiberes in filio, non ausus quidem uetuisse, ne languenti puero spiritum compassionis impẽderes, ne naturæ aduersum uideretur. Verum quisquis illum casus exciperet, tu ne rueres, sed erectus stares, & siue eum tibi is qui dederat diutiùs largiri, siue eripere uoluisset, & de dato, & de ablato, mecum Deo gratias agere, sic & ego enim, meo domestico in dolore, nuper egi, atq; ago. Humile quidem, sed amicum tibi proponitur exemplum, possem heroum [illegible] accire, nisi quod chariora nobis nostra mediocria, quàm aliena eximia esse solent. Noster ille, quem memoro, præterquã quod mea omnia tua sunt, spiritalis filius tuus erat, sacro [illegible] de fonte leuaueras, patere æquo animo meum, me recens & cruentum uulnus tuo uulneri miscere, ut quæramus simul utriq; salutiferum fomentum, neq; tacitus tecum dicas, non sunt paria uulnera. Ego filium desidero, tu nepotem CHRISTVM enim & amicitiæ [illegible] dem iuro, plus me illum amasse, quàm filium. Non illum ego, quid ad rem, at mei genuerant, Francisci, qui ut nosti, per se quisque non minus, quàm ego ipse animo meo chari sunt, ita ex duobus longè mihi charissimis progenitus, duplo mihi erat charior, quàm si ex [illegible] genitus fuisset. Tu antiquum ac præclarum tuo nomen, nos no[illegible] humile ac dome[illegible] dederamus;

deramus, imo utrunq; tu dederas, tum [illegible] fore [illegible] eret profectus augurium, noster utriusq; parentis, meum [illegible] simul [illegible] nomen [illegible] erat, [illegible] solamen uitæ ingens, & spes domus ac iucund[illegible] nobis tribus, quartus iam Fran[illegible]us accesserat. obtigerat illi credo, ut hinc acrius dolorem, & ingenium [illegible] rarum decus, [illegible] um [illegible] infantem, æquaturus apparebat, [illegible] m e gratiam paternæ, sed uicturu[illegible] ingenium, [illegible] deterimum in [illegible] d xerim, [illegible] me [illegible] ut ab [illegible] or [illegible] us matrem, [illegible] sus ex [illegible] nitus credi posset. Ita omnes asse [illegible] apt, [illegible] te mihi olim per [illegible] etas a[illegible] ma[illegible] un uix dum esset anniculus, in illius uultu meam faciē te uidisse, & hinc nescio, quid magnæ spei tam tunc animo concepisse memini. Quæ quidem similitudo [illegible] nta ætatum distātia, tam insignis ipsis quoq; parentibus charior [illegible], eum atq; omnibus pas[illegible]m charū, sed in primis magno illi Liguram domino, tam acceptum fecerat, ut qui pau[illegible] antè, sui uilici [illegible] lantis interitum, [illegible] ccis oculis spectasset, no[illegible] obitum sine lachrymis uix audiret. Ego uerò [illegible] tem illi æternam, nullo negotio partam licet, mihi autem curam non exiguam ereptam, & [illegible] uno actu, pariter utrisq; consultum [illegible] clare uideam. Etiam si de ab initio uiderem, tanta tamen uitę dulcedine spoliatus, non moueri fateor non potui. Etsi quo etiam ante hos paucos annos animo nunc essem, amicos omnes crede mihi, te [illegible] ante a[illegible], lamentis ac [illegible] co[illegible] lessem, neque pertinet ideò quod infantem flerem. Amantur enim sæpè uehemen[illegible] ter [illegible], quos præter naturæ instinctum, ipsa ætatis innocentia puri[illegible] conciliat [illegible] quam [illegible] in adultos, amori odium miscens, [illegible] tus & inobedie[illegible] tia alienat. Non me i[illegible] tur tenuit [illegible] et suæ resp[illegible] ctus ætatis, meæ tenuit, n[illegible] um uirum tum præcipuè senem flere mortal[illegible] turpe erit; quem tempore, & casuum obs[illegible] ne similium, contra omnes insultus obdurusse uror peculiaribus meis, ac Tullij uerb[illegible] tque occaluisse conueniat, non cōmittam sciens, cuius me confestim pudeat, ut multarum hodie pudet epistolarum, quas in mortibus meorū dolore animi uictus, nimis molliter, quamuis piè, æuo quondam teneriore profudi, spero me deinceps muliebribus saltem malis explicitum, in me unum totus orbis, ut corruat non d[illegible] cam [illegible] tum neq; immotum. sed nec querulum opprimet, nec iacentem. Didici querelas ad [illegible] utiles, patientia nihil [illegible] ius, in his quæ mutari nequeunt, hæc olim leg[illegible] bam, nec credebam. Nunc [illegible] hæc nusquam, sed ubiq; contrarium legerem, nec crederem, [illegible] tamen meæ [illegible] tatis historiam, ut noris, bustum ego marmoreum illi infanti [illegible], apud Ticini urbem, [illegible] elegis inscriptum, literisq; aureis exaratum statui, quod uix alt[illegible] fa[illegible] erem, & mihi ab [illegible] fieri uellem, sed qui lachrymas & querelas pre[illegible], sic affectibus [illegible] oppressis, ut quoniam illi nihil aliud esset, quod tribuere possem. Ad cœlum profectò, nec terrestrem iam curam temperare nequiuerim, quò minus hoc ultimum, & inane tributum ob[illegible] q[illegible] cerus, & si non sibi utile, gratum mihi hoc illi, igitur factum uolui, non causam lachrymus, ut [illegible] ait, sed memoriæ non tam meæ, cui nec saxo, nec carmine opus erat quam eorum quos illuc casus attulerit, ut sciant, quātum ille iuis, ab ipso uitæ princi[illegible] charus fuit. Quamuis autem Ciceroniana sententia sit, Philippicarum libro VIII. Gratiam aliam referri mortuo non posse, quàm statuæ, uel sepulchri, apud nos tamen quædam ma[illegible] est gratia, preces scilicet ad Deum fusæ, pro defuncti anima ac salute, his non eget utiq; infans meu[illegible] nihilominus tamen, quod in conspectu Dei, nec cœli ipsi mundi sunt, nec i[illegible] fans [illegible] diei super terram sine peccato pro hoc quoq; misericordiam eius imploro, ut [illegible] amplexu meo diuisum, suo illum foueat benignus amplexu. Sic illius amor paruuli, totū meum pe[illegible] us impleuerat, ut an unquam tantum aliquid amauerim, haud facilè dictu sit. En amice qualiter affectus ad solandum alios accedo, sed nec tibi ego, nec tu mihi alius, & te ergo quà possum, & non minus solatij indiguum me consolor, multi alios. quidam se lib[illegible] is, aut tractat[illegible] us consolati sunt, ego utrunque simul facere molior, quod ut spero, t[illegible] gr[illegible] tius, qualecunque remedium erit, ægrotanti præstitum ab ægroto, benè enim ualenti ægrum uerbis solari facile est, nullius solamen altiùs in mœstum animum descendit, qua[illegible] patientis, & ideò efficacissimè confirmandis, astantium animis uoces sunt, quæ [illegible] ipsis [illegible] plicijs [illegible] ttuntur. Quid quod nec misereri plenè miseris nouit, qui non ipse [illegible] generè miser, in suis siue in se fuerit, aut saltem esse potuerit, unde est horror ille, [illegible] upor q; Aeneæ, quem mihi de medio naturæ sinu sumpsisse Virgilius uidetur:

Et su[illegible] i genitoris imago,

Vt te[illegible] em æquæuum [illegible] eli uulnere, uidit uitam exhalantem, quod illa iam regina exul, ex[illegible] lem miserata, prædixerat:

Non ignara mali miseris succurrere disco.

Succurro ego tibi, & [illegible] amice, prosperatio tẽpori, proq; ingenu [illegible] solum, quibus sunt [illegible] munia, spes & metus, & gaudia, & dol [illegible] nera nostra con [illegible] medicamenta per [illegible] am. Po [illegible] & Poëtarum [illegible] uireta percurrere, & [illegible] os tibi sententiarum [illegible] decerpere possem & pectusculi mei latebra [illegible] rutabũdus ingred [illegible] esset circumspicere, nisi quod aliena nota sunt tibi, nostra aut in [illegible] us am [illegible] ribus, ac morbis assu[illegible]ta olim, & aliena scienti, ingerere super [illegible] perfluum, & noua rapum cogitare difficile est. Ad hęc subitis m[illegible]is repe [illegible] medio nouimus, utilius q; fuerit, mox uulnus alligare, pro tẽpore, pu ramq; & [illegible] libet ac communem medicinam apponere, quàm in peregrinis antidotis conqui [illegible] pus terere, dum neglecti uis uulneris ingrauescat, uereorq; ad hæc ipsa serò nimis [illegible] tim, quod epistolæ tuæ omnes pro locorum uicinitate tardè admodum ad meas m [illegible] uenêre. Omnium sanè quæ pro nostra consolatione dici possent, quibus ingẽtes imp [illegible] tur. Hæc ni fallor summa est. Attollenda humo desideria, armand[illegible]q; animum, ne conspe ctum hostis exhorreat, aut terribiliũ specie, sine ulla fortunæ uiole [illegible] ia manũ tollat, q [illegible] eleganti ssimè, ait Cicero, abstrahendam mentem, à sensibus, & cogitationem à c [illegible] dine abducendam, hoc si facere potuerimus, nihil miserum erit omninõ, quæ miserrima [illegible] existimat. Ni[illegible]tibi, quod non mihi hodie consulturus sum, infantes nostri, & prædul [illegible] pignora audi, & fortassis udi quærũtur oculi, suspirantẽq; grauiter ulcerosa præcordia C[illegible] tè humanum illis fuerit mori, neque ante diem accidit, cui nullus est ascriptus dies, [illegible] num nobis oblata uitæ solatia optare, lumina oculorum nostrorum baculos, ac sperata [illegible] sidia tuæ instantis meæ iam præsentis senectutis. Quid ergo? Vt humanum desiderare, flere [illegible] mineum: nempè excusat hoc nostrũ desideriũ natura, quæ nescio, quid eneruẽ, & [illegible] quidum animis nostris inseruit. Idq; in promptu posuit, ut omnibus maximè infirmi [illegible] bus palàm esset. Ex diuerso natura eadem mollitiem hanc accusat, quæ uirile quiddam a[illegible] solidum ipsis nostris in mentibus posuit, sed profundius, sic ut nisi uirtutis auxilio erui, atque effodi nequeat, ac negotijs applicari, primùm illud ultrò sensibus obuium, hoc [illegible] dum, sine studio uix peruium rationi, mentem scilicet à sensibus abstrahendam, cogẽ [illegible] in specus intimos, ubi inuicta securitas, & masculi habitãt cogitatus, itaq; facilè flemus, [illegible] ficillimè consolamur. Estq; hæc iam uetus, & immobilis consuetudõ, suos flendi uelo pietatis obsita, & pietatis excusata, imò laudata cognomine, nec ineptijs solũ uulgi, sed [illegible] agnorum hominum firmata sententijs, atque exemplis. Quantum fleuit Octauia Marcel[illegible] suum clarißimũ adolescentem, & Virgiliano carmine nobilem, sed mortalem tamen. N[illegible] lus illi flendi alius, quàm uiuendi modus fuit, ut hic sexui ueniam demus, nec sequam [illegible] doctos, qui nimis multi sunt. Quantum sapientißimus Græcorũ Nestor suum fleu[illegible] An tilochum, Hectorea peremptum manu, quàm miserabilibus comites, quæstionibus a[illegible] cue ad eum peruenisset diem, & naturam suam nimiæ uiuacitatis accusans? Quantum d[illegible] nique noster nuper Paulus Hannibalensis suum luxit haud ultimus procerum Ro[illegible] rum, sed dolentium omnium longè primus, & sic omnia luctuum exempla, tristi [illegible] uictoria, ut ex omnibus, qui nunc adsint memoriæ, unus hic, nulla externa adhibita, [illegible] doloris interflendum præcluso repentè spiritu, extinctus, miser Pater charum nimis [illegible] sequeretur ad sepulchrum comes. Theodosius Macrobius, uir curiosißimus Mar[illegible] pathos anxiè pertractans, huc nimirum carmen illud adducit, ubi occiso filio Meze[illegible] Hetruscorum exul ait:

Nunc alte uulnus adactum.

Et, quid (inquit) aliud ex hoc intelligendum est, quàm hoc [illegible]um uulnus esse ami[illegible] lium? Et rursus idem:

Hæc si sola fuit, quæ perdere posses.

Sed & hic (inqu[illegible]) accipiendum est perire, esse amittere filium. Ecce tibi, qui doceant [illegible] tem filij non uulnus modò patris esse, sed mortem. Mille sunt talia, quibus totum [illegible] ubique est, uno uulgus ore consentiat, hi errores in communi hominum opinione [illegible] tur, & q[illegible] c[illegible]m lacte nutricum hausti, nulla interim his sanandis, cura impen[illegible]a, a[illegible] dies, nos ab infantia in senium prosequuntur. At si uiri sumus, si [illegible] ulgo ulla ex part[illegible] rimus, nil uulg[illegible] re nos deinceps, nil plebeium decet, quõ enim sin[illegible]ulare nomẽ [illegible] si comunibus sententijs inhæremus? singularibus ingenijs ac [illegible], sing[illegible] fama [illegible] titur, stultus est, qui per multorũ uestigia, ad paucorum gloriam peruenturum se speiat,

habet

habet unusq[illegible] trames suos te[illegible]s. Si delectant animum clari fines, ardui & laboriosi calles placeant, per hos te ducere, [illegible] sum uelim. Dur[illegible] fateor suorũ mortibus non tangi, nec ego tangi pro[illegible]beo, ne ipse [illegible] durũ quoq; non ruere, ut sit durum, certè laudabile optabile, uirtuosum est, quod [illegible] durũ esset ac difficile, sed laudis amor & uirtutis, hanc duritiẽ lenit. Quid agendũ [illegible], dixi iam, & mens à sen[illegible]s, & cogitatio à consuetudine abstrahenda, inq; arc[illegible] rationis altissimã attol[illegible]enda est. Illic quies habitat, illic tuta omnia & tranquilla, inde cuncta sub pe[illegible] mund[illegible] [illegible]ulgus, opiniones, curas, actus, ac fortunam si q[illegible] est uidebimus, atq; eiu[illegible] & [illegible]di insidias detectas, quæ fuerunt, ut incauti caperemur. Viq; immodicus nostrorũ amor [illegible] breue gaudiũ, longo in nobis mœrore ac desiderio plecterentur, nos uirorũ fortiũ more, dolis cognitis, dirigemus aciem in hostes & illorũ resistemus incursibus, atq; in eos re[illegible]quebimus, quod in nos parabant, neq; desiderio, neq; luctui succumbentes, sed grati in Deum, lætiq; quod habuimus, cõtentiq; quod amisimus, imò uerò præmisimus, infantes nostros, & quasi fragiliores, in tuto collocauimus. Meministi ut Metabus fugiens, & suæ metuens infan[illegible]læ, cuius nomen tua fert Camilla, obiectuq; amnis implicitus, ac m[illegible]lta deliberãs, ad extremũ alligatã hastæ, trãs fluuium iecit, atq; ita iam expeditior innatans pertransijt, ubi hasta cum uirgine uictor, ut Maro ait: gramineo uellit è cespite. Et nos amice cursu concito fugimus, nostriq; nos à tergo præmunt hostes, & tumidus gurges in medio est, iamq; in aduersam ripam, & nos inter nostrum retardantia, humerosq; nostros, licet dulciter præmentia, pondera chara iactauimus, tuti le prærepta periculis, ac mille miserijs mortis huius, quàm uitam mortui appellant, illic eadem cum hinc euaserimus reperturi. Legisti credo, ut Antigonus Macedonum rex, cum filijs quondam, in ancipiti tempestate deprahẽsus, cum uix tandem euasisset, suos monuit, ne quando se simul casibus exponerent, ne perirent simul. Quid tu autem? Te alloquens me alloquor, doles ne tantisper abs te semotũ filium tuum? Et non potiùs gaudes, illic esse eum, ubi nil metuit, & nil cupit, nulli malo obnoxius, omnibus abundans, bonis nullum habituris finem? Illic esse, quo & tu peruenisse iam cuperes, & peruenire illu[illegible] suo tempore cupiebas, sed differri optabas, & in longum trahi, sentio id quidem, & cor tuum uideo. Atqui nihil est stultius, quo optati boni moras quærere, certamq; fœlicitatem, certis sponte miserijs circumuentam, in dubium reuocare. Et Deus bone, quãtula ista dilatio est, quam tantoperè procuramus? Quis enim tàm uitæ auidus, mortisq; tàm metuens inuenitur, nisi sit idem scurra uilissimus, qui certam ante oculos mortem habens, momẽti unius spatium, supplex poscat. Et quid rogo aliud, quàm momentum fugacissimum, uita est, non solum nostra hæc, de cuius breuitate omnes disputant, & quærũtur, sed longissima qualibet, quæ dicitur longa enim, ueraciter nulla est, longumq; nil penitùs, quod finitũ, ut si ætas illa primorum hominum, quæ fertur non Arganionij Tartesiorum regis, quem sacræ nescius historiæ, centum uiginti annos uixisse scribit Cicero, non Aethiopum, atq; Indorum, aut cuiuspiam eorum, quorũ agens de senectute Valerius meminit, sed Mathusalẽ, siue cuius uis illa ex acie uiuacissimorũ patrũ, quid hinc elicis? Mille anni nõ solùm ante oculos Dei, tanquã dies hesterna, quę pręterijt, ut ait regius propheta. Sed etiã ante oculos hominũ, qui iuis aliquid, imò multum cogitatione & expectatione uideantur, ueræ tàm cum transierint, quid plus habent quæso te, quàm momentum unicum, quo singula hæc literarum elementa chartæ imprimo, quodq; adhuc calamo in singulis hærente pręterijt, & iam amplius non est? Omitto autem longiusculæ miserias uitæ, quas nulla unquã uox, nullus stylus æquauerit, quantæ sint, tamẽ hinc metire, & hinc æstima, quoniã fuere qui dicerent, optimũ non nasci, proximum quamprimum mori, & inuenit nõ modò inter Philosophos, sed etiam inter sanctos, hæc sententia laudatorem, & de primo quidem dubitari potest. De secũdo autem uix quenquã reor esse qui dubitet. Quãuis ergo, tecũ gustu nõ inficior amarius, utiliter tamen, ac cũ puero tuo utiq; fœliciter actũ est, innumerabiles ærũnas uno liquit ille suspirio, pronũ habuit, & apertũ iter ad superos, quod si tibi creditũ esset, uel difficile, uel obstructũ forsan habuisset. Vide itaq;, ne quod multis usu euenit, malũ tuo cuperes dilecto, hoc enim nihil aliud, quàm ut Flacci uerbo utar, amãdo perdere. Quanto aũt precor emptum pretio uoluisses, graui forte secum naufragio iactatus amantissimum filium supra siccũ littus cernere, ut quisquis te exitus maneret, ille saluus esset, ac uiueret, atqui uiuit ille iã securus, & tu q[illegible] nosq; omnes magno mari uoluimur, ac fœdo naufragio laboramus, ille aũt requiescit, & nõ saluus modò, sed beatus ibi est, unde si posit nol[illegible], ac ualdè respuat reuerti, à terren[illegible] p[illegible]entibus, ad cœlestẽ patrem miro compendio translatus. Quid fles igitur? Quid te

torque? Malles na[illegible] ere, quo & ille solus remaneret, atq[illegible] lætus ac mæ[illegible] s a[illegible] le[illegible] ix, at [illegible] s ibi, [illegible] m[illegible] s ge[illegible] curior al[illegible] is ac [illegible] S[illegible] ea[illegible] o iam tande[illegible] us [illegible] anima conf[illegible] lud, [illegible] falsari [illegible] nũ, at eant re[illegible] um [illegible] ta phant[illegible] mata q[illegible] us ca[illegible] o[illegible] h[illegible] e oc[illegible] lo[illegible] mentis, a[illegible] teritati impr[illegible]. [illegible] peccatos a[illegible] s euent is re[illegible] improui[illegible] homin[illegible] lapsi[illegible], [illegible] et [illegible] misero.[illegible], ne[illegible] eorum m[illegible] ntis quos fœlices [illegible] cunt, impēdentia sem[illegible] atq[illegible] im[illegible] bus, [illegible] us quo[illegible], metusq; perpetuos, curas [illegible] & angores, dãna, [illegible] u[illegible] e[illegible], [illegible] ege[illegible] tes, mor[illegible] os corporis, atq; animi [illegible] patentes atq; abdit[illegible] morsus, & [illegible] te co[illegible] tentix, quæ omnia n[illegible] lo facil[illegible] us, q[illegible] am arenam numero stringas æq[illegible] ream. [illegible] hæc, turbidamq; tumultibus, & negotijs inquietã uitam, tempusq; breuissimũ, & [illegible] instabile, cum fastidio multos afficiens, seniũ pedetentim clanculumq; subrepes, se[illegible] nan.ibus ingerens: mortẽ [illegible] nouissim[illegible] & incertã, certissimè mortis horã, ac mis[illegible] ad extremũ exitus adumbratæ fœlicitatis, & falsæ læ[illegible] tiæ mœstum finem. Si filium am[illegible] e- ipsum amas, gaudebis illum his ereptũ malis, teq; his leuatũ curis. [illegible] quanta [illegible] eueni[illegible] e[illegible] o- tuerint, quæ regum quoq; filijs eueniunt, tecum ipse recogitans contremisces. Non e[illegible] Donate magnũ uiuere, quod si esset magnum, aliquid muscis, & uermibus obt[illegible] let, ne[illegible] in lõga uita, stat humana fœlicitas, alioquin ualde essent fœlices cerui & cornices, a[illegible] nix Arabicus, quem profectò me iudice non tàm ætas, quam eximia raritas ac forma n[illegible] litat. Magnum e[illegible] t potiùs benè uiuere, benè mori, benè autem uiuit, qui carentẽ uit[illegible], quan- tum licet, atq; ab[illegible] n dantem uirtutibus uitam agit, benè moritur, qui non totus moritur. [illegible] p[illegible] imum q[illegible] idem, [illegible] tsi enquam non sit pueri pro ea parte, qua ad benè uiuend[illegible] m [illegible] tt[illegible] s exi- gitur, [illegible] iam æta[illegible] illa non recipit, [illegible] io tamen tuo, clara non indoles non defuit, quæ nih[illegible] est aliud, quàm uirtutis flos quidam, ut sic dixerim, certè ultimum plenè [illegible] it, l[illegible] en[illegible] modi de peccato [illegible] l cer[illegible] ulo graui, sine cogitatibus, ac desiderijs malis, sine o[illegible] mi. [illegible] ne h[illegible] c lugeas ut mortuum. Qui quod optimum uita habet [illegible] m[illegible] hab[illegible] t, & acceptum Deo. Sed nunc etiam sentio, quid te premit, uotu[illegible] c[illegible] m[illegible] e omnium pare[illegible] tum, quod natura insitum uix uirtus extirpat. Illum tibi sup[illegible] item [illegible] tas q[illegible] d ei post tuum transitum diù posset accidere prouidebas, duru[illegible] q[illegible] p[illegible] n[illegible] c[illegible] ix patrum [illegible] bor, longæ curæ, ac difficiles, sed fallaces nimium, & cùm cogi[illegible] at[illegible] nes [illegible] num, ut Psalmista ait: Vanæ sint, nescio an ulla sit uanior. Infercire illum cogitabas [illegible] in quibus multi atque plures, in quibus ferè omnes insaniunt, & primum hercle, tu pro[illegible] largiri filio tuo poteras, quod tàm multis alienis sæpè largitus es, secundum utique c[illegible] bore, ut quæreres necesse erat, prouehere illum uolebas, in quibus plurimi labor[illegible] t, a[illegible] iugium in quo paucissimi quiescunt. Denique illius filios, & ut est animus, filios filiorum uidere, forsitan exoptabas, qui qualis stimulus sit parẽtum, si nescires, filius tuus ipse te do- cuit, & in fine modis omnibus, id agebas, fati nescius (ut diuticulè uiuendo, diù enim n[illegible] h[illegible] uiuit) in labores multos quodq; est pessimum, in æternam mortem fortassis inc[illegible] aut insignem certè aliquam in ærumnam, quàm uita longior uix euadit, ut optato en[illegible] mnia prouenirent, quod in rebus hominũ rarum ualdè est, horror tamen est me[illegible] e, q[illegible] dubia sæpè, q[illegible] m misera sint, quę prosperrima uisa erant. Omnis uia bona est, cu[illegible] onus est terminus, & quò breuior, eò melior, at profectò quicquid pater filio laborat, eò [illegible] ck, quò tuus h[illegible] us iam peruenit, ad optabilem scilicet ad fœlicem mortem, quãuis enim m[illegible] g sunt uiuendi uiæ, hæc est meta omnium, cui uix aliquid addere, multũq; detrahere expta- tism uotis uit[illegible] spatiũ potuisset. Pone iam gemitũ, mille sunt gemendi causæ, sed gaudendi aliquæ, mortal[illegible] i[illegible] terris habuisti, habes in cœlis immortalẽ filium, eras illi sol[illegible] cit[illegible] s [illegible] est tibi, qui q[illegible] ant[illegible] um se amaueris nunc agnoscit, & quos nunc usq; nesciunt, omnia ui[illegible] facie tuo[illegible] ni[illegible] le[illegible] affectus, uicemq; retribuens, pro te Deum orat, precato[illegible] fauorab[illegible] prece[illegible] & facilis exauditor, nunquam tibi filius fuit utilior, quàm nunc est, pl[illegible] d[illegible] dus olim ca[illegible] t[illegible] licet iam præsidio esse incipit, quid perrarò, hic, imò nunquã acci[illegible] filiu[illegible] e quo nihil metuas, multũ speres, dico iterũ quid fles igitur? Gaudendũ est, [illegible] er[illegible] oculi, na[illegible] p[illegible] es mod[illegible] ne nolis, maloq; tuo sciens faueas. Sic enim [illegible] beio, om[illegible] es h[illegible] g[illegible] h[illegible] rymas, hæ[illegible] lamenta, non naturæ omnium esse, sed [illegible] uræ sing[illegible] am [illegible] n[illegible] t o[illegible] nat[illegible] n, [illegible] nes flerent, pariter suorum in mor[illegible] bus, & [illegible] undem flerent [illegible] t[illegible], neq; om[illegible] es fl[illegible] nt nec flent æquè omnes, neq; ideò minùs [illegible] mant, qui [illegible] lent min[illegible] etiam qui non flent. Nempè cum fortia maximis ictibus resistunt, mollia facillimus

pa[illegible]

puntur impulsibus, non ut agentis uires id faciant, sed imbecillitas patientis. Et si autem, non saturari amorem lachrymis scribat Maro, de fœdo tamen amore ibi loquitur, quæ animi pergrauis est passio, haud dubiè de crudeli amore loqui eum, ipsi sui uersus dare iudicant, uos de pio, honestoq; loquimur amore, in quo pietas sola requiritur, & dulcedo quædam animi, & rarum, ac suaue suspirium, & iucunda memoria defunctorum. Sed non passio ulla, non mœror, neque lachrymæ, non tàm de uiri pietate, quàm de infirmitate fœminea prodeuntes, utq; ita esse prouideas, inconsolabiliter ut diximus Octauia fleuit, inconsolabiliter fleuit Nestor: at non sic Cornelia, non sic Cato, & fuit par ubique amor, par quę amandi causa, par gemendi, paritas denique sexuum ac damnorum, nisi quod Octauia unum, Cornelia autem plures amiserat, flendi ergo diuersitatem fecit. Sola diuersitas animorum, unde actuum nostrorum pendet, ac uultuum tota diuersitas, fleuit etiam ut audisti, usque in pernitiem Paulus Hannibalensis: at non Stephanus Columnensis uir ac unicus ætate, qui genere & patria uicinus Paulo, exemplum illi esse debuerat, ne mœrori succumberet. Is enim iam tribus annis continuis, totidem clarissimis filijs amissis, tandem paulo ante Pauli obitum, audito primogeniti sui uiri ingentis, & nepotis ex eo incomparabilis adolescentis interitu, qui in illo ciuili motu simul oppetierant, nec lachrymulam unam fudit, nec uerbum miserabile, nec accentum tristitiæ, sed ad primum nuncium defixis parumper terræ oculis, ad extremum dixit: Fiat uoluntas Dei: & certè satius est mori, quàm unius rustici iugum pati. Nicolaum significans Trib. urbis Romæ, quo tunc populi duce, ea clades accepta erat, ipso urbis in limine. Pauca esse, & antiquitatis, & nostræ ætatis, & uirorum, & fœminarum acta recenseo, ut uterq; sexus patiētiæ, & æquanimitatis exemplum habeat, & quàm multa alia, uel noua, uel uetera sunt exempla, magnificè, fortiterq; ferentium suos casus, sed quoniam ueteribus pleni sunt libri omnes, neq; ubi nam tibi quærenda sint, nostro eges iuditio, & sæpè etiam scriptis meis exigente materia, sunt inserta, ex nouis adhuc unum attingam, sed illustre, notumq; omnibus, an quoquam scriptum nescio, sed altiore facundia: & cultiore utiq; dignum stylo. Roberto illi, qui senex iuuenem me dilexit, ut sepultum senex diligam, Regi Siculo, imò quidem quod pace omnium nostri temporis sit dictum, si uera uirtus attēditur, Regum regi, filius unicus fuerat, Carolus dux Calaber, reginę huius pater, quæ nūc præsidet, præseditq; diù non trāquillè, sed maximis regni motibus, rerumq; turbinibus. Et his quidē magni regis filius, ingenti fama adoleuit, eximiæ uirtutis, præcipuæq; iustitiæ. Cùm maioribus enim suis diuidens patrimoniū, hoc uirtutum, hanc sibi partē gloriæ delegerat, ut cū proauus uir fortissimus, auus liberalissimus, pater sapientissimus habiti essent, ipse iustissimus haberetur, & sic erat, cūnq; omnibus insit naturaliter filios amare, in hoc tamē, hinc & patrē cogitabis, & regē, ac præter amoris uim, paterni successoris etiā tanti curā. Illinc filiū, & talē filiū, qui præter uirtutis excellentiā, qua nil in rebus amabilius, nō primogenitus modò, sed unigenitus patri esset, quē non primū, sed solum regni successio maneret, tūc intelliges, quàm illi charus esse potuerit. Hunc in medio ætatis flore, & in summa omniū expectatione ac spe, morbus inuaserat. Assidebat illi Rex sedulus, nō tantū officio patris, sed medici, fuit enim inter multa, quib. omnes reges uicit Physicus etiā insignis, sed & Physica, & Medicinæ omnes, & Medici, mortis aduētū silēt. Obijt ergo adolescens regius, summo regni totius gemitu ac dolore, solus Pater, cunctis flentib. non flebat. Quoniam exactis eloquijs, nec uultu, nec ueste alius, oratione magnifica proceres mœstos ac populū consolatus, Aemilij Pauli laudem adæquauit, qui in statu simili consolatus fertur Populū Romanū. Et si enim ille duo amisisset, hic unū, illi tamen duo reliqui erāt. Licet in adoptionē dati, quibus charissimū se sciebat, nequit enim ars naturam tollere, iste unū perdeodo omnes amiserat, nec aduersari ... rerū refrigeriū gignendi, iam spes ulla superaret. Et tamen ipso die regni negotia explicuit, lites adijt ac diremit, quid in re qualibet facto opus esset edixit, nō lugubris, quasi Rex, sed à rege alacri submissis cōsolator, aut uicarius uideretur, sed iam satis multa de hoc uiro. Omitto aūt Iob omnibus celebratum uiris, cuius est illa uox orbis semper memoranda parentibus, mœstisq; omnib. & afflictis Dominus dedit, dominus abstulit: sic ut domino placuit, ita factū est. Sit nomen Domini benedictū. Exemplum uetus, & regis, & sapientis adijciam. Dauid siquidem summus uir, Amon primogenitū suum. Atq; ideò prædilectum sibi, sed incestū, & in peccatis occisum. Ac deinde filiū alium, Absolon speciosissimū iuuenem, sed fratris interfectorem, atq; in se etiam impiè repellantem, & in eo statu animæ ancipiti fine consumptum, grauiter fleuit, ut uidemus idem tamē dum suus ægrotauit infans, flesse quidem & ieiunasse legitur, postquā uerò ille

obijt,

[illegible]iit, hic cibũ ſumpſit, ac deſijt flere, factiq; ſui cauſam hãc attulit: ſi forte flentem Patrẽ mi[illegible]ratus Deus, filiũ ſibi ſuũ referuaret, uitæq; redderet, quo defuncto ſuperuacuũ, & in[illegible]tile fletũ eſſe. Ego, uadam (inquit) ad eũ, illo uerò, non reuertetẽ ad me, & cõſolatus eſt ſei[illegible]m, & uxorem ſuam matrem pueri, factum, dictum'ue ſapiens ac graue, & auctore di[illegible]uo, tibiq; niſi fal[illegible]r imitabile. Addo ego tamen facti cauſam alterã, quod languenti filio c[illegible] pati nõ eſt patris, ac languoribus expeditũ, & iam morte ſuperata ueræ [illegible]tæ gaudijs fr[illegible]entem, flere non eſt di[illegible]ã patris, ſed amici. Quibus ita ſe habentibus, eradenda ſeu uerius abſcin[illegible]da, imò extirpanda radicitùs, ex animo ſunt alimenta triſtitiæ. Quid uerò? An te filij ol[illegible]uiſci iubeo, q[illegible]o dolorẽ exuas? iuberẽ pla[illegible] meminiſſe illius, abſq; dolore non p[illegible]ſſes. Mallem ego mihi, & tibi mallem iucundã o[illegible]onem, quam memoriam luctuoſam. [illegible] hercle, obliuio, ut aiunt, amantibus uti[illegible]s, unde apud Poëtas ſomniferum, ac perinde [illegible]bl[illegible]oſum papauer, ſacrificatur Orpheo & letheo ſua ſunt ſacra Cupidini, ſed & hæc inſanis in amoribus tenent, piè enim de amantibus meminiſſe debitum, obliuiſci nephas. Itaq; ab[illegible]ir, ut id iubeam, Auguſtus pro nepotuli ſui hac ætate, qua filius tuus erat, extincti imaginem in cubiculo conſecratam poſuiſſe traditur, quotiens introiret exoſculari illam ſolitus, quam quam id fortaſſe mollius uideri poſsit, quàm tantum principem decuiſſet, uerum amor imperium non ueretur, non tibi paternus amor, nec memoria interdicitur ſed dolor, ſed gemitus, ſed querelæ. Volo illum loquaris, illũ cogites, illum ames, illumq; memineris, nõ amare, ſed dulciter recordare, illius ut fidelem decet, non ut mortui, ſed ut nunc primum uiuere incipientis, fœlicisſimumq; enim iam in patria degentis, quo breui peruenit ab exilio, læto illum meditare animo, & tibi ipſe, qua potes illius imaginem repræſenta, nec ſine cauſa tibi datum ad tempus, nec ſine cauſa ad tempus ereptum puta. Reuidebis eum, ſi qua eſt fides, nec tui tibi am[illegible]ius, nec amictus, nec omninò opis egentem tuæ. Nihil tibi interim per[illegible]ſe, ſed interceſſorem apud Deum accreuiſſe extima. Nunc te enim puer tuus, ſolito magis amat, ut dicebam, quia nunc primum, quàm tu illum ames intelligit. Quem ſi inter has lachrymas agere adhuc malles, ſiquidem propter teipſum, te non illum amas, ſin propter il[illegible] ipſum etiam odiſti, ut utrunq; qua decuit amaueris, illius fœlicitatẽ lætè tuam f[illegible]rtiter orbitatem perfer. His, horumq; ſimilibus me ſolor, his tu quoq; quãdo nec pluribus, nec his ipſis doctum, piumq; eget ingenium te ſolare. Et quæcunque ex me audis, [illegible]m credito dixiſſe Ioannem, qui caſum tuum, non aliter quàm propriũ tulit, teq; talem [illegible]is q[illegible]lem ſe in angoribus ſuis cupit, finge nos oramus, te alterum ſemper ad dexteram e[illegible]e, al[illegible]tum ad ſiniſtram, ſi hoc feceris ſperamus, quod æquo ampliùs non dolebis. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA DONATO APENNIGENÆ GRAMMATICO S. Epiſt. V.

De amicitiæ ſuæ facilitate.

DVlciter mihi acerbus fuit aduẽtus Antonij noſtri quẽ in carne, ego mente genuimus: dulcis quidẽ propter ſe, acerbus aũt primo aſpectu, propter præcepti[illegible] artis unici memoriã, quæ tamen ipſa ſi ſapimus dulcis erit; nihil mali enim euenire illi credimus, & multum boni accreuiſſe confidimus, ſi quid hoc in genere mortis eſt aſperũ, ſuperſtitibus imminet. Enimuerò id flere, nõ tàm pium ſcimus eſſe quàm tenerum, nam miſerijs ereptos, atq; exilio, & fœlicitati ac patriæ redditos lugere, quid niſi inuidia eſt, in hoc tibi ue[illegible]boſam illã, ni me fallis, epiſtolam profuiſſe gaudeo. Sed uereor ne me, neu teipſum fallas, & faceto mẽdacio, meis affectibus uicẽ reddas. Ego tamen ut prodeſſem ſcripſi, ſperãs plane præter ſtylum frontẽ ipſam, præſumptamq; uel abſentis imaginẽ, apud te uirium aliquid habituram, quod ſi habuit benè eſt, alioquin nudum animum me[illegible]ire. Sanè quid nunc illis adijciam, præter preces nihil habeo, & ſi materia rerũ largiter adeſſet, dedolandi illas, nectendiq; tẽpus deeſt. Oro igitur ſi me amas, ſi Ioannem, qui dum illa ſcriberem mecum erat, dum hæc legis eſt, tecum imò, cum utroq; ſimul eſt ſemper, oro (inquam) [illegible]ò obſecro, & adiuro te per omnes cœlites, per nos duos, quos in terris niſi fallimur primo[illegible] facis, perq; amicitiæ ſanctã fidem, & quicquid pium ac dulce nobis eſt, tecũ ut puerũ tuum, ex miſero factum eſſe fœlicem, non æquo tantũ, ſed læto animo patiaris, neq; dum laborum quæris comitem maturatam illi doleas quietẽ, quod ſi adhuc forſitan illa ſuſpirijs tu[illegible]ent, lachrymis ne madent oculi, ſi qua uel tenui mœroris nube frons adducitur, Ciceronianum illud in primis, animo dolentis occurrat efficacisſimũ, cuius hæc ſumma eſt. Nõ futurũ perpetuũ, ſcilicet hunc dolorem tuum, neq; enim es, qui inter flendum, uel cũ infœlici il[illegible]o patre, mori uelis, uel cũ miſera illa matre ſeneſcere, quorũ nomina altera ad te habet epi[illegible]

lon[illegible]

longus enim fletus, ut sapientibus placet, aut fictus, aut fatuus, proinde lunæ cursus, aut solis magno etiã luctui finem dabit, uiuẽdum itaq; quã decorũ, quamq; conueniens uiro sit, plus tempus exiguũ, apud eum posse, quàm rationem, quæ primum usq; adeò in homine locum tenet, ut ea dempta, ipsa quidem diffinitio, ne hominem dici sinat, non sum tibi aliud nunc scripturus, nisi quod filij tui, & mei aduentus, animo meo gratissimus, aliquãto etiam gratior fuisset, si uacuus aduenisset, dixisse tibi sæpè uideor, sed ut uideo, non mereor fidem, dicam rursus, & experiar, si fortè scripto fide dignior sim, quàm uerbo. Non est operosa res amicitia mea, quippè quæ nec magni etiam pretij res est, ut sit autẽ maximi, nihilo erit operosior. Et amare, & amari gratis didici. Si necessitas amicorũ ingruat, nil cuiquam propriũ uolo, ubi id cessat, quid sibi uult, precor ista largitio? Quid hæc cura? Quid'ue hic labor? Nisi ut quod nolim onerosus amicis, hac difficilis fiam, longè id prorsus ab animo meo est, cui abundè sufficit in amicitijs pura fides, ardens charitas, & comitas morum, & conuersatio facilis, ac iucunda quicquid his accesserit, nescio quid ambitiosum, & fœneratione sapit amicitiæ, quasi emendus pretio sit amicus: eat tamen ut potest, quãto ita tibi persuasum sentio, me ut unum ex Parthorum regibus, nephas esse sine munere salutari. Vale & Ioannes noster tecum, Pataui v. Nonas Octobris ad auroram.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER XI.

FRAN. PETRARCHA VRBANO PONT. MAX. S. Epist. I.

Literis Papæ respondet.

QVAM me Sanctitas in longũ æuum, breui nuper elogio, honestare dignata est, Pater Clemẽtissime, pro quo tibi non quas debeo, sed quas possum gratias ago, magnas certè, sed (ut ait Cicero) maiores habeo, quibus stylo æquandis, non sufficit lingua nec calamus, tuo nempè de munere, uberrimam studij mei, inesse gloriam, cum hac tamẽ immixtum uelut Cereri lolium, curas metuo, sic tuarum laudum hinc mulcedo animum lenit, hinc urget aculeus. Epistolam seu libellum meum utrunque, illi quidem tribuis nomen, atq; in eo prudentiam, eloquẽtiam, quemq; (ut ais) ad cõmune bonum habere uideor. Zelum laudas, quorũ ego nil penitùs, præter ultimũ in me agnosco. Sed quod summus hominum probat, improbare, nisi amens, nullus hominũ audebit. Et libellum illũ, quidem te grantanter ac benignè, aduerbijs utor tuis, suscepisse, ais, quod ut credã tua illa præstat Vrbanitas, quã præclari nominis imples effectu. Insuper & eundẽ diligẽter perlegisse, cõmemoras, atq; in eo multa cõperisse, & uerborũ elegantia, & sententiarũ pondere laudanda testaris, qui non dicam laudibus, atq; oculis tuis, sed auribus tantum, tuaq; utinã patientia dignus esset. Facis autẽ, quod te decet, ut nihil horridũ licet, & incultũ pura fide, deuotoq; animo dictũ speroas, & ꝓfectò si in honorãte est honor, ut uidetur Aristoteli, tu ne honoras, pusillos atq; humiles attollendo. Tu exẽplo illius, cuius uicẽ geris, tuus actus exemplaria nostra sunt, & merito dignos præmio prosequeris, & indignos gratuita misericordia præueniens dignos facis, quorũ me de numero per te fieri gaudeo, gloriorq;, quãuis enim ad pietatem semper tua deflectat, & inclinat humanitas, atq; innatus ad fideles tuos amor, quidã altũ tamẽ, rectũq; iuditiũ tuũ inflexibile, & humanis passionib. inaccessũ multis, & claris indicijs ostẽdisti. Et hic mihi sine elatiõe lętitia, sine ꝓsumptiõe fiducia. Prorsus eñ nihil esse nõ potest ꝙ tibi aliqd uideť. Neq; uerò te pudeat Pater beatissime, neq; pœniteat minorũ colloquijs inclinasse ingeniũ, ac stylum, nec cum maioribus, nãq; nec cũ parib. loqui potes, aut oportet ut taceas aut cũ minorib. colloquaris rara admodũ, sed gloriosa necessitas. Nec te autem collocutoris exigui turbet humilitas, Augustus Cæsar, cui temporali potẽtia par non fuit, sæpè humilibus cũ amicis, nominatim cũ Virgilio, atq; Horatio poëtis altis uiris ingenij, sed ortus humilimis familiarissimas fecit epistolas, ut dulce sit, miũq; legẽtibus in tam

sublimi

sublimi statu, talem animũ, tantamq; mansuetudinẽ inueniri. Proinde quod in epistol[illegible] me dicendi auidum, meq; oppo[illegible]unis fauoribus ac gratijs prosequi d[illegible]spo[illegible]ium te dix[illegible] pl[illegible] est, [illegible]uàm quod ex tam alto mercar audire, retribuet amator CHRISTVS humilitũ e[illegible] & [illegible] forte consultius, non uenirẽ, ne illa scilicet, quæ ut conciuia quidã meus ait, fam[illegible] nuit præsentia, animũ tuum à concepta de me opinione retraheret, quando tamen ita u[illegible], & non iubendo fortiùs iubes, estq; ubi silentiũ impetuosius sit, q; uerba, tuo quidem n[illegible] minus meo desiderio parere disposui. Sed retardat me hinc æstas naturalis, sem[illegible] mea, hinc præsens mei corporis accident[illegible]is offensio. Aetas præterea iam prouecta, ut[illegible] ita dixerim, inclinata dies, & quietis auid[illegible] & laborũ, metuẽs qua[illegible] fessus ad uesperã u[illegible], cogitansq; de hospitio. Nitar tamen per obstantia q[illegible]amprimũ dabitur, & erumpam [illegible] [illegible]issis impedimentis, ac dif[illegible]cultatibus superatis, ad sacratissimos pedes tuos, dud[illegible] m[illegible] exoptatissimos proficiscar, ante quos, iam hinc flexis animæ poplitibus reuerenter [illegible]us, non quod magna pars mortaliũ, diuitias, priuilegia, beneficia, prælaturas, sed pro his omnibus benedictionẽ solam, ac beneuolentiã tuam peto. Is mihi magnarũ altus opum [illegible] lus, summarumq; ambitus fuerit dignitatũ. Deũ interea, qui te elegit precor, ut dies tuos, quos uerè mundo utiles credo, lætos ac longæ[illegible] fieri, & uotiuis iubeat florere suc[illegible]essib. ut te duce Italia, nosterq; orbis, qua Catholicus es, tranquilla pace compositus, ac tu[illegible] conquiescat, ut ubiq; omnes errorum tenebras, ueræ fidei lux illustret, & Christiani n[illegible] nis maiestas, tuo tempore mundum totum occupet, atq; possideat, ut & CHRISTVM [illegible] minum. & te CHRISTI uicarium, usq; ad fines terræ cunctæ suscipiant nationes, cultuq; e perpetuo uenerẽtur. Deniq; post laudabiliter actam uitam, tibi facilem tribuat, ac beat[illegible] exitum, imò introitum uitæ melioris aperiat, ac fœlicem animam terreno de carcere digressuram, is qui creando, ibi illam infudit CHRISTVS omnipotens, & uirgo mater manib. [illegible] excipiant Petro & Paulo amicis tuis astantibus, circunfusa cum gaudio sanctorum acie, & frequenti angelico comitatu. Amen, Pataui [illegible] t. Calend. Augusti.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO BRVNO, S. Epist. II.

FOrsan amice de responsi mei tarditate miraberis, sed cognita causa, d[illegible]nes mira[illegible] Scito igitur, me hinc sub aduentum tuarum literarũ abijsse, magnis e[illegible] m prec[illegible] bu[illegible] & repetitis literis Ticinum iterum, atq; iterum euocabar, & quamui[illegible] naturæ m[illegible] infesta æstas aduentaret, meq; hinc quietis amor stringeret, illinc status præsens, & suspectum latrunculis deterreret iter, uigente tamen hinc ingrati metu, honestiq; inde [illegible]cie animum attrahente, quod scilicet ad tractatum tantæ pacis euocatũ me sentire[illegible] [illegible]sis ulla ex parte bono publico utilis esse possem, parui, digressusq; Patauio ad VI. Cal[illegible] Iunias. VI. illuc die, hora tertia perueni. Ne'ue in singulis morer, illicò rediturus fueram, [illegible] obstante tibiæ collisione, qua in parte corporis à pueritia parum fœlix fui, & quæ me tum sæpè olim, tum per hos dies complusculos afflixit, inuisasq; inter Medicorum ma[illegible] nunc detinet, nisi quod æstuante in horas bello, iam terrestre iter ad reditum, prorsus ob[illegible] sum erat, nec nauis ulla prece uel pretio reperiri poterat, quæ se periculo exponere au[illegible] Etsi enim Padus ipse etiam bello arderet, sperabam tamen, eo calle à fortu[illegible]is me præd[illegible] bus tutiorem, quibus cessantibus, nil timebam, ratus meum propositum atq; amore[illegible] [illegible]a cis, & belli odium, utrique partium notum esse, & sic accidit, siquidem mente ibi integro, & amplius inter nauis inquisitionẽ, & difficultates rerum uarias absumpto, tandem naucle rus unus, non tàm pauidus affuit, qui securum me uidens, & ipse desijt timere. Cuius in nauim, mirantibus cunctis, quibusdã uerò & reprehendentibus introiui, successitq; [illegible] duce Deo. Cũ enim ubiq; classes in undis armatas, ubiq; in ripis armatas acies muene[illegible] nautis, famulisq; trementibus atque pallentibus, ego unus, seu banc amentiam, seu h[illegible] quis dixerit, ubique intrepidus atque inermis occurri, non solùm incolumis, sed e[illegible] [illegible] noratus, uno omnibus ore fatentibus, non esse alium præter me, qui iter ill[illegible] agere [illegible] rus, cumq; e[illegible] meæ tribuerem paruitati, solere enim animalia parua [illegible] ma[illegible] possent transi[illegible]re: una omnes uoce similiter respondebant, neq; magnum, neq; par[illegible] uenire posse, qui non alterutris uel inuisus esset, uel suspectus. Deniq; Varro [illegible] sci[illegible]s plura, q[illegible]àm necesse est, quia certum habeo, te libẽter hæc legere, ubi o[illegible] oc[illegible] & cert[illegible] [illegible]o[illegible]ati omnes essent, ego uino & altilibus, & pomis, & spec[illegible]b[illegible]s [illegible] pup[illegible]im habu[illegible]t nõ ferocitas quidẽ ulla, sed liberalitas bell[illegible]orũ, meũ illud iter p[illegible] tardaret. Quorũ nihil penitùs meritis meis, sed diuinæ cuncta clemẽtiæ ascribo, q[illegible]

am[illegible]

[illegible] & hunc [illegible] sum om[illegible] [illegible]tum, in[illegible] [illegible] re [illegible]tor. Cum tandem [illegible] ueni [illegible]em, [illegible]mbræ serpe[illegible]e atq; ingenii [illegible]is qu[illegible] [illegible] an[illegible]us [illegible] potentia magnus, [illegible] [illegible] p[illegible]iam [illegible] [illegible]um ue[illegible] sed no[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] famulo rerum [illegible]is [illegible] [illegible] cum pau[illegible] [illegible] abdens, & post [illegible]m illic inter libros [illegible] [illegible] quã [illegible] [illegible]mis, nec q[illegible] rare uelim poter[illegible], neq; [illegible] [illegible]t. At post dies paucos, cum iam reditus meus Venetijs notus esset, [illegible] [illegible]ter [illegible]maticus, [illegible] ibidem. literas mihi tua[illegible], simulq; apost[illegible] [illegible] referu[illegible]at, u[illegible] [illegible], & tuas [illegible] dem [illegible] ut soleo, illas non reue[illegible] [illegible] stupidit[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] datæ die, secundas ep[illegible] [illegible] peruenisse cognoui, ne[illegible] [illegible] præter [illegible] absentiæ meæ moram [illegible] ipsas apost[illegible] iam [illegible] apud te d[illegible] f[illegible] literi[illegible] legi. Ad has qu[illegible] S.P.N.Pa[illegible] [illegible]ras. qu[illegible] deam ui[illegible]s, nempe [illegible] & responsionem meam iure tuo perleges, & quod mihi meo iure polliceor [illegible] [illegible] adiuuabis oraculo. Iam quod dominicis ipsis in literis, late satis, in tuis eti[illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible] con [illegible] reculas meis tanto iuditio probati diuinæ, fuæ [illegible] retribuendum [illegible], ego au[illegible] tem, et [illegible]ndignus hæc audiã, nihil tamen po[illegible]lem [illegible] [illegible] & est [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ditas ac uoluptas quædam, nec in[illegible] [illegible] spuit, & de[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] sam sponso uisam gaudet. Ex[illegible] nunc se[illegible] epistolæ [illegible] prima [illegible] [illegible] maior esse non potuit, quàm summ[illegible] hominum p[illegible]cusisse, [illegible] oto, cum omni qu[illegible] [illegible] reuerentia recommenda. S[illegible] tibi cor meum [illegible] fanctitatem & cupiditat[illegible] mea, seu de illo spes, quæ nam esset [illegible], ut nosses q[illegible] ad ho[illegible] me p[illegible] [illegible]bus expedi[illegible] um loqui dixi, quod in animo erat, nec repetitione res indiget, & te memorem ess[illegible] & mihi apu[illegible] fidem non desse confido. Sane quod tuarum in principio literar[illegible] quot en[illegible] [illegible] bendum uenis, si animum tibi meæ uirtutis ad[illegible] ne p[illegible] stringi [illegible] non incip[illegible] at, uel incertum deferat. Sci[illegible] te iocari mecum, & potes, quidem fateor, [illegible] non aliter q[illegible] m tecum loqui omnia, nam si alter hoc diceret, non ludere [illegible] sed illudere. Nihil enim est in me mirabile, nisi in tanta uirtuti ac scientiæ [illegible] tant. [illegible] securitas ac libertas [illegible]andi, de simplicitate oriens bona, utinam urbana qu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]entia, uerè autem tua satis occ[illegible] te excusat. Colutium cuius me uel bis [illegible] ut salutere iube[illegible] precor, & talem tib[illegible] petiti participem obtigisse gaudeo, u[illegible] obtigisse ga[illegible] [illegible]is, quamuis [illegible] orsosum laborem, ma[illegible]nis delectat[illegible] [illegible] abunda. Te non d[illegible] [illegible] id amicis optare [illegible] quod mihi. Vale [illegible] aut [illegible] t. Calend. August.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO BRVNO, S. Epist. III.

Vis uis dicam aut respondeam, in hoc quidem, & in reliquis, haud [illegible] con[illegible] [illegible] sum, nequid tamen occulam amico tali, [illegible] ego securior [illegible] [illegible] tion[illegible] nihil tam formidolosum uideo (seu actiue formidolosum [illegible] seu [illegible] siue) dicere mihi, Veritas odium parit. Scio & expertus scio, od[illegible] amabile uiris fortibus arbitror, etiamsi propter [illegible] studium m[illegible] [illegible] optabil[illegible] sed non id periculũ est, in præsenti certamine. Tut[illegible] interdum belligerare, cũ [illegible]ul[illegible], qua cum uno, alteralteriũ expectans, mauult fuæ al[illegible] [illegible] nihil cũ uno istor[illegible] [illegible]atim, atq; inscriptis lis pergratis, & eua[illegible], & age[illegible] hic de tota agitu[illegible] [illegible], honestissima aũt bella sunt, quæ pro Rep. suse p[illegible] [illegible] me, & quid timeã oro te, cui nil dari, modicũ posit auferre, de his loq[illegible] [illegible] pantur, mea enim mihi nullus eripiet, non senescens tantũ, & inerm[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]uel is tyrannus, nec armatus prædo. At ne [illegible] potest, si quid o[illegible] [illegible] episcopatus que pered[illegible] duxero, imo ue[illegible] [illegible] detur ut [illegible] [illegible] ac in p[illegible] cum grauiac sollicit[illegible] munere, [illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] pam[illegible] offendere quem m[illegible] [illegible] propter Papatu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] probat gesta magnific[illegible] perpet[illegible] mihi aman[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] delectatũ, alienis mu[illegible] lauda[illegible] [illegible] quid ad me? [illegible] potentiã noui, non opes, sed & mores noui. S[illegible] ille [illegible] me [illegible] [illegible] mines, sed uitiis hominum infectos. Interim tuis parcis, nulla hercle odi alius, nulli-

[illegible] sed id mecum [illegible] m altero. N [illegible] nium, nisi [illegible] te [illegible] arraecenorum siue lud [illegible] p [illegible] quicquam [illegible] frustra a te [illegible] ait C [illegible] nisi o [illegible] cere extremæ d [illegible] uitæ e [illegible] go [illegible], n nni [illegible] po o an [illegible], & [illegible] quæstu leuo [illegible] ostentati me ap [illegible] bo & e [illegible] fal [illegible] Deo [illegible] certe di [illegible] ce, & q [illegible] niam uerecundiæ, a [illegible] co [illegible] sa [illegible] ris [illegible], sed non inscius [illegible] nt m [illegible] a [illegible] & [illegible] n [illegible] me o. Par [illegible] hæc [illegible] ur. Q [illegible] em [illegible] e [illegible] ode is nihil mihi, sed Romanæ Vrbi, sed Ecclesiæ, [illegible] etro & Pa [illegible], sed [illegible] & inuisa non impleam, nomine glorior, neque uero omnes, imo equid [illegible] d [illegible] uerò & dilexi quibusda & d [illegible] igi uisus sum, & quid eorum amor ua [illegible] b [illegible] æ e [illegible] probè didici. Sed [illegible] scis, plus sæpè [illegible] od [illegible] nocere, [illegible] ri nū prod [illegible] e. N [illegible] penitus scio, nilque uelim scire quo [illegible] dior siam, qui [illegible] &, [illegible] tuit ut quorundam animantium magnitudo te [illegible] bilis ac nocendi potens, sic q [illegible] ja paruitas, atque impotentia tut [illegible] est, & uiol [illegible] accessa. Qu [illegible] d un [illegible] uam mu [illegible] n [illegible] it, quid formicę leo, hæc dixi [illegible] me intel [illegible] gas, & qua dat [illegible] uideas. [illegible] amic [illegible] [illegible] um euocatu [illegible] ne me audieris, fac quod bonum censes. De reliquo Steph [illegible] sis euentu mœstus accepi, & quamuis tu mihi in literis, spei reliquias nel [illegible] o q [illegible] s o [illegible] e [illegible] o tamen ut [illegible] umores placito falsos, sæpè sic infaustos penè semper ueros memini, sed [illegible] Exh [illegible] oculos, atque ilia, c [illegible] psi lachrymas atque suspiria, suspiro tamen a [illegible] [illegible] irans [illegible] hæc, fleui olim q [illegible] ntum [illegible] tui, plus ne quàm debui, iam satis, [illegible] fletum, usque non ad satietatem mo [illegible] sed pœnitentiam ac pudorem. Itaque [illegible] te hæc præterita, unicum mihi uitæ huius [illegible] uæ dicitur, ac prædulce solatium, unic [illegible] dum ing [illegible] uescentis in dies iam ætatis, denique lumen unicum oculorum meorum ac quidem, [illegible] liquis hic ordo esset prorsus intempestiua mors tulerit, non dico, n [illegible] n do [illegible] non fleui, neque unquam mortalis hominis, neque meam si CHRISTVS amauerit mort [illegible] tibique hunc ipsum esse animum ualdè gaudeo, eoque magis, quod in hoc meis [illegible] te diu [illegible] nitis, munitumque armis dicis, unde & tu amici obitum, piè admodum, atque ama [illegible] te [illegible] sed titer tamen, ac uiriliter fers, eumque mihi ut ignotum scribis, cōmemoratione gra [illegible] sima [illegible] & id quidem ac memoriter, teque, seque dignissimæ textum nectis Historiæ, desine au [illegible] mihi ut ignotum loqui, uidi hominem, & quantum uitam paucis horis licuit, circu [illegible] ut enim me doloris tui participem agnoscas, non solùm ideò, quia tuum nihil alien [illegible] [illegible] e potest, sed quod ille per se etiam erat, scito eum ad me anno altero uenisse. Ven [illegible] mira suauitate, in nostram amicitiā introgressum, multa ibi intus in præcord [illegible] me [illegible] gna beneuolentiæ uestigia reliquisse, uirum bonum, & modestum, prudentem [illegible] ra, qualē tu illum stylo pingis, iure optimo, tibi, bonisque omnibus diligēdum [illegible] orte, huius bellis eductum, in æternæ uitę pace locauerit. Ad extremum, no [illegible] teris a [illegible] um, hic dominum patrem meum, Patriarchā Hierosolymitanū, Rom [illegible] ne subli [illegible] e, quod ita futurum semper credidi, & dilatum stupui, [illegible] ateb [illegible] est usus [illegible], difficile extirpabilis, primū huiusce rei nuncium lætus [illegible] udiui [illegible] di [illegible] us sum. Domino autem nostro, quem quodāmodo pl [illegible] usm [illegible] amat, quid la [illegible] tis offensæ fecerit ignoro, quo in eum ultionis honorific [illegible] h [illegible] c ge [illegible] nerit. Vt uelut aurea ill [illegible] eris cathena, dum maximè necessaria quies es [illegible] omnem sibi spem quiet [illegible] ertatis abstulerit, de quo illi forsitan modo uacuu [illegible] a [illegible] ulserit, scribam aliquid [illegible] et enim ut Catuli Veronensis uerbo u [illegible]

——*Meas esse aliquid putare nugas.*

[illegible] ale Patauii [illegible] Nonas Octobris. Sed, heu, heu interiectionem fam [illegible] iorem [illegible] lem [illegible] uant [illegible] p [illegible] hanc datam die, à domino urbis huius audiui, de hoc ip [illegible] amantissimo [illegible] iarcha aliquid haud dubiè faustum sibi, mihi uerò ut [illegible] a [illegible] g [illegible] a te, durum, flebile. Cumque me relator ipse rumore il [illegible] cestum ce [illegible] p [illegible] e [illegible] o au [illegible] m [illegible] t proxime dicebam [illegible] io, tristiloquam f [illegible] m [illegible] ue [illegible] m, [illegible] hoc quid nunc dicam, aliud non habeo, amaui homin [illegible] [illegible] m am [illegible] non desinam scripsi ad eum olim, in so [illegible] d [illegible] e mea [illegible] bros duos, [illegible] e ita [illegible] ui mutatio [illegible] cre [illegible] at, ut [illegible] erem. Iamque id animo [illegible] oluebam, & am [illegible] quod uald [illegible] [illegible] e libe [illegible] at [illegible] s sum. Vale iterum.

FRAN. PETRARCHA COLVTIO S[illegible]NA[illegible]O, S. Epist. IIII.

ALiquot ante ann[illegible]s ad Franciscum nostrum Brunij scribens, nouū tunc probatissimum, nunc amicum dixi, cum in hominis senescentis amicitiam incidi[illegible]se, quod si tunc uerè dixi, quod nunc putas? Scis ætatem currere ac uolare, momentoq; breuissimo ab infantia in senium, & in mortem iri, hæc me causa, extimatioq; temporis, iam trepidulum ac tepentem fac[illegible]t, & ab illo scribendi ardore iuuenili manu retrahit algenti, & si enim multas magnas epistolas, post id tempus amico illi scripserim atq; alijs, tandem tamen his diebus animū mutaui, & morem. Sicut, rogas? Quia omnis passus pars est uitæ, omnis hora pars est uitæ, utq; eundo, sic uiuen[illegible]o passim termino acceditur. Ero deinceps in epistolari colloquio, cum amicis breuior, cū reliquis tacit[illegible], sic dispono, nisi aliqua in diuersum iusta admodum me causa compulerit. Senectus loquacissimos facere consueta, breuiloquum me fecerit. Tibi ergo nondum uiso, nuper cognito, iam dilecto, ad honorificā tuam illam atq; amabilem epistolam, nil in præsens aliud reddiderim, nisi stylum affectumq; hūc tuum mirum in modum, animo meo gratum esse, quāuis enim indignus ego, hoc cultu atq; honore, non ideò tamen inferior laus tua est, dum uirtutis inquisitor illius, etiam nudū nomē, umbramq; pertenuem, atq; ambigua u[illegible]gia ueneraris, famę forsan credulus, multi mentiri solitæ, & ni fallor dign[illegible] ob idipsu[illegible], qui nec mearum, neq; ullarū prorsus rerum, in iudicio falli queas. Macte indole eg[illegible]ia, quid nunc ageres illi, quisquis is esset, in quo tibi uera & solida uirtus occurreret. Vale Pataui IIII. Nonas Octobris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVILIELMO MARMAVRO BO[illegible] [illegible]EAPOLITANO, S. Epist. V.

Malè fundatas amicitias non [illegible]rare.

ORpheus noster Ausonius, qui tu[illegible]m hûc epistolam ferebat, me nō uidit, cum ei proximus essem, neque suum mihi saltem indicauit aduentum, mirarer nisi scirem humana omnia tempus atte[illegible]e.

Omnia fert ætas, inquit Maro.

Omnia de nobis anni prædantur euntes: inquit Flaccus.

Nolo in causa propria, testimonio meo uti, & in carmine, & in prosa, sententiam hanc, alijs atque alijs uerbis, quod accepta mihi esset, sæpè repetij, hinc rapinæ ac ruinæ, una omnium uirtus excipitur, quæ tempore non modò non interit, sed augetur. Ego autem extimabam amicitiam, quæ inter me atque illum à iuuentute mea, pueritiaq; sua, interq; patrem eius, ac me ab adolescentia mea, atque illius iuuentute cōtracta erat, in uirili auctam, uerecorq; pro uirili huius parte, ne falleret, uulgares enim amicitias, quæ in utilitate aut sola delectatione subsistunt, haud dubiè tempus imminuit atq; euertit. Quam ob causam amicitia, quæ cum patre mihi est indies, reuirescit, quæ cum isto autem, in horas deficit ac decrescit, & propè iam ad nihilum redijt, tanto certiores, tantoq; solidiores sunt senum amicitiæ, quàm iuuenum. Quamuis autem huius nostri conuersatione delectarer, propter dulcedinem illam, quam me fateor ex musica modulatione percipere, usq; adeò ut nonnunquam, quæ de cœlesti harmonia sensere philosophorum quidam, simulq; his contradicentium sententiam animo agitans, in eam partem sim procliuior. Quæ seu sphærarum motu, seu aliter superis non inuidet, hanc aurium uoluptatem, qua in re hic noster, ut ego opinor antiquum illum longè uicit Orpheum, non minus tamen cum uictu eius, alloquioq; mulcebar, non minorem enim, sed maiorem uerborum, & cum Tullio multo maximè actuum concentum arbitror quàm sonorum. Eat tamen utcunq;, ego enim, & cum amicis dulcissime uiuere didici, & sine illis, ubi culpa caream amariusculè quidē, sed tic[illegible]ua uideor, quippè qui interdum propter multa, quæ uita hominum fert, penè coniunct[illegible]m, congressusq; hominum exhorream, propte[illegible]q; odium malorum. Quibus omnia plena sunt, bonorū paucitas, quodammodò mihi suspecta sit, ut sicut in pelago dulcis aquæ fontem, sic & urbibus uirū bonum inuenire prodigiosum rear. Et quid plura, inter perditos hinc uiuorum mores, hinc ace[illegible]bam dulciter memoriam defunctorum, ac mortis iniuriā, quæ tot bonos mihi tàm paucis a[illegible]is eripiunt, alterum penè Bellerophontem iam me uideas. Non quidem miserū aut mœrentem, meumq; ipsum cor edentem, sed errantem in campis, hominu[illegible]q; uestigia, qua licitum est uitantem, in syluisq; si detur, quod superest uitæ, seu uerius mortis huius præc[illegible]pidè exacturum. Hæc in primis tàm multa, de communi amico ut uides non sine stomach[illegible]u[illegible] [illegible]ei te illi cum primum occurrerit, innotescant dolituro, si quid el[illegible] [illegible]enuj pudoris, sic[illegible]e uel [illegible]er insolentiam, uel per negligentiam, & si nō utilem, at antiq[illegible]am [illegible]ert[illegible] & fortas[illegible] [illegible]m amicitiam postergasse, quam tanta fide talis Pater colit. Quæ mihi, & sæpè

olim. & nuper dum Verona iter agerem, luce clarior apparuit. Scripsi ecce plura q[illegible] credidi, tulit ardor quidam læsi animi, dehinc scribam pauciora quam uellem. Epist[illegible] tua, per multorum manus ad me ueniens, magno me gaudio com[illegible]it, m[illegible] mihi fidem facerent certissimam, te si tam proximus mihi esset, q[illegible] e q[illegible] uel ad me uent[illegible]rum fuisse, uel iudicaturum ubi te quærerem. Et certè si [illegible] m[illegible]um sequar, difficillimum erit, finem huius quoque sermonis attingere. Sed quia iam r[illegible] pe nuria, ac necessitate compulsus, statim in epistolis breuior fieri, unum hoc dixi[illegible] tus sim, affectum erga me atque animum hunc tuum, non nouu[illegible] mihi, sed pergra[illegible] tuam hanc tantam reuerentiam, quam ex multarũ tuarum epistolarũ uniformi tenore percipio, non ita, quanquam enim optima è radice ueniens, atque in te decora mihi, tamen p[illegible]rsus indebita est, proinde me olim tibi, tàm laboriosè quæsitum, & tàm procul inu[illegible], & tam auidè tanquam prædulciter uisum, nescio an & unquam in terris a[illegible]plius re[illegible]endũ. Quod non dicerem, si noster ille Vir maximus, paulò diutiùs uixisse, plenam fiduciã in amicis habe, & si quis est usus utere. Atque utinam uel irrequisitus aliquid possem, ne spes tua, quam ex me tàm ingentem concipis frustrà esset, ultrò Deum testor, laboribus an[illegible]m[illegible]que tui fluctibus opem atque consiliũ laturus, si qua [illegible] gubernandi ars, si qua esset experientia, & nunc quoniam plus interdũ possumus quàm credamus, licet in plurimis contrà sit, si quid fortè est, quod pro requie, proque solatio tuo possim iube, adsum animo, hic subs[illegible]am [illegible]re enim, longius breuitatis studio, & propositi noui fixa lege prohibeor. Viue & Vale n[illegible] memor Patauii v. Idus Nouembris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA [illegible]ANCISCO DE VRSINIS, S. Epist. VI.

Nouæ contractus amicitiæ.

IVeundum in stuporem, tuæ me nobilis [illegible]dolis generosum specimen, & beneuole[illegible]tiæ iuuenalis, clarius ardor cõpulit. Macte u[illegible]rtute, ad quã sic affectus es, ut eius in me dum nomẽ, ac tenuem umbram colas. Gratũ habeo, & hunc tibi esse animum. [illegible] fortem mihi, atque amator ueri, licet honestissimum hunc errorem amo, unde hic a[illegible]r, meisque de rebus, tuæ hæc fluxit opinio, & Italiæ, & Romæ cõmuni gratulor parenti [illegible] nunc etiam talia parit ingenia. Proinde quia multa scribendi ocium nõ habeo, hæc su[illegible] est, ego tibi tàm charus esse gaudeo, antequam cognitus, nec tantum gaudeo, sed mi[illegible] tuusque esse nunc incipio, nunquam desiturus. Tu me autem inter tuos, utcunque uisum numera, teque tui similem præsta & uale. Venetijs IIII. Idus Februarij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA ANTONIO DONATI APENNIGENÆ FILIO, S. Epist. VII.

FIlii literulam tuam perbreuem, neque ut ita dixerim te iustiorem, sed ætatulæ [illegible] c[illegible]u sculo tuo parem, ingenij rudimentum, & styli tui primitias libens uidi, & [illegible]a[illegible] fac, exerce animum, experire, enitere & assurge. Non uidebit autumnus, ra[illegible] ctum, cuius flores uer non uidit. Scribe, lege, meditare, addi[illegible]ce, stu[illegible] doctu[illegible] multò maximè, uir bonus & quotidie te melior fias. Et caue ne sine diurno [illegible] uesper inueniat, ita ut breui, & illi qui te genuit, gaudio, & mihi, qui te diligo [illegible]e po[illegible] xilio, ille enim à quo auxilium sperabam, qui post me uenit, ante me factus est, opi[illegible] tem sua, de milite dux, de discipulo magister. Vale, & utrumque iubeas sal[illegible]re pa[illegible] cini XIII [illegible]alend. Decembris.

FRAN. PETR[illegible]HA FRANCISCO BRVNO, S. Epist. VIII.

Commendatio iuuenis studiosi.

HIc cuius è ma[illegible] hanc schedulam accipies, triennio & amplius mec[illegible] ut familiaris, [illegible] filius, paternè eum habui, paternè monui, paternè & inc[illegible] & laudaui, paternè demũ amaui, quod miraberis & pat[illegible], hic est de[illegible] bi dudum scripsi, quod castigatã literam scriberet, de qua e[illegible]ola [illegible] quam D.N.PP. tuo consilio porrigendam, tuisque mox porrectam manib[illegible], ad[illegible] hic [illegible]nquã) ingenij diuca semper, sed doctrinæ inops, ad me primũ uenit. Nunc [illegible] se teste g[illegible]orier, non mea quidem opera, sed conuictu & obseruatione & lectione [illegible] lat[illegible]one abit hinc doctior, quàm uenerat. Cum gratia tamen mea, ac licen[illegible]a non a[illegible] sil[illegible]o discedi[illegible]. Quid multa? Iuuenis est, uno uerbo totũ dixero, uult pro[illegible]are [illegible] probasse c[illegible]imis memorans cohorresco. Optat Romam uidere, quod [illegible]n[illegible]m [illegible] si hic sil[illegible]et, [illegible]robare non audeo, nam & ego ipse, qui totiens eam uidi [illegible]ie[illegible] deo, sed [illegible]c[illegible]er, uult ut auguror maiore in pelago pisca[illegible], lucrum sibi, [illegible]

[illegible]nens, uult tenta[illegible]nam, ut dicit [illegible]. Qu[illegible]ndam reperit gaudebo, su[illegible]ersam, fa[illegible] a du[illegible]r, repetere, [illegible] m licet exiguum por[illegible]m non ue[illegible]. Q[illegible]n uel c[illegible]erdi[illegible]re[illegible]is, d[illegible]m [illegible]re u[illegible] diebus patet ac [illegible]octibus, imò & pe[illegible]ox[illegible] in uer[illegible]c, & qui[illegible] educes excipiat habet [illegible]tore, hic equidem, [illegible]squis eum agat impetus, non tam suus [illegible], quam ætatis [illegible] bon[illegible] est, ni fall[illegible], meus & mei [illegible]mans, studiosus boni animi uagi, fateor, sed mode[illegible] & b[illegible]m fauore [illegible]on indiget, si [illegible]m sibi uiam bonam sua sors aperit, non desi[illegible] con[illegible]. Vale

FRAN. PETRAR[illegible]HA HV[illegible] SAN[illegible] [illegible] Epist. IX.

Commenda[illegible].

IVuenis iste [illegible]em conspicis, aliquot annos, mi[illegible] [illegible]d[illegible]t, e[illegible] corpore ab[illegible] con[illegible]cũ, an[illegible] nõ abire, & hi[illegible] [illegible]n motũ, [illegible] [illegible]æ[illegible] puto, firmitatis indige, ac d[illegible]bus gaudeti, q[illegible]s, ne meipsum, [illegible]p[illegible]eo, nunc accusem, m[illegible]os [illegible]senium [illegible]om[illegible]tur, & hic quidem adolescens, b[illegible]en[illegible], raræq; indolis, adolescens tamen, multis de[illegible] consili[illegible]atis, nobilius [illegible]d exte[illegible]ũ prætulit, & quoniam ire [illegible]xum erat non ali[illegible] discen[illegible]ditare, peregrinari ele[illegible]rti mis autem, literas Græcas sitit, [illegible] simile Ca[illegible]is desider[illegible]m, uix dum pubes anticip[illegible] me ego impetũ, iam per anni spatiũ, non sine ingenio, ac labore continu[illegible], sæpe p[illegible]cib[illegible], interdum iurgijs ostendens, ingerensq; oculis, quantũ sibi Latin[illegible]arum, nunc et[illegible]terarum desit, diffi[illegible]ultates quoq; rerum uarias, ac pericula coac[illegible], quibus iuuenilem temperari posse rebar [illegible]dorẽ, præsertim, ex quo semel di[illegible]s b[illegible] ut [illegible]ibi prædixerã, [illegible]nte necessitate redierat. Et planè, dum peregrinationi[illegible]emoria recens fuit [illegible]nsit par[illegible]pe, & spem dedit posse animũ regi. Nu[illegible] non longa requie laborum om[illegible] [illegible] repsit obliuio. En iterum frẽnos mor[illegible] uel [illegible]te cõpesci potest, [illegible] ardenti nescio an prudenti, & sobrio discen[illegible] [illegible]patria, amicisq; [illegible] cognatis, & annoso patre, & me quem ut patrem diligit, [illegible] quem pat[illegible] [illegible]em conuersa[illegible]e prætulerat, ad te solo sibi nomine, cognitũ festinat. Neu forsitan mireris, habet ista præcip[illegible]o ra[illegible]o[illegible]is uel[illegible]m, cùm enim primum illi animus fuisset, recto calle Constantinopolim [illegible] [illegible]sci, edoctus à me, Græciã ut olim ditissimam, sic nunc omnis longe inopem d[illegible] [illegible]linæ, hoc uno mihi credito, non omisit iter propositũ sed inflexit, cumq; ex me sæpi[illegible] aud[illegible]et, aliq[illegible] Grææ linguæ doctissimos homines, nostra ætate Calabriã habuisse, nominatim duos, Barlaam [illegible]onachum, ac Leonem seu Leontiũ. Quorũ uterq; mih[illegible] perfamiliaris, primus etiam [illegible] m[illegible]er fuerat, profecissetq; aliquid fortasse, ni mors inuidisset, statuit Calabrum litus toui[illegible], & [illegible]liæ plagam illam, quæ magna olim Græcia dicta est, eumq; ubiq; autem te[illegible]o[illegible]e, [illegible]c pote[illegible]ũ non ignorans, meis literis cõm[illegible]endari optauit, quas apud te, nec fallitur e[illegible] sp[illegible]era[illegible]nnui, haud grat[illegible]im, & tibi solatiũ, ut [illegible]pinor ex illius ingenio & ill[illegible] [illegible]ræsidi[illegible], ex tua poten[illegible]ia quæsiturus. Amo enim hominem, & quãuis læutiatem animi, [illegible]on tàm approbem, [illegible]u[illegible]m excusem, discendi uotum improbare non audeo, imò me iudice [illegible]rius est asse[illegible]ui, quod tàm anxi[illegible], tamq; ardenter expetit, ut dum illud sol[illegible]m cogitat, non [illegible]ultatũ [illegible], ue[illegible] affectuum, sed suipsius, & suarum uitium sit oblit[illegible] de[illegible]pe ac apud [illegible]ræco[illegible] non di[illegible]d[illegible]t, apud Calabros inueniri posse. Commendo ig[illegible]bi, q[illegible] si lare uideris, [illegible]q; ope & consilio adiuueris, rem te dignam, [illegible] ut arbitror [illegible], feceris, mihi uero gratissimam, qui subtristis illum ac sollicitus [illegible]tem uid[illegible]. [illegible]le.

FRAN. PETRARCH[illegible] [illegible]ORBARDO A[illegible] SERI[illegible] Epist. X.

Breuis consolatio.

DVlci quadam uelut acredine, aeriq; dulcedine epi[illegible] tua[illegible]m [illegible]suauit[illegible]nnosi patris interitum defles, ut & tibi compatiar, & [illegible]g[illegible]er[illegible]ati, qua nil melius, nil suum magis est homini & præsertim fili[illegible]a[illegible] & naturæ pater, & tu patri debitum persoluisti. Sera illius, & fat[illegible]e [illegible] præcox pietas tua e[illegible]n est quod quæraris, est quod gaudeas [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]moreretur, & per hoc [illegible]eueiter, ac difficile in patri[illegible] rem[illegible]et, [illegible]re[illegible]tur peru[illegible] Ad[illegible]oc omnes nat[illegible]s. Viarum mu[illegible]a[illegible]ari[illegible]s, om[illegible]ium [illegible]org, im[illegible] uer[illegible], non finis, sed tra[illegible]us bo[illegible]s[illegible]pt[illegible]. [illegible]qu[illegible]e [illegible], [illegible]e miserius est mo[illegible] quam nasci, [illegible] forta[illegible]cli[illegible]. Va[illegible] [illegible]age, atq; am[illegible]u[illegible]tore, t[illegible]iam manib[illegible] claui[illegible]mæge.

[illegible] A [illegible] RBAN [illegible] M. [illegible]

Pro innocentia general[illegible] ministri ordinis fratrum mi[illegible]

M[illegible] iam nunc proposito meo Bea[illegible]ime pater ob [illegible]
[illegible]nc tuam [illegible] paruitatē meā, inde d[illegible]cultatē rei [illegible]
ta[illegible]en obstac[illegible], [illegible]a [illegible] nota benignitas, secūdum [illegible]
mea, ter[illegible] ue[illegible] amor, fal[illegible] odium [illegible], scio ego [illegible]
suetud[illegible] [illegible]am scio, o[illegible] animo [illegible]d Parij Ge[illegible], apu[illegible]
[illegible] qui apud te audent [illegible]ere, magnitudinē tuam [illegible]nt, qui non [illegible]dent [illegible]ma
[illegible] præterea p[illegible]am, sed & animi purita[illegible] noui, quæ tāta est, u[illegible] m[illegible] es
[illegible]r, no[illegible] mo[illegible] te, se[illegible] contra te loqui[illegible] usus fuerim, [illegible]od
[illegible]ontul sti tantum, sed lauda[illegible]i. Hæc est enim uer[illegible] hominis mag[illegible]
[illegible], ac dignitate, sed humanitate præcellere. Senti[illegible] demum altitud[illegible]
qu[illegible]dē, quod suspitione in iudicijs [illegible]ommunibus, non careret testis irre[illegible]
zelus ac [illegible]udium ueritatis pro u[illegible]us adiuu[illegible] meam hanc [illegible] am[illegible]
Nunc ne pluriloquio tuas sanct[illegible] occupatio[illegible] pediā, a[illegible] re[illegible]m, [illegible]bi no[illegible]
historiam inamœnam uenio. Magister Thomas uir clar[illegible]simus ac sac[illegible]rū pro[illegible]
tus scripturarum atq; ordinis minorum, ad quem propter multa, maximè pro[illegible]ter [illegible]
sic afficior, qua[illegible] unus ex ordine illo sim, generalis minister, coniurata[illegible] scio q[illegible]o
profectò no[illegible] bonorum hominum inuidia, ut amare enim mali bonos, [illegible] disse[illegible]
ni nequeun[illegible]mæ suæ ac status in di[illegible]rimen[illegible]hitur, heu mihi fœdum spectac[illegible]
a[illegible]d[illegible]u tolo[illegible]m turpe, tamq; indignum fit, [illegible]tæ in morē, è longinquo uulneret
[illegible]o enim quæso f[illegible]t oculi, quod ferre [illegible]ffunt aures, uirorum nomen ex[illegible]
[illegible]euo[illegible]ntiæ moribu[illegible]c criminibu[illegible]m, nec reuerentiam u[illegible]
[illegible]ibus, sed quò plus est gloriæ, plus esse u[illegible] turpe (inquam &
nouum tamen, nec mirabile, nisi quod [illegible] oculis tuis tantum aud[illegible]re non de[illegible]
alioquin usitatum & uetus est malum. Omitto autem antiquiora illa, Socrat[illegible] T[illegible]
nem, Anaxagoram, Ciceronem, Senecam, Rutilium ac Metellum, [illegible], q[illegible] a[illegible]
uirtutis odium in exilium, & in mortem egit. Quanta Christianis e[illegible]am temp[illegible]o
Christi fide passus est Athanasius? Quanta passus Ambrosius, dum ille persequ[illegible]
reticis fugiens, & toto uagus orbe terrarum, illa substinuit, quæ non ipsum mo[illegible]
tiebatur, sed pium quoque lectorem adhuc torqueant, ac fatigent. Hic autem i[illegible]
suæ urbis arctatus, à Iustina Augusta, totis imperij uiribus seruiente, atque [illegible]
nis, illa pertulit, quæ nota sunt omnibus. Quid Augustinus? Non'ne dum [illegible]
dias tetendissent, utili uiarum errore, periculum mortis euasit? Quid [illegible]eronym[illegible]
Ioannes Chrysostomus? quot uterque passus obtrectatores, scr[illegible]pta [illegible]icant [illegible]
Boëtius Seuerinus, & ipse uir sanctus, ac doctus, cuius innocentiæ, ac [illegible]irt[illegible]
cœlo, alia, sed in terris infamia, proscriptio, exilium, mors fuēre. Non sequor o[illegible]
meri enim sun[illegible] imò uerò quis unquā rectum fidei, ac uirtutis iter ingressus, non [illegible]
rum patu[illegible]bus, cum dicat Apostolus ad Timotheū scribens, quod omnes [illegible]
piè uiuere [illegible]RISTO IESV, persecutionē patientur: mali autē h[illegible]min[illegible] &
proficie[illegible] e[illegible]s, proficiant planè in peius, & in pessimū, quando [illegible] u[illegible] lu[illegible] pro[illegible]
suam pern[illegible]em, non bono[illegible]oficiant, imò deficiant errantes, ut Apostolus i[illegible]
quod sequitur, in errorem [illegible]tentes quod ut patet, omni nunc studio feruen[illegible]
molliuntur. Qui [illegible]fort[illegible]m suis artibus in errorem miserint te, [illegible] mi[illegible]te[illegible]
bis, ut soles, ine[illegible]ssu[illegible] a[illegible]ta iustitiæ, id satis est nobis omnibus, u[illegible]m ac[illegible]
b[illegible] a[illegible] non enim ego solus, quamuis minimus omnium h[illegible]o [illegible]
[illegible], cut au[illegible]ur[illegible]r, multi scribent, nemo non salē animo subsc[illegible]et, n[illegible]o [illegible]
[illegible]tus, ac bo[illegible]ens ruinam, boni omnes aff[illegible]si tota sim[illegible] ecle[illegible]a, [illegible]
[illegible]aterq; ordinis Franciscus [illegible]lix, nu[illegible] paupe[illegible]
[illegible]TO & sibi charissimum, [illegible]u d[illegible]o[illegible]
[illegible]ro[illegible]as, u[illegible]um est, quod mirer ac doleam si uer[illegible]
[illegible]p[illegible]um, quem trāquillum & serenu[illegible]n [illegible]
f[illegible]u[illegible]t[illegible]to[illegible]bus, ac fatet[illegible]d per se ta[illegible]a[illegible]a[illegible]
tat[illegible]f[illegible]o[illegible]le [illegible]u q[illegible]a
a[illegible], [illegible]i[illegible]u[illegible]æ nubes a[illegible]de[illegible]us a[illegible], & [illegible]

historijs meminissem M. Catonem Censorium, famosissimæ uirum sapientiæ, quod unũ in illius uita reprehensione ualida dignũ, noto contra gloriosissimũ Africanum, accusatores nepharios excitasse, qui tandem Senatus, bonorumq; comitijs lacerati sunt, quod ex infamia tanta uiri sibi gloriã concupissent, quod apud te, nunc æquissime cordiũ librator, his de quibus quæror excusatoribus euenturũ spero, & cupio, ut per te acriter castigati, & increpiti, discant non de infamia aliena, sed de propria uirtute clarescere. Occupant sanè claros etiã animos interdũ humanarũ caligines, passionũ, sed quæ ibi flante aura purissimæ rationis, diù esse non debeant. Rectè igitur ac secundum suæ dignitatis exigentiã fecerit ille uir magnus, quem nominare, nisi pro sua laude uoluerim, si quos a[illegible] ctoritate impulit, auctoritate retraxerit, ab incepto imperio. Qui [illegible] (ut fertur) hanc iracundiæ causam præfert quod ad regimen ordinis, hũc assumi uoluit, uel alium maluit, electores arguat non electũ quem omnis ambitionis exortem, imò omniũ, quæ circa se agerentur ignarũ, ad hunc honorificũ laborem assumptũ esse, non ambigitur. Cæterùm ille ut sibi libuerit, iræ suæ moderabitur, frenumq; uel contrahet, uel laxabit, ut autẽ quod te decet non permittes, ut CHRISTO res hominum spectante, & te CHRISTI [illegible] essam gubernante, pro cuiuscunq; libidine famæ uirorum illustrium obscurentur. Vnde hoc sperans non te amplius fatigabo, sed propter quod ad calamum ueni, pure, fideliter, ac reuerenter expediã. Fateor, me in mei ipsius quanto magis in alterius conscientia falli posse, cum in pectoribus hominũ, tot profundæ, tamq; inaccessibiles sint cauernæ, quantum tamen, nisi uel fama publica, uel fide digna relatio, uel conuersatio ad extremum, & quæ multum animos aperiunt altera colloquia, rei huius immeriti notitiam contulere, dicam clara uoce quod sentio. Et quamuis apud superbos [illegible] maiores, testimonij fidem minuar, testis humilitas, apud te tamen humilitatis amicũ [illegible] unicæ uicarium ueritatis, humile, sed securum breue, sed incorru[illegible]m ueritati testimon[illegible] prohibeo. Citatus testis non à iudice, sed à CHRISTO & conscientia mea, utrunque ergo, tuumq; simul sacratissimũ ac uenerandum regibus caput testor, ne nõ iuratus testis, dicar, me quantum scio, & credo, falsi nihil, uera omnia dicturum. Equidẽ Pater Beatissime, magistrum Thomam, de quo agitur optimũ & integerrimum uirum noui, clarum literis, sed uirtutibus clariorem, quodq; est maximum, & supremũ religione insigni, ac pietate & Catholicæ fidei luce clarissimum. Et ad summam, talem mihi opto animã, qualem illi esse confido. Possem pluribus: Longa enim de grauitate animi, de suauitate morum, de [illegible]brietate, de abstinentia & austeritate uitæ, de deuotione præferuida, de humilitate, contemptuq́ue sui [illegible] ac mundi, de misericordia, & charitate non ficta, deq; dotibus alijs uiri illius, texi po[illegible] historia, sed ingenio tuo, hæc pauca de multis, imò quidem uel pauciora sufficiunt, uides & intelligis causam mali huius. Et sicut de accusato[illegible] m odio, cõsternatio & metus, non illius quidẽ sibi optime cõscius nihil timet, sed mei, multorumq; animis, sic de clementia ac [illegible]tia iudicantis spes, & consolatio multa suboritur. Non potest te iudicio præsidente, [illegible]lius ui[illegible]us & gloria, sic inuidiæ calce calcari, ut nõ maior ex iniurijs, floridiorq; tuis sacris m[illegible]nibus erecta cõsurgat, & quoniam solida, & pura, uereq; aurea est, splẽdidior [illegible] attritu. In Deo d[illegible]nica, & uitæ spes innocentiæ suæ est, diù te CHRISTV[illegible] lumen Ecclesię suę seruet, & post gloriosi terminum laboris, in suam requiem atq; æternam gloriam, facili transuehat ac fœlici exitu. Pataui, Cal. Ianuarij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA HVGONI ESTENSI MARCHION[illegible] S. Epist. XIII.

Abstinendum esse ludis inanibus.

PEtrus Mo[illegible]tanus familiaris tuus, & amicus meus, de te mihi læ[illegible]os ac magnificos, sed nõ no[illegible] attulit rumores, quibus nihil possem gratius audire, & [illegible] oro fac[illegible] dolem egregiã, honestis studijs adiuua, enitere in altũ, disce magno animo cal[illegible] e uulgaria, neq; ulla difficultate desistere, donec de uirtute in uirt[illegible], indefessi passus, ad supremum claritatis culmen euaserim, inane, nouũ est, ætatis b[illegible] autem, qu[illegible]uis subdifficilis est uia, per quam ad longæuam gloriã, æternumq; itur habitac[illegible]um. Hanc ingr[illegible]us, hanc sequere, neu diuertas, pro hac nil arduum, nil horrendũ extim[illegible] pro hac enim se labori ac d[illegible]mini, pro hac demum si res exigat, ui tàm morti obijcere [illegible] eximium uiri o[illegible]us est. [illegible]nc nunquã ego te retraham, sed urge[illegible] & currenti quod in me erit, animo calc[illegible]r adijciam. Spontè autem sese offerre periculis, [illegible] magni animi est, sed paruæ prudẽtiæ. [illegible] itur lõgus sim, pro salute, pro dignitate, pro [illegible], ubi oportet pugna fortiter, pugna [illegible]liter, pugna fœliciter. Periculosis autem ac damnosis, & puerilibus his ludis Equestri-

XX 3 bus

bus abſtine, hoc precor, hoc conſulo, non ſapientiæ iure, ſed ætatis. Temerarij [illegible] fidelis certè con[illegible]lij ueniam dabis, ſatis ſit innotuiſſe iam omnibus, te hu[illegible]mo[illegible] cellenter uti poſſe ſi libeat, quicquid ultra proceditur, fruſtrà eſt. Inopini ſunt [illegible] omnium, & ſapienti magnopere prouidendum eſt, ne ultrò ſe ingerat, ubi periculi p[illegible], utilitatis aut gloriæ nihil eſt. Linque illis hos ludos, qui nihil maius poſſunt, n[illegible] mel[illegible]s ſciunt, [illegible]orum ex æquo inutilis mors, & uita contemnitur. Tua uita & fratribus, [illegible] cis, & Reipub. chara eſt, tuum ingenium, atque animum, altiores admodum decent curæ. Nunquam ſic luſiſſe Scipio legitur, nunquam Cæſar, opto tibi glorioſum & fœlicem ſtatum. Patauii VIII. Calend. Maias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA BONAVENTVRÆ HÆREMITÆ, S. Epiſt. XIIII.

Conſolatoria ſuper morte fratris.

QValem pròh dolor uirum, quod ſidus amiſimus, loquor impropriè & torrente rapior uulgaris eloquij, nihil amiſimus, niſi gratum, delectabilemq́ conuictum, & illius mellifluí oris affatus, quo loquente, audientium animis, uirtutem acies infligebantur aculei, quo docente nemo non proficiſcere poterat, eoq́ ma[illegible], quò maiori eſſet ingenio, hæc & his ſimilia, alij quanto citiùs, quam ue[illegible]lem[illegible]s nobis prærepta, non nego, quæ tamē in hoc breuiſsimæ uitæ curſum ubi longum nihil, n[illegible] dolor & gemitus longæua nobis eſſe non poterāt, ſed neceſſe erat, ut co[illegible]ſtim aut nos [illegible]e præcederet. Cæterùm hoc utrunq́, neq́ enim rei tàm labilis, tàm caducæ grauis pro[illegible], [illegible]c flebilis eſt iactura, ipſum certè, quem amauimus, & quē ſemper amabimus ipſum, inq[illegible] non amiſimus, ſed præmiſimus, qui nobis ad cœlum ſuis precibus uiam pandat, nos ibi ala cer, ac iucundus expectet, quo eum niſi ad cœlum abijſſe, illum ſuſpicer, qui etiam du[illegible] h[illegible] eſſet in terris, & ſub mole corporea angelicis moribus, & cœleſti uiguit intellectu. No[illegible] tibi nunc, quod præſenti ſibi nunquam feci, de tanto, tamq́ unico fratre blandiri, ſed humana laus, cuiuſcunq́ in auribus meliùs ſonat, quam ipſius qui laudatur. Ita uerò me ille amet cuius in amore fœlicitas uera eſt, ut ego uiuentium fama, forte aliquos neminē ſi[illegible] uel [illegible] genio, uel eloquio, uel morum ſuauitate præferendum noui, quæ tanta illi inerat animæ [illegible] ab ipſius uerbis, & congreſſu, nunquam niſi lætior, tranquilliorq́ diſceſſerim, neq́ mihi [illegible] quā tàm longa confabulatio ſecū fuit, quin cupidis auribus meis atq́ animo ſcienti, breu[illegible] ma uideretur. Erant enim inter uerba illius hominis, faces quædā blandæ, & lucidæ [illegible] cōmunem morem, eorū quoq́ quos magiſtros dicūt, erant in ſermone hami ineſca[illegible] bus ſententijs, qui audientium corda uaga quāuis arriperent ac tenerent. Quæ [illegible] loqui facultas, & ſi rarior foret, diſtrahentibus nos ſtudijs noſtris, humanarumq́ uar[illegible] his qui ſunt innumerabiles uncis ac laqueis, qui ſæpè animo iunctiſsimos terris & c[illegible] diſtrahūt, uel abſens tamē illo ingenio delectabar, hinc amici memor abſentis, hi[illegible] ſentiā, & cogitās, & expectās, qua in re, quantū uitæ huius in agone perdideri[illegible] ſentio, mœſtumq́ mecū computo, quotiensq́ Hieronymianū illud, in ſilentio [illegible] meo nomine repetam, non meruimus talem uitæ noſtræ habere conſortē, nam & [illegible] rei tranſitoriæ non nimis flendam uiro dixerim, ferè tamen mortales, mortal[illegible]ū ſunt ia[illegible] quarum ex numero, & profectò grauiſsima eſt. Sed incōmodum noſtrū, quantūcunq́ [illegible] fraternæ fœl[illegible]tatis contemplatione conſolor? Nam & hic maluiſſemus bene illi eſſe [illegible] nobis, quam nobiſcū male, de fratre igitur noſtro, quem tibi mater, mihi charitas fe[illegible]t, [illegible] tulandū nobis potius, quam dolendum, quamq́ enim ad tempus nos reliquerit [illegible] ubi finis eſt omni[illegible]m rectè uiuentium, pieq́ Philoſophantium, quorum hic noſter in a[illegible]e, dicere auſim. Ve[illegible]gnifer, uel dux fuit, neq́ uerò ad iniuriam naturæ, ſe[illegible] ad eum [illegible] tiæ cœleſtis aſſcripſerim, quod paulò ante tempus, ut dici ſolet, durum ho[illegible], & ſcrupu[illegible] iter impleuit. Tale eſt enim, quale ſi uiator hyberno pluuiali die ad hoſpitiū ſoſpes [illegible] indefeſſus, alto adhuc ſole perueniat, quo alij feſsi, & madidi, & uiarum er[illegible]tibus el[illegible] tandem ſub c[illegible]epu[illegible]culū ſint uenturi, nobis fortaſsè compatiendum, qui re[illegible] ſ[illegible] quo[illegible]um ami[illegible]erimus, ut dixi, qui nunc maximè noſter eſt, ſed quod inter mūd[illegible] m[illegible] pericula n[illegible]ſtra ſeneſ[illegible]imus, & ab illo exoptato, ac fœlici hoſpitio retardamur, [illegible] d[illegible] nandus an[illegible]ndæ lachrymæ, comprimenda ſuſpiria, non autem [illegible] ria, [illegible] ad [illegible]m [illegible]te[illegible], ut uiuus, nō ut mortuus, reuocādus, u[illegible]uit enim uere, c[illegible] quē fons uitæ [illegible] qui ſibi, cui multa olim, & magna ſcripturar[illegible]uarum ſecreta [illegible] nūc ſeipſum & i[illegible]ā, quā ſtupentes Angeli, uenerantesq́ ſuſpiciūt faciē oſtend[illegible] M[illegible]

dudū gloria patriæ, ma[illegible] ex m[illegible] Et [illegible] tu f[illegible] mittam. Quis [illegible] p[illegible] præse[illegible] casus [illegible] quis fore no[illegible] s am[illegible] & laudabat, & mirabat, [illegible] ca[illegible] corporis habitudo, un[illegible] er[illegible] lo, unus habitus, una re[illegible] le[illegible] or m[illegible] is e[illegible] an[illegible] tales duo frat[illegible] qui [illegible] m num[illegible] enuiss[illegible] ex Pataui[illegible] gen[illegible] pat[illegible], iam f[illegible] [illegible] orū ciui[illegible] d [illegible] a [illegible] pollens, & [illegible] non alia tamē [illegible] rū [illegible] o, in q[illegible] & instructi ad [illegible] de parent[illegible] pron[illegible] o, quod [illegible] s re[illegible] creuerin[illegible] atq; [illegible] te, illos iam nunc [illegible] e [illegible], ma[illegible] s, [illegible] rè [illegible] hinc [illegible] quod dolorē no[illegible] o, nihil [illegible] s [illegible] c[illegible], si a[illegible] re [illegible] ut qui pro corrupti[illegible] e [illegible] rru[illegible] o[illegible] tempor[illegible] si adeptus æte[illegible] iā. Q[illegible] d ad [illegible] memin[illegible] n[illegible] rauiac[illegible] iam cum ser[illegible] u[illegible] mo u[illegible], e[illegible] tā amp[illegible] et[illegible] in [illegible] rus loci, ita m[illegible] s, [illegible] no[illegible] te iam le[illegible] mo[illegible] deret, [illegible] ne forte co[illegible] d extremū, [illegible] ep[illegible] tum [illegible] re q[illegible] o præ[illegible] te [illegible] r[illegible] p[illegible] cis di[illegible] s interie[illegible] is, mane [illegible] [illegible] perpe[illegible] us mos erat, cū m[illegible] ti[illegible] celebrasset, nō mu[illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] miclis re[illegible] ente se deficere [illegible] suam in cellulam properauit, lect[illegible] [illegible] dicum Psalmum illum famo[illegible] e mei Deus incipie[illegible] an[illegible] religiosam illam atq; (ut sic dixe[illegible] ni[illegible] an[illegible] halaui[illegible] [illegible] no[illegible] aut, quod ait Hieronym[illegible] e [illegible] s e[illegible] o [illegible] e [illegible] perpro[illegible] tiè ad rem n[illegible], ait [illegible] ro, [illegible] d [illegible] ho[illegible] [illegible] etis. [illegible] de hoc nec loqui, ne [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] ae [illegible] alt[illegible] torem nostrum IESVM CHR[illegible] q[illegible] me[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible] m [illegible] æternæ cœnæ delitijs, & thalami cœl[illegible] o[illegible] d[illegible] at[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] eruit. Hęc ego spero, hoc precor, hoc [illegible] o. Q[illegible] ia [illegible] anc m[illegible] o[illegible] a c[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible] on facile dictu est, quod eo ipso die, quo Vene[illegible], [illegible] benè [illegible] era[illegible] d[illegible] s P[illegible] e[illegible] emus, & tu de more ad me uisendum ueni[illegible] es, a[illegible] ue peram[illegible] te [illegible] [illegible] benter & nimis humiliter soles consedi[illegible] es, at[illegible] ego, & q[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] prospe[illegible] os respondisti, cū ille [illegible] diem ex[illegible] al[illegible] a [illegible] dier [illegible] lu[illegible] i[illegible] etum distuleras, l[illegible] oximo, [illegible] se, [illegible] e [illegible] ens[illegible] utas Virgilianu[illegible] us exclam[illegible] auc[illegible] in

[illegible] omis u[illegible] sort[illegible] q; futuræ.

[illegible] fati, [illegible] & præs[illegible] n[illegible] nescia mens hominū. Multa ecce dixi, u[illegible] te[illegible] r [illegible] [illegible] mihi c[illegible] or[illegible] e ad scribendum esset, qui iuueni fuit, quantū adh[illegible] lum [illegible] æ[illegible] fratris [illegible] en[illegible] de doctrina, de eloquentia, de ui[illegible] tute, de moribus [illegible] ber[illegible] na[illegible] pe materia e[illegible] etia[illegible] oc[illegible], senilis animi, non dicam frigore [illegible] ore plura [illegible] quod exc[illegible] e t[illegible] i, & m[illegible] i lae[illegible] mas nolim, quas [illegible] oplre po[illegible] [illegible] ium, & [illegible] mens e[illegible] hæc me r[illegible] o mul[illegible] s am d[illegible] e[illegible] ast[illegible] ribendo, cōtin[illegible] q; adeò, ut [illegible] is [illegible] od [illegible] ten[illegible] m ultrò e[illegible], uel tui oblitus q[illegible] od i[illegible] denter negem, [illegible] ot[illegible] r[illegible] im. [illegible] a [illegible] causa fui[illegible] te minùs [illegible] sa[illegible] idoneo [illegible] empore interpellans, & l[illegible] al[illegible] a[illegible] c[illegible] e [illegible] dolorem non [illegible] erem sed au[illegible] rem. C[illegible] ulto tibi s[illegible] atiu[illegible] [illegible] tas l[illegible] chry[illegible] reddid[illegible] sses, reliquas & rati[illegible] ni[illegible] in[illegible] er[illegible] [illegible] es. Vale, & q[illegible] solari alios nosti optimè te s[illegible] are [illegible] onsolator [illegible] [illegible] tu[illegible] ca co[illegible] is L[illegible] ne[illegible] Kal. [illegible] d [illegible] Nouem[illegible] ris.

[illegible] RA[illegible] MA[illegible]

[illegible] A [illegible] E[illegible]

DE [illegible]

L[illegible] e ul[illegible] tuæ, me[illegible] adra[illegible] n a diebus, [illegible] p[illegible] fe[illegible] ni[illegible] [illegible] t assu[illegible] exi[illegible] en[illegible], [illegible] ot[illegible] cas[illegible] ita r[illegible] ue[illegible] man[illegible] [illegible] e mei e[illegible] e co[illegible] e[illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible] madeo [illegible] erā, [illegible] uod

me[illegible]

me uidere optabat. Quod utrumq; nimis est mihi, meritumq; omne supergreditur, ... eius Patera ..., non dicam me uidere, ... de me ... Deus h... gloriosum, & tranquillam, in cœlo autem fœlicem ... cederet, ... uere aut", quo ad præsens excusatio mea satis, imo nimis nota ... quàm ... uellem ... testor ueri Deum, quod ... inter ... manus, ad ... domus meæ contiguam ... non aliter ... cessitate urgente, & nunquam antea tecū feci, scribo tibi aliena ma... amici talis, ut mea propria manus sit. In hoc nunc igitur statu sum, p... fui, nec animo, nec auribus ... tuis. Non equidem ... pero me deinc... tasus es, mo uel aliq... as ... mptorū proces... enim in diebus mei... & ... ... us & exhaustus sum, supra modū prorsus cū Apostolo grauatus, ... tædeat me etiam uiuere, sed & ipse in meipso responsum mortis habui, ut non ... me, sed in eo, qui suscitat mortuos. Ad summū, ualde quidem, ac multimodè me ... his temporibus omnipotens Deus, quamuis mu... multo quam mereor, cu... tate, & pro morbis, & pro uita, & pro morte, ... uenerit æqua fide ac reue... res ago. Tu uerò mi domine, qui etiam non roga... bona omnia mihi semper & ... honori... procurasti, excusa me oro Dominicæ sanctitati, sibique non meo ta... tuo maxime nomine gratias agito, ualde enim hac me uocatione, ex hoc ... tio hone... auit. Sed nec possum, ne posse uelim, ultra quàm placitum De... Idus Octobris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA VR... V. PONT. MAX. S.
Epist. XVI.

Vocatus, ualetudine aduers... excusat.

INter cuncta, quæ ... uel natura tribuit, uel fortuna, si tamen hoc nom... ne Catholico, & præcipue cum CHRISTI uicario uti licet, nihil habeo bea... ac sanctissime, cum tua beneuolentia comparandum. Equidem ut mos e... mi, semper aliquid concupiscere, multorum contemptor, quæ apud cæteros ... & prima censentur, nunquam tam iuuenis, tàm consilij inops fui, quin magnorum, ... lustrium notitiam ac gratiam, magni lucri instar optauerim. Quod fortasse ideo, ... nime auarum ambitiosum notum erat, usque mihi ad inuidiam cumulatè obu... que adeo, ut cunctis fermè nostri temporis Pontificibus Romanis, atque P... regibusque, & terrarum dominis, aut notus, aut charus fuerit, aut utrunq;. Cur ... fa... eor, & miror, & nescio, nisi, ut dixi, noti modestia digna fuerit non repelli. N... men per tot gradus, ad summa perueneram. Aliquid deesse nunc, etiam honesto ... rio sentiebam, non quod à ma... ibus amari cuperem, ... non erant, sed à mel... let enim largiter inter esse, inter duos paribus quauis ... eadem dignitate fulge... inter Salomonem, filiumq; eius Roboam? Quid inter Numam Pompilium, Su... Tarquinium interfuit? Illos quidem in Hierusalem, hos in Romana urbe regnā... inter Aem... Paulum, & Terentium Varronem, uno simul tempore consules ... denique ... arem Augustū, & Tyberium, etsi non simul, at immediatè ... quodammodo ... imperantes. Possem ut Regum, Coss. & Cæsarum, ... & cum exemplis uti, quibus scienter abstineo. Ad rem redeo, fugi ego & magnis lice... indignus, & maximis ... charus. Sed nulla uerior, nulla certior ma... quæ non uentosis ... suffragijs, sed uirtute, & meritis parta est. Tu m... parrum maxim... que ... dominorum, ut iam non amplius ambiam, uel m... uel melioribus charus esse, ita fortes meas, mira illa tua humanitate, ac ma... ... alli, unu... est, qu... hoc meum de tua dignitate oriens, gaudium parump... uenus, uehe... im... inuit, quod de me, scilicet non tibi, ... amæ fo... tan, a... rum te... m h... bes, cum & fama, ut loquar ..., & mendax esse soleat, & ... dici ... nr, utcunque se res habeat. Ego uicario Dei mei qu... ... eo, ut uocari merear. Quamuis enim, uia mihi & ... ... t, uocatio proculdubio gloriosa est. V... ... per Apostolicas literas indicasti ... dere non modo optares, sed etiam dignar... ... erat, ... te ... um festinātem exte... causæ, ... quidem ...

uertissent. Fecisti post hæc expreßiùs me uocari, [illegible] nomine, per illum quem mihi inter [illegible] uenerabilem, dilectumque præsenseris, inde per alios atque alios, ex omnibus mi[illegible] & ad persuadendum aptißimos, [illegible] iam pridem minus gene[illegible] mens, [illegible] tantam uel ignauiæ, [illegible] rua me cœlestis humanitas, nunc [illegible] authoribus literis excitat, [illegible] quod [illegible] quam oc[illegible] ipse meis credcrem, primo quidem tarditatem meam excusas, adue[illegible] ualetudinis sub[illegible], quam [illegible] excusatio ac notißima, sed non sola est. [illegible] sola eo quod [illegible] morbus inuaderet nisi aliud obst[illegible] Deinde autem te [illegible] esse libenter me uidendi [illegible] testaris, & iubere [illegible] solitus, regibus ut [illegible] ueniam affectuosis precibus me [illegible]: ego uerò tantum [illegible] tatis, & clementiæ tuæ pondus ferre non ualeo, quam [illegible] apud me preces [illegible] merito sint [illegible]. Illud Pater Clementißime, his tuis in [illegible] legi, quod reperere cogitanti pudor & gaudium occursant: Dicis enim, te ab olim optasse personam meam uidere, & inter [illegible] causam. Personam (inquis) tuam multiplicium uirtutum ac scientiarum doctrinis insignitam. Et de dicto quidem tuo, nulla mihi [illegible] esse dubitatio, sed de causa multa mihi confusio est. Optas etenim me uidere, quia [illegible] opinaris, [illegible] tibi describerent, [illegible] bus me[illegible] amore oculos perstringente fal[illegible], quod [illegible] ipsum ex te diceres, [illegible] deres, [illegible] uanquam ego contrarium scirem, dicerem tamen tibi, nunc quod [illegible] dixi, [illegible] euellendum me, hunc auxiliares literas flagitasti. quem ne tu solus P[illegible] retroa[illegible] incognitum cognouisti, & qua decuit honorasti, quanquam alius poteras ext[illegible] [illegible] Solitariam illi, ut tunc poteram Vitam scribens, siquidem in hoc erras, gau[illegible] hunc errorem excidere tibi [illegible] posse uelim, gloriosum mihi [illegible] [illegible] nosum nulli, de me quidem, [illegible] crediderit tua sanctitas uiderit, & ipsi [illegible] quid de me dixerint, tuo tamen a[illegible] aut amore [illegible] aduerteras, [illegible] debuerant, ego hæc inter, quisque is sim, & [illegible] scripsi [illegible] uideor tunus erat, atque con[illegible] latuisse, ut opinionem tuam lat[illegible] solum [illegible], tui tamen urgente [illegible], ante annum uenisse, & debui, & uolui, at[illegible] me tacito [illegible] posses, [illegible] & [illegible] obstaculis retardatus sum, super quibus me [illegible] forsan literis excus[illegible], nisi quia ut uerum fatear, paruitatem meam, & magnitudinem tuam librans tandem optare cœperam, tam pusillam, tamque obscuram rem, ex amplißima memoria tua, inter ing[illegible] occupationum strepitus, facile obliuione dilapsam. Itaque silentio me texeram, [illegible] extimes, te uermiculi huius optare conspectum, me autem non optare patris, & [illegible] Christianorum Romani Pontificis, & talis pontificis, faciem uidere. Multos ex [illegible] amo, qui ante mille annos obiêre, quod eos si liceat uisurus, nullum laborē di[illegible] [illegible] longum iudicarem, quo ad tam exoptatum spectaculum ueniretur. Mi[illegible] modum, longas uirtus & ualidas manus [illegible] longinquo ad se animos [illegible] unquam & corpora, quod de multis quidem [illegible] de Tito Liuio lectum [illegible] uerum fit, Ciceronianum illud, Lælio tributū. Nihil est (inquit) uirtute ama[illegible] us, nihil quod magis alliciat ad diligendū, quippe cum propter uirtutem & probitatem, & eos quos nunquam uidimus, quodammodo diligamus: nota sunt reli[illegible] [illegible]ibus osten[illegible] non modò in ignotis, sed in hostibus amabilem esse uirtutem. Nol[illegible] cum de te [illegible], ne uideri incipiam quod non sum. Quomodo autem non opta[illegible] cernere, [illegible] esset, cui CHRISTVS & animum & consilium dedisset Ecclesiam [illegible], sponsam [illegible] unicam suam matrem omnium fidelium, ex illo fœdo, & infœlici erga [illegible] eruendi, & ad sedem propriam reducendi? Hunc ego non colerem, [illegible] amarem, non tanta mente complecterer? Non totis præcordijs exoptarem? Non me [illegible] crederem, ni [illegible] [illegible] ctus essem erga Romanū modo Pontificē, sic de Rep. meri[illegible], sic de [illegible], sed erga quem[illegible] alium hostem licet sæpe leniuit odiū, sæpe extinxit magnæ uirturis ad[illegible]. Q[illegible] [illegible] debeo, si cuilibet hoc præstarē. Itaque quāuis interdū me [illegible] dix[illegible] tract[illegible] [illegible] suspicarer, nihilominus tamē d[illegible] biti mei cōscius, enitebar, ex[illegible] impedi[illegible] [illegible] re, dum ecce o spes hominū uanæ, ô res hominum caducæ impe[illegible] entorum [illegible] [illegible] ultimū superueniens ægritudo, cuiuscunque uel iuuen[illegible] robur eff[illegible] corripuit, & quasi leo, sic cōtriuit omnia ossa mea, randemque ut [illegible] [illegible] ut nec in equū scandere, nec pedibus incedere, denique nec [illegible] [illegible] quam, sine famulorū, clericorum'ue subnixu ire p[illegible], Ve[illegible] di[illegible]

X [illegible]

di[illegible], ego autem [illegible] [illegible]latem [illegible] fu[illegible] n[illegible] Ad [illegible] [illegible] Inter [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] reg[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] leni, eq[illegible]us unus [illegible] [illegible] de [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Se[illegible] [illegible] uersa [illegible]nt po[illegible] su[illegible] [illegible] continentiam, amica n[illegible] [illegible] equo [illegible] [illegible] ex[illegible]. A[illegible] [illegible] tudinis [illegible] [illegible]ere, [illegible] [illegible]ian, uel optare saltem pl[illegible]es po[illegible]em, du[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] pluribus ego, non quidē se[illegible]undùm cor[illegible], sed [illegible] [illegible] Nescio enim quomodo inter nostros, [illegible]pe no[illegible] ue[illegible]em [illegible] interdum, ad [illegible]dum populare murmur, r[illegible] entem [illegible] Quod idcirco dixerim, ut quoniam placitum tibi est, usque ad [illegible] [illegible]mum animū inclinare, propositū meum hinc conijcias. Q[illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible]m sanus fiam, ne qua tunc sit m[illegible] fect[illegible] enim ub[illegible] pri[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] on est muen[illegible]m, & a[illegible] [illegible]ciam dom[illegible] [illegible] neque no[illegible] [illegible] ōscien[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]tímo, certu[illegible] [illegible] aspexeri[illegible] [illegible]lum im[illegible] [illegible] habilem [illegible] [illegible] quem [illegible], er[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] tibi licet, in [illegible] [illegible] u[illegible]bis [illegible] negabi[illegible], no ad mea [illegible] requiem [illegible] m[illegible], neque mihi [illegible] re[illegible] te promittis. Omnes enim qui te iubente mihi [illegible]erunt, magnam [illegible] spem iniiciunt, quàm immensam esse non dubito. Ego autem, ut [illegible] et [illegible] n[illegible] ut pat[illegible], nequaq[illegible] tàm paruæ rei not[illegible]iam dedignaris, non sum [illegible] extra [illegible] men, ulla opum spe aut cupiditate diuellerer, nihil enim in rebus humanis m[illegible] pro, nihil flagito, nihil spero, amor, [illegible]es, debitum, deuotio, reuerentia, [illegible]atitudo muli, quibus mouear si mouendus sim. Quamobrem nullius promissionē tà[illegible] [illegible]o, quàm tuam, tamque erectis auribus audiui, ubi animis c[illegible]ulturum, te qu[illegible] O te digna promissio, o generosum, & uerè magni animi donū. Nam quid m[illegible] qui sub cœlo sunt thesauro[illegible] congeras in sinu[illegible] collati mihi [illegible] Cra[illegible] inopes s[illegible]t, nónne si carea[illegible] mi quiete paupe[illegible] sim, atque m[illegible], nud[illegible] te, da quietem [illegible]am, animi diues ero [illegible] ad hunc [illegible]num fi[illegible] [illegible] tantisque laboribus cumulantur opes, ut quiescāt animi. Quia in te, [illegible] humana sedulitas, nulli animo diuitiæ dant quietem [illegible] [illegible]um re[illegible] quam humanitas tua mihi trib[illegible] [illegible]cia gloriabor, se[illegible] [illegible] laudē sit dictū, paucos nem[illegible] Pater beatissime, [illegible]ca[illegible] [illegible]ctenus qu[illegible] dicam quietiore, sed minùs inquieto animo sint, qu[illegible]m ego. N[illegible] [illegible] mihi u[illegible] [illegible] non est enim uirtus, [illegible] non ex [illegible] [illegible] sed n[illegible] [illegible] instincto, ab [illegible] [illegible]mo meo in[illegible]tū, nil c[illegible] d[illegible]itias ad[illegible] [illegible] quantu[illegible] a[illegible] quietē, quæ in huius uitæ cursu plena [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]urrit & q[illegible] [illegible]hi sanctitas auxerit, qui iam pro [illegible] [illegible], ma[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]fun[illegible] in[illegible] [illegible]is & immensi d[illegible]bitor fiam, pro[illegible] [illegible] hoc [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]er[illegible], quam àre. Nullum [illegible] d[illegible] [illegible]ra[illegible] [illegible] eam senectutē. Neque uerò [illegible] ætati tàm dec[illegible] [illegible] te[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]xeris Ciceronē, Senib. ([illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Exerc[illegible] ne[illegible] dixi[illegible] [illegible] [illegible], nam & exerc[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] sen[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] exc[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]tes.

dicam inane, nam quid est aliud uita hominis, quàm dies unus, isq; & breuis, & turbidus, ante non multum, inqu[illegible]m, tempus eram solitus, post longissimum iter, quæri, & tàm propè terminus fuisset, nunc ad uesperam. O uertigo rerum incredibilis, nu[illegible]lum sat breue iter inuenio? Omnis motus inane c[illegible]rp[illegible]sc[illegible]sum fatigat, rem er[illegible]o, & mihi necessariam, & te dignam feceris, si quamuis ut olim ingenue [illegible]um professus, nil ex te prçter Benedictionem, & gratiam tuam petam, ultrò tu requiem aut largiaris, aut cumules ætati indigæ. Et quieta enim senectus, & quietam mort[illegible], uia est, & quieta mors tran[illegible]is ad æternã uitam. CHRISTVS tibi hanc uitam sanctam, ac i[illegible]cundam faciat, serumq; & facilem uitæ finem, teq; post hos labores, ad alteram illam uitam, sine carituram, eamq; de qua multa diximus quietem transferat. Pataui ix. Calend. Ianuarij.

Ad eundem.

MVltos eorum, qui magnum aliquid, aut armis, aut ingenio molirentur, mor[illegible] interuentu cœpta destitisse, Beatissime Pater accepimus: at ne æquo longior euadam, paucis contentus, multa prætermittam, neque enim res incerta est, aut egens testiu[illegible] utq; à literis alias sacris incipiam, Moises Israëliticam gentem Aegyptiacæ iugo ser[illegible] u[illegible] eductam, in terram promissionis inducere, præoccupatus morte non potuit. Iul. Cæsar, sub extremum uitæ tempus, quot & quantis rerum apparatibus intentus, quàm multa circa Romanæ urbis ornatum, Reiq; publicæ & imperij tutelam, & augmentum mente uoluebat, templisq; atque ædificijs publicis, insuetæ magnitudinis, Bibliothecis Græcis insuper ac L[illegible]is Romam decoraræ. Quæ mox Diuus successor eius Augustus impleuit. Ius præter[illegible]e, ex infinita illa ueterum legum exundantia, superuacuis decisis, ac decerptis utilibus, [illegible]per paucos coniectis, in libros ad aliquem studiosis habilem, facilemq; modum, ac parabilem restringere. Quod diù post im[illegible] Iustinianus, ut potuit. Ad hoc, secundo receptis Hispanijs, post Pompeij magni mo[illegible]tem, ab occidente in Arcton & Orientem arma conue[illegible]ere, bellumq; Dacis primum rebellantibus, ac deinde [illegible]s inferre, gentibus quidem al[illegible]e[illegible]indomitæ, alteri secundum Romanos ea tempestat[illegible]tissimæ. Quid n[illegible]c uero hos atq; alios, neque enim omnes attigi uiri hu[illegible]s ultimos c[illegible]nat[illegible]s, quis conc[illegible]erit euentus, quæris, audi Suetonium Tranquillum. Talia (inqu[illegible] a[illegible]tem atq; meditantem mors præuenit. Alexander Macedo, peragrata Asia, totaq; illa terrarum parte perdomita, hic Carthaginensibus minabatur, illinc, ut Lucanus ait:

Oceano classes inferre parabat.

Taprobanem, an Antipodas petiturus nescio, hæc paranti, quid huic quoque contigerit. Audi quod sequitur:

Occurrit suprema dies, naturaq; solam, huic potuit finem uesano imponere regi.

Cyrus inter Persarum reges famosissimus, ipsa eadem Asia subacta, uersus in Scythiam, cum exercitu festinabat, hunc magno impetu uadentem, nullumq; sibi iam regni terminũ, n[illegible]q[illegible]i mundi esset animo statuentem, imbecillitatis, & supe[illegible]biæ regiæ documentum, [illegible]gens m[illegible]er, uidua atque orba pessundedit. Nec Pyrrhi regis [illegible]entior apparatus, nec lætior [illegible]is fuit. Qui ad regnum Italiæ aspirans, & armorum specie Romanos duce[illegible] & elephantum mole turbauerat, qui denique ferro impar, auro hostem, muneribusque tentauerat, ad extremum uictus, & optata pulsus Italia, bella nunc etiam sua renouans, in Græcia ipse quoque fœminea peremptus est manu. Attilium Regulum multis inclytum uictorijs, & iam portis ac mœnibus hostium insultantem, improuisi ducis aduentus, & mutata subitò fortuna, belli è curru, penè triumphali in carcerem, & in mortem trusit. Traianum principem, & potentiam, & famam senescentis Imperij renouantem, Reipub. damn[illegible]sa mors ab[illegible]stulit. Aliud de hinc hominum genus stringam, Virgilius Maro, opus illud eximium, p[illegible]res miratores, quàm imitatores habiturũ, consumare cœperat, fam[illegible], ad exitum res sp[illegible]bat, mors præclarum negotium interueniens, impediuit, lætum [illegible] tincipium, m[illegible]o[illegible]e conclusit. Idem & Lucretio accidit, & Lucano, ni[illegible] quod horũ uo[illegible]aria, naturalis mors [illegible]lius fuit. His Poëtã unum nescio, an nobis cognitũ, charum nobis, Stati[illegible]m Papin[illegible]ũ add[illegible]t [illegible]dã, sed falluntur, opus enim hic utrunq; perficit. Ego quidem utri me partem in[illegible]a[illegible] [illegible]ideo, penè ex æquo, ad utrãq; quid afferam non est, nam & armis nihil penitus, & i[illegible] [illegible]o pau[illegible]a admodũ molir[illegible] datũ, sed sunt & aliæ ad gloriam uiæ, unum erat, idq; per se ma[illegible], mihi uerò per maximũ ut ad te uenirem. Quid enim fœlicius? Qu[illegible]aius meæ for[illegible]s homunculo, uel contingere poterat, uel sperari. Quàm totiens, totq; t[illegible]m honorificis li[illegible]eris, [illegible]àm benignè, tàm leuiter euocatũ, ad Romanum Pontificẽ, non quem[illegible]et, sed quem

CHRISTVS

[illegible]ISTVS Ecclesiæ suæ dedit omniũ Pontificũ nostræ ætatis corri[illegible]endis erro[illegible] [illegible]ci. Quid ue nisi amp[illegible], ac magnificũ hæc mihi peregrinatio allatura uideretur, cum tantum gloriæ sola uoce tuo attulisset, ut & ipse magis me amare, quodãmodo & alij m[illegible] magis inciperent me mirari, plurisq́; me facere, quem tantus nõ co[illegible]neret extimat[illegible] [illegible]niebam ergo tanta alacritate, quantã in nullo hominũ me uidisse, nescio an in ul[illegible] u[illegible]e [illegible]ememinerã. Sed ut uerum fatear, alacritas illa solius erat animi, corpus c[illegible]m ad[illegible] u[illegible] imbecille erat, & inualidũ, neq; ulla prorsus mihi uiriũ fiducia, omnis in c[illegible]pes e[illegible] lio. Sic eu[illegible]tẽ, supraq́; uires, & supra ætatẽ tui trahente desiderio, properantẽ, mor[illegible] coërcuit. Quid enim, licet, incredibile, uerũ loqui timeam, non ægritudo illa, sed [illegible] mors fuit Fictionẽ Poeticam quis dixerit, aut hyperbolẽ importunã, morbo aut extasi mortis, nomen imponere. Ego uerò de incognitis nõ disputo, triginta, uel eo amplius horas, quid fuerim nõ magis memini, quã quid fuerim antequã nascerer, nullus intellectus in anima, nul[illegible]s sensus in corpore, in quo cum multa, & acria remedia tentarentur, nihil omniũ quæ er[illegible]a [illegible], & in me fierent a[illegible]ter sensi, quã imago marmorea Polycleti sensisset, aut Phydię. Ne[illegible]o [illegible]q; me, nisi defunctum dixit & credidit. Sic apud nos ubiq; uulgatũ, sic Patauij, sic [illegible]rariæ ubi tunc erã, uulgo creditũ. Sic deuotis tuis, huius Rectori urbis, & illius cu[illegible]s [illegible]omo iacebam, Physiciq; suis persuasum fuit, quod tàm grauiter tulêre, ij nobiles, ma[illegible] Viri, ut quibus olim multum debui, infinitũ debeam, neque ipsis modò, sed utriq; [illegible] pu[illegible], tantus mei obitus utrobiq; publicus dolor fuit. Neq; minus eadem fama Venetias, at[illegible]e Mediolanum, & Ticinum, urbesq́; alias ubi amicos habere uideor peruagata e[illegible], i[illegible]r[illegible] dam, ex eis ad me uisendum, siue sepeliendũ accurrerint. Quin & sacratissimas [illegible] tu[illegible] famam hanc pulsasse auguror. Quod ut credam, non mei nominis claritas, quæ nulla [illegible] sed eorum cogit ambitio, inexpletaq; rabies, qui alto opum in pelago sitientes, di[illegible] no[illegible]ibus te circumstant, tuamq; non desinunt infestare clementiã, quiq; si rec[illegible] n[illegible] nos, cum mihi casus mu[illegible]tò, quam nunc leu[illegible] ac[illegible]et, adierũt te, certatim [illegible]cia me[illegible], pauca quidem, & parua poscentes, plura licet & maiora quàm mereor. & [illegible]is [illegible]a multa & opima uide[illegible]ntur. Solam hanc ob causam, quod mea [illegible]nt, [illegible]ni ade[illegible] sum [illegible] inuidiæ. Petierunt autem non hæc duo tantùm, quæ nunc temporis habebam, q[illegible]ue [illegible] habeo, sed illa quoq;, quæ ante longum tempus, amicis egentibus sponte concesseram [illegible]e quod mirer, nisi tàm præceps, & tàm cæca cupiditas sit, illa etiam quæ nunquam h[illegible]u[illegible] de effectum, ut illis cuncta miscentibus, compluſculos dies, tota curia bullis inc[illegible] [illegible]s ebulliret. Neque uerò nunc illos segnius egisse crediderim. Nam & uigilantissi[illegible]a [illegible] auaritia est, & cum uitia quædam tempore minuantur, hæc durando crescit, & [illegible]s inardescit. Verum ego talium curas, & uitam pariter, ac rumores paruifacio, qui [illegible] minũ somniãt, suæ mortis obliti, & quod fœdè cupiunt, impudenter anticipant, m[illegible] turũ, expectantes beneficijs al[illegible]nis, quasi cadaueribus saturari. Cæterorũ poti[illegible]s iudi[illegible] [illegible]m do. Quomodo enim tot & talia fallerentur ingenia, hominum expertorum, [illegible] lis cernentiũ, manibusq́; tractantium. Quoniam igitur, quo in statu fuerim, ne[illegible] aliquid, neq; nunc memini, ignarus mei, cur non alijs de me credam, mortuum [illegible]isse [illegible] tibus? Fui mortuus, & ecce sum uiuens, suscitãte illo, qui Lazarum suscitauit: uiuo autem, iterum mo[illegible]ur[illegible]s, & hoc saltẽ moriendo didici, quæ præcedunt, scilicet, aut sequun[illegible] c[illegible] posse terrifi[illegible] & horrenda, mortem ipsam penè nil esse aliud, quàm leue suspirium, [illegible]uem, & profundum somnum, & perpropriè ut multa illud à Poëta dictum.

Dulcis & alta placidaq; simillima morti.

[illegible] diuiuo sanè idem, [illegible]i qui ante casum fuerat, ueniendi ad pedes tuos erat animus [illegible] terrebant Medi[illegible]orum [illegible]næ, una uoce firmantiũ, nullo modo uiuum me Romam [illegible]e uenturum. Quamuis in [illegible]m eis planè sentirem, quod si me in loco aliquo dese[illegible] [illegible]s ille uiolentus, ac te[illegible]bili[illegible] inuasisset, actum erat de me. Sperabã tamen po[illegible]e, uiuus uenire, illic autem omne quodcunq; mihi euenisset, fœlix, faustumq́; censebam, [illegible] Benedictio tua [illegible]i è corpore hoc migranti, nõ defuisset, ut spero, tum quia, q[illegible] [illegible] tui di[illegible]nt, ut libet irrideant, quodq; est odium simulent contemptum, Rom[illegible] [illegible]biò sacro sanctissimus mundi locus est, ubi Christianus uerus, & uiuere optet [illegible] [illegible] Quid me c[illegible] d[illegible]nent, non timor, hercle, sed debilitas, quæ tanta est, ut non ma[illegible] uiuum re[illegible]e [illegible]m Romã adire potuissem, nisi quod in naui iacens redij, ubi & [illegible]m[illegible] omni po[illegible]ori, & gaudio multo fui, ita me spectãtib. ut hominẽ a mortuis r[illegible] hîc sum [illegible]Pater [illegible]eno infirmus modò, sed mœstus quoq;, quia honestissimu de[illegible]

meu[illegible]

meum, ſperato caruit effectu, quodq́ optimum moliebar implere,non licuit. Nihil tamen mihi conſcius,hac in re feci, CHRISTVM teſtor,quod in me fuit, & ſæpe mecum in ſilentio recogitans,ita mihi accidiſſe doleo. Miror autem minimè,cauſam enim ſcio. Non eram dignus re uidere. Tibi uero Chriſtianorum pater,corpore [illegible] affuſus,ſupplico, ut impotentiæ meæ parces, meq́ inter ul[timos] ſeruos [illegible] ingeneris, quamuis inutilem & ignorum. Is qui te ipſi [illegible] legit in terris, diu ſoſpitem [illegible] ſeruet officio, teq́ hinc ſerò digredientem cœleſti ſede recipiat Patauii [illegible] Idus Maij.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS, LIBER XII.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI PATAVINO [illegible] I. SIGN[illegible]. Epiſt. I.

De quibuſdam conſilijs Medicinæ.

ABſtuliſti mihi materiam iocandi in multis, ludit apud Ciceronem uir egregius in morte. Ego nōdum quidem in morte, ſed in morbo graui ac multiplici, & [illegible]o quàm uicinus morti ludam tecum. Non ſoleo diſputare [illegible]ius, ut multi q[illegible]m uideri ſapiētes cupiunt, inſipientia[illegible]t, o[illegible]aq́ [illegible]micus intell[illegible]do faciunt, ut [illegible] o [illegible] nunquā oculos, ſeu aures, [illegible] p[illegible]perrima, ad hoc tempus fretus u[illegible]etudine, uer[illegible] ſtudium, uelut mihi ſuperuacuum neglexi, & n[illegible] qu[illegible] ipſam, ſed a[illegible] paruipe[n]d[i], præter aliquot u[n]os, quos dilexi, quoniā ueri mi[illegible] ſedu[illegible] qu[illegible]modo inquam, talis ego, cum principe Medicorū huius tempor[is], aut u[illegible] a[illegible]ro ex[illegible]cis diſputarē, de rebus ad Medicū ſpectantibus? Non diſputatio ergo, ſed [illegible], ut tamen ſemper, & tu curas meas uideas, & ego malorū præſentiū obliuiſcar, ac morborū qui me agmine facto, ut Satyricus ait, circunſiliunt & infeſtant. Miſiſti mihi plenā fidei epiſtolā, plenam [illegible]dinis, plenā artis, quam profeſſus es, cui quantū ego arbitror, nil adderet Hippocrates, nil demeret, nil mutaret, quid ni autē ille conſilijs t[illegible]ieſceret, cuius ē fonti[b]us hauſta ſunt, cum ego horū inſcius, & contemptor in mul[illegible]en ratione uictus acquieuerim. Sc[illegible]is pro remedio ſtatus mei, & ſi nō omnimodò, [illegible]ali mutatione uitæ, ſeu uictus ſol[illegible] opus eſſe. Quod quidē ſine contradictione conceſſerim, habet enim ætas quælibet ſua, ut animi, ſic & corporis alimenta. Et ſicut ſtudia puerorū non conueniunt ſen[ibus], ſic nec cibi omnes, ita ſuū hoc diſtinxit opificiū natura, ut unaquæq́ par[illegible] clari licet fragilis, caduciq́ ope[illegible]uis pro uarietate temporum ſit fulta præſidijs. Et ut [illegible]s Architectus, in eadē domo æ[st]iuas, & hybernas, ac reliquis anni partibus, ſuas cuiq́ [illegible]tur manſiones, ſic natura ſolers ac prouida, in eodē homine uarias ſtatuit ætates, & cuiq́ ſua quædam propria & attributa conſtituit. Primū uer ætatis infantia, ac pueri[t]iam uoco his a[do]leſcentia ſequitur, quaſi uer præceps, & æſtati proximū. Et q[illegible] nulla ætas uanior nulla inconſultior, nulla in libidinum irritamenta procliuior, ha[c] tamen illa, qua[m] æſtate [illegible] dixerim, iuuenta conſequitur, non iam florida, uirens tamen. [illegible]on quidem iam ue[illegible]a ſeu mobilis, ſed maioribus cupidinum atque irarum ignibus æſtuans. Han[c] [illegible] ætas [illegible] maturior ſenectus, à ſexageſimo anno, ut Auguſtino uidetur incipiens, q[illegible]am al[i]is alter[illegible]um ſit. Similis hæc autumno, & tranquillior cunctis & lenior, & le[g]endis fructi[b]us re[illegible]acti temporis aptior, æuo conſumptis, & uirtutū ſtudio domitis, [illegible] paſ[si]on[illegible] [illegible]a eſt hyems ſenij, iners, frigida & quietis appetens, & caloris. Q[illegible]tam[illegible]a [illegible]lim & præferuida [illegible] concaleſcere coegerunt, de quo [illegible] c[illegible]t [illegible]as ætates, quod de tribus expertus ſum, de quarta au[illegible] ſ[illegible] [illegible]teor, ſic & cibis, & alimentis arbitror. [E]cce autem, ut [illegible] ad uuo[illegible] [illegible]uiter ſtringis latiùs explico, [illegible] unum interfatus, per[illegible] qu[illegible] quidem

[illegible] publica, sed [illegible] eritate, & p[illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] gitur Hippocrati, aut Aesculapio [illegible] [illegible] arte, ac scientia patem re[illegible], [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] ac iu dixero, [illegible] si adue[illegible] [illegible] [illegible], sed [illegible] s modo dicebam Medicinæ repertor[illegible] us aduet [illegible] illud ce[illegible]m habeo, non aliter tibi salute[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] us mihi persuadeo, e[illegible], qu[illegible] [illegible] cogo[illegible]m, qui & aliqua [illegible] ing[illegible], [illegible] [illegible], n[illegible] repugnantia, illud indubium uenit, an c[illegible]cta, q[illegible] is ex[illegible] [illegible] ta, sic fidem mereantur, [illegible] contra sentire nephas sit. Et H[illegible] [illegible] dem [illegible] omne[illegible], Aesculapium uerò Deum [illegible], non a[illegible] [illegible] nostros etiam noui, à m[illegible] tamen fulminatum De[illegible]. Neque uer[illegible] [illegible] te au[illegible] rura dictis, uti patior, quicquid uoles, nullo negotio probaturum, [illegible] [illegible], te[illegible]monia sunt sufficientia domestica. Scio a[illegible] os, dum de ueri[illegible] aut fa[illegible] [illegible] piam altercantur, in mediu[illegible] addu[illegible] os, eiusdem ip[illegible] a[illegible] au[illegible] [illegible] orum d[illegible] quæstio prima est. Quod mihi non medi[illegible] crei[illegible] di[illegible] [illegible] m ui[illegible], ad probandum, quod uelis id afferre, quod non posis, quia non constet, & [illegible] u[illegible] c dicam, per ambi[illegible]uum probate. Non recipio fidei testem ancipitis laudatum, [illegible] et i[illegible]ter suos. Pro[illegible] do autem dicis, & quasi fundamentum consilij t[illegible] poni, ætatem, [illegible] na turam meam lapsu temporis immutatam. Itaque me prorsus Philosophico m[illegible] re [illegible] cere ad ætatē iubes, in quo planè mecum se[illegible] id dicis uerbo, quod ego [illegible] b[illegible] p[illegible] [illegible] at enim nunc etiam [illegible] sam tuam agere, [illegible] s est amice, imò inex[illegible] bi[illegible] s [illegible] [illegible] lus, dicam me[illegible] [illegible] Volat enim ætas [illegible] cero) adderē, hercle, [illegible] a[illegible] latum aliq[illegible]id, nil [illegible] do, nul[illegible] cu[illegible] ut uitæ nostræ die[illegible] [illegible] enim motus alatum [illegible] oscim[illegible] pa[illegible] p[illegible] essum, & appropinqua[illegible] rmin[illegible] & iam[illegible] m peruenturo[illegible] mus. In nobis autem, [illegible] forsan aliq[illegible] us, hi[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] prædi[illegible] is in[illegible] eni[illegible], atque animo, nil omninò, ni[illegible] nos inopinan[illegible] es, ac [illegible] nisse. Quo circa uolatum hunc ætatis, non auis uolatui simile m, rectè quis di[illegible], [illegible] tæ quàm non arcus impulerit, sed balista. Quæ si tàm benè iuuenibus nota e[illegible] ent [illegible] nt senibus, & il[illegible] ius ætatis honestior atque innocentior uita esset, & huius recordati[illegible] tior, atque [illegible] ndior. At nunc cæcam, & improuidam adolescentiā, rapidamque iuuen[illegible] a[illegible] ris u[illegible] tæ spes, in scelera & probra multa præcipitat, quæ tum demū, dum caueri [illegible] neciam aliter quàm pœnitentia, & lachrymis dilui, experrecta serum conspicit [illegible] fa[illegible] aci quorsum spei fidendū [illegible] intelligit. Distinguimus ætates pro uarietate [illegible] a[illegible] r[illegible], quod ipse [illegible], nunc [illegible] feci, & quod in frusta diuidimus, magnum e[illegible] o[illegible] endimus, [illegible] spes [illegible] elas inexplicabil[illegible] rdimur, & ingentia rerum iacimus fundamenta, pro[illegible] usque animis, perpet[illegible]m iuuentutē, ac fœlicitatē [illegible] i senes, ac miseri, non quod per se miserā senectutem dicam, sed fœlicem potiùs, n[illegible] ta[illegible] ætati delusa esset erroribus, neque uerò uel sic miseram, mod[illegible] assurgat, & [illegible] is i[illegible] bus, sapie[illegible] iā & ueras opiniones, iuxta Platonicam sententiā ex[illegible] ema, quam [illegible] te percipiat. [illegible] d[illegible] Philosophis uisum est, quid uideri nobis debet, qu[illegible] s & sapie[illegible] & uirtutem, & salu[illegible] equi, sine curiositate, aut labore nimio, qualis illo[illegible] fuit, [illegible] [illegible] loie, pi[illegible] que g[illegible] datum est, illa uerè misera est senectus, quæ hinc fragilitate c[illegible] [illegible] mea nunc, mo[illegible] us, hinc petulantia iuuenili, quam Deus à nobis lo[illegible] [illegible] turbidis motibus q[illegible] ani[illegible] or[illegible] m. Sed redeo ad errores iuuenū, & spes uanas. [illegible] d [illegible] enim, quæso, non li[illegible] quibus nemo obstat, omnes fauent, non uulgus modò, se[illegible] manum genus. Cæte[illegible] llant sese homines ut libet, totū hoc quod disting[illegible] im[illegible] mu[illegible] plicam[illegible], q[illegible] tendimus nihil est, proinde hic est ille æ[illegible] tis nos[illegible] æ ra[illegible] uo[illegible] atus, de [illegible] o[illegible] ar, nemo non loquitur, nemo (inquam) cogit[illegible] t ni[illegible] [illegible] in ter[illegible] exa[illegible] a remetiens, somniasse quodāmodo se extimat non uixi[illegible] [illegible] tem [illegible] te hominē, quis non sentit? Aut quis est qui negare audea[illegible]? A[illegible] [illegible] cedunt annis arces marmoreæ, nedum te[illegible] us h[illegible] [illegible] ib[illegible] ce[illegible] t mœnia fortissima [illegible] ium. N[illegible] e uide[illegible] [illegible] co[illegible] ru[illegible], & Cartha[illegible] o quib. duab[illegible] & non tàm anni[illegible] o[illegible] [illegible] es. Corynthus & [illegible] acusæ, & Ca[illegible] ut, & A[illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] nt ueterum urbium re[illegible] iæ, Lacedæmon & Athe[illegible]

hominis, Roma senio succumbit, iamq; succubuisset, & totam in cinerē uersa esset, nisi eam clari nominis sustentaret auctoritas. Innumerabiles aliæ nunc senescunt, suum & ipse exitum habituræ, citò quidem, sed ignotum nobis, eò quod longior sit ætas urbium, quàm hominum, prius ergo quám una urbs senescat, multa hominum millia senuerint, neq; homines tantùm, sed famæ hominum obierint, annis tacitè, seclisq; labentibus. Quid miri autē, si manu factæ urbes cedunt senio? Rupes cedunt, & iuga montium statum ac naturā mutant, unde iam Væseuus frixit, Aethna tepuit. Alpes multis locis subsedēre, abscissiq; ue undis Pelorus Siculus, atque Italus Apenninus, ubi frondosis olim collibus stabant. Nunc infamem despiciunt Charybdim, horrisonis fluitare uerticibus. Ad extremum, & si hoc unum magni negent uiri, magniq; inquam, in alijs, in hoc parui [illegible] credimus mundus cedet. Quid ni igitur cedam ego? Cessi equidem, & si dici licet, ultra communem modum sobriè, temperanterq; uiuentium, quorum me numero inserere non meo certè iuditio, sed aliorum testimonio forsasse ausim. Sunt ecce mihi, dicam ueriùs fuerunt, uitæ an[illegible] & sexaginta. Qui dum singulos cogito, multa mihi annorum millia uid[illegible]tur, at dum omnes simul, dies unus, isq; & breuis, & nubilus, & laborios[illegible] & miser, & cū multos libidino[illegible], ebrios, octogenarios sat benè ualentes nouerim, hic me annus sic affecit, ut sine ope fam[illegible]lorum, multis iam diebus immobilis sim, pondus mœstū, graue alijs, odiosum mihi. Quid hic rei est. Audio iam hinc te, & concinnentes undiq; medicos aquæ potum, unam esse, uel præcipuam mali causam, ô fœlix ebrietas. Addent alij pomorum esum, fugam carnium, ieiunium, ô infausta sobrietas, ergo sanum nihil, nisi ebriorum potus, & luporum cibus? Sed de his tecum integra mihi, nunc etiā lis manet, erit fortè aliquis, non Medicus, qui peccatū meum, rei causam solam dicat, quod si admittimus, Deo meo gratias ago, qui multorū criminum fœdas noras, leui supplicio expur[illegible]. Quod si aliam causam, malitiam quis complexionis obiecerit, testem uiuum, & fide[illegible]um proferam, illu[illegible]lterum Medicorū modò eccum principem, si quid famæ credim[illegible] m[illegible] a[illegible]otā m[illegible] [illegible]mam, possem alios, sed mortuos testes, ad iudicium uocare, n[illegible] ergo ann[illegible]ltero, apud Ticinū ubi tunc eram[illegible]s, sub amico illo tuo Ligurū domino, [illegible] b[illegible]m a[illegible]diente iurauit, nullum se unquam corpus meo solidius, suo utor uerbo, null[illegible]m [illegible]lam complexionē uidisse nobiliorem. Et certè quamuis magnarū nunquam uiri[illegible]m me fuisse meminerim, agilitate tamen, ac dexteritate corporis tanta fui, ut posse uix cederem, ab aliquo superari. Quæ si primæ ferè post tenerum, & labile come decus, in hominibus pereant, me gradatim tamen, ita usq; ad hoc tempus comitatæ erant, ut præter saltum ac cursum, quibus iam nec egeo, nec delector, nullam quasi iacturam ætatis, hac in parte sentirem. Annus hic omniū uicem ge[illegible] annorum, longa ergo, nempè annua ægritudine, sic deiectus sum, ut non meis pedibus, sed famulorum brachijs assurgere ualeam aut moueri. Gaudeo, ædepol, ut in malis, quod non hic sexagesimus tertius, de quo multa olim ad [illegible]nnem alteram scripsi, sed sexagesimus sextus est. Quamuis enim exoticis, suspect[illegible] [illegible]gmatibus, non facile flecti possim, poteram tamen fortasse, si tunc mihi ista euen[illegible], errore illo Astrologorum, de quo tunc agebatur, & si non opprimi, tangi tamen. Sed omissis hæc quod ad me attinet, causarum indagine, cùm illa anceps, effectus autem certi sint, tu ut physicus, ut amicus, ut uir bonus, remedia mali huius, tuo quidem ingenio, & altè excogitata diligenter conscripta transmittis. Quæ si ritè numero, sunt sex, præmittā uerò illa tria, in quibus mihi tecum, nulla lis erit, iubes ex præcepto artis tuæ, ut carnibus, ac piscibus sallis, & herbis crudis abstineam, quibus delectari soleo. parebo equidem. Nam & natura mea, ipsa sibi consulens, hoc ciborum genus, solito partius appetit, parata his carere perpetuò si necesse sit. Ad tria illa festino, in quibus à te paululū, imò ualdè dissentio. Iubes ut ieiunium à pueritia, usq; ad hanc ætatem, sine intermissione seruatum, linquā, & inertis more cursoris, in stadij fine deficiam. Atqui, non nunc nouiter audio consilia Medicorū, diuinis aduersa esse, consilijs. Nec sum nescius, quid & Medici, & qui ieiuniū dānāt dicere soliti sint, utilius esse, & honestius cibum partiri, quodq; uno prandio sis sumpturus, in prandiū & cœnam diuidere, haud irrationabile forsitan, si dictis facta cōgruerent. Atqui hæc dicūt, interfui enim uitæ cōsultorū talium, & mane se implent, & serò sese ingurgitant. Ita cibum non diuidunt, sed duplicant Platonicū illud obliti. Nullo (inquit) modo mihi placuit, bis in die saturum fieri. Proinde si Deus me restaurare dignabitur, solitū & connaturatū iam mihi ieiuniū, non omittam, neq; nūc omitto, nisi eatenus ut sextæ feriæ ieiuniū, panis & aquæ tantisper, dum hæc repentina fragilitas cedit ad morem ieiunij cōmunis, inflexerim, Deo auspice mox ad cōsuetudinem

reuersurus;

reuersurus. Sed iam senior, imbecilliorq; non poteris, imò quidem ego, etiam omnia possum, in eo qui me confortat, sed qui hoc dixit Apostolus, tu peccator magnus es. An non & ipse peccator antequã Apostolus, an uerò peccatores, qui nomen eius implorant, CHRISTVS deserit? Propter quos è cœlo in terram uenit. Non sum diffidentiæ filius, de me quidem ualde metuo, de illo autem nihil meritus, fateor, multũ spero, & posse non dubito, non hæc modò ieiunia, fœminis etiam, puerisq; facilia, sed aspera quælibet ipso adiuuante perficere. An uerò non tot decrepiti senes, in deserto panem hispidum, & torrentis aquam, in delitijs habuêre, perpetuo ieiunio & fortes, & uegeti? Non legisti Antonium propè centenarium, & Paulum centenario maiorem, pane unico, & exigui uena fontis, lætum illud, sanumq; conuiuium apud Hieronymum celebrãtes. Quod quotiens pijs auribus audimus, [illegible] oculis legimus, nullo cibo aut potu sola uirorum talium cõmemoratione reficimur. [illegible] dicat aliquis, aderat Deus. Quis hoc nescit: sed & nobis aderit, alioquin nõ eßemus. An ego defuturum mihi Deum rear, dum præsertim boni aliquid moliar, an qui mihi contemnenti affuit, & peccanti, pœnitentiq; non aderit & peccanti? Possum amice ieiunare ne dubita, noli omnia tuis auctoribus credere, crede aliquid amico, cui nunquam ieiuniũ nocuit, aut nocebit. Nam quid causæ dicam, quod aniculæ tremulæ, totos menses uictu duro, & tenui ieiunant, nos uiri lauro, largoq; uictu, diem unum ieiunare non possumus, non hæc fragilitas mihi crede, sed gula est, non est igitur, cur honestum & innoxium intermittam morem, imò quidem sicut sancta canit Ecclesia, saluti animarum, simul & corporum institutũ, ita enim sentio, fame aliquos, plures crapula, nullũ penitùs ieiunio perijsse. Progrediamur ad reliqua. Aliud ex consilijs, non tàm tuis quàm medicorum omnium, tu enim sciens, credo, cum litigioso homine tibi rem esse, cautiùs agis, sed ex aliorum sententijs, tu tamen memor, quàm tu quoq; lentius uibras & in transitu. Est autem, ut pomis & omni genere fructuum arboreorum, quasi aconito abstineam aut cicuta. In hoc autem ac sequenti consilio, temperare non potero, quo minùs aliqua repetam [illegible], quæ olim ad Ioannem illum alterũ [illegible] psi, cuius suprà mentio est habita, hoc interest, quod tunc iratus recenti memoria contentionis antiquæ, quę mihi cum Papæ Medicis fuit in Gallia, qui nescio cur famæ meę nescio, an & uitæ bellum indixerant, quod epistolam unam breuem, sed ni fallor ueram, ausus fueram scripsisse Pontifici, nunc placatus, & illius immemor tumultus, cum amico iocans scribo. Deus enim bone, quod hic odium, quæ'ue infamia pulcherrimæ rei est, & gustũ simul, & tactum, & nares, & oculos delectantis? Omnes ne igitur homines insaniunt? solus is sapuit, qui pomis immeritis, maculam hanc immisit? Quomodo autem natura sic humanum gènus illuderet, ut ubi plurimum oblectationis, & gratiæ ponebat, ibi plurimum discriminis abderet? Non est piæ matris, sed nouercæ impiæ, & immanis, melle uenena abscondere. Nam si dicitur, non fructus, sed eorum immodicum æsum damnamus, nulla iam superest quæstio, si quidem & perdicum, & phasianorum, quorum apud uos, ut audio laudatißimæ carnes sunt, [illegible] nimius nocet, quàm hinc poma infamiam meruere, non res ipsa reprehenditur, sed excessus æquè in rebus omnibus reprehendendus. Alioquin quo hic tantus agricolarum labor, & industria? Quid de hac re tractantibus, & Græcis facias, & Latinis? Hesiodo, Virgilio, Catoni, Varroni, Palladio, multisqúe alijs? Quid denique Ciceroni, & in eo præsertim libro, quo senecturem defendit, ab his uitijs, atque incommodis, quæ insani iuuenes, illi obijciunt ætati, in quo quidem Cato ipse Censorius inducitur, tantus uir, agriculturam, mechanicam licet, tamen haud dubie utilißimam mundo artem, miris laudibus efferens, atque inter multa salubria ac iucunda, consitionibus atque insitionibus arborum, nihil illam afferens inuenisse solertius. Quid demum Cyro Persarum regi, quem eodem libro, arborum quas seuisset ipse suis manibus, serendasqúe dictasset, spem atque ordinibus gloriantem legimus? Quid postremò Romanis ducibus, Appio & Decio, à quibus poma Appia & Decia in Italiam aduecta? illa prædulcia, hæc uerò subacria utraque sapidißima, suorum nomina traxisse uidentur auctorum. Et quoniam ab antiquis licet sine periculo dissentire, quid amico facimus communi, quo nescio, an sit uir melior, seu nostri amantior alius usquam sit, qui per cunctos angulos Italiæ, omne genus fructiferarum arborum, quæsiuit, & incertum, an Italia longius hac inquisitione penetrauerit, ut non sua tantùm, sed amicorum uiridaria, peregrinis arboribus exornaret, [illegible] us ne igitur & modernos omnes, & antiquos præter solos Medicos insanijsse? Profectò enim si huiuscemodi arbores iure damnantur à medicis, nõ mediocris insania est, tanto studio nociua conquirere, quanto uix proficua debuissent. Quod [illegible] arbores

bores ipſe, neq; illatum fœtus, ſed incontinentia ſola reprehenditur, iam ſupra reſpõſum habes, quamuis ego notiſsimos Medicorũ, ut hac ſaltem in parte illos excuſem, aliter docentes, aliter prandentes, aliter dictantes, aliter cœnantes, ſæpè notauerim. Vltimum reſtat, ita meis alienum ſenſibus, ut ſtupore ipſo calamum frenet, puræ aquæ potus interdicitur, cur queſo: an fortè ideò, quia ille magnus uir ex noſtris, aquæ nullũ opus inueniſſe ſe dicit, niſi quod bibitur in acutis, & in ſe forſitan uerum dicit, ſed an uerè nullum aquæ opus aliud ſit, de hoc quæri poteſt, imò nec de hoc quidem, ut arbitror, quæri debet, quid enim proh ſuperum atq; hominũ fidem, ita ne ergo ſenex unus, Græculus fortè, uini amicus, aquæ hoſtis, tot fontes lucidiſsimos, tot puteos profundiſsimos, tot riuos amœniſsimos, & ad ſummam, totum hoc naturæ parentis iucundiſsimum elementum, uno tam breui ſuſtulit, ac ſiccauit elogio? Quid hic dicam? Niſi miſeras tot alpinas gentes, quæ liquidis fontibus ſitim ſedãt, uinum non modò non habent, ſed nec noſcunt quidem, uiuunt tamen multò etiã ſalubrius, quàm uos meri bibuli, quibus unum diem uino caruiſſe ſupplicium eſt. Miſeros patres illos noſtri generis, antequàm uinea plantaretur, quorum tamen uitæ ſpatiũ, ſiue noſtris moribus, propè ad milleſimum tendebatur annum. Miſeras matronas Romanorũ, illas primas, quibus uinum bibere capitale fuit, uſq; adeo, ut qui illud bibentẽ coniugem occidiſſet, non ultore tantùm, ſed reprehenſione caruerit, nec tamen inutiles ideò, nec exangues fœminæ illos filios pepererе, quos nunc etiam admiramur cultores uirtutum, expulſores uitiorum, paſsionum ac gentium domitores, compotrices noſtræ, nobis illos pariant quos uidemus. Miſeros Gallorum antiquiſsimos, antequàm uinum noſſent, cuius uſum, ut ſcriptũ uides, Roma iam adoleſcente didicerunt, & non potiùs hos miſeros Bacchi, & Veneris ſacerdotes, qui propter uini patrij ſaporem, CHRISTVM, Petrum, fidẽ, decus atq; animas ſuas, quas mortales putant, & malè ſibi creditam Eccleſiam derelinquunt, quanquàm enim hic latentior cauſa ſit, tamen iſta prætenditur ut ſæpe dixi, malunt enim ebrietatem fateri, quàm impietatem, cum negare neutram poſsint. Miſeros ad extremum, non Indorum modò Philoſophos, quos Gymnoſophiſtas ac Bragmanos uocant, quorum princeps, fontis aquam bibens, uber ſe terræ matris incorruptum ſugere gloriatur. Sed ferè omnes totius populos orientis, quibus lege lata, uini potus eripitur. Solos deniq; nos fœlices, qui uini dolia facti ſumus, ubi uinum filuiſſe noluerim, contra noſtram uiolẽtiam, neſcio, an ueracius dictũ, an mordacius. Cùm nuper inter Soldanum Babylonis Aegyptiæ, & noſtros belli cauſæ, heu, non de fide CHRISTI. neq; ſaltem de imperio aut gloria, ſed de mercibus atq; auaritia ortæ eſſent, regeretq; tunc Aegyptum, & Soldanum puerum, uir quidam conſilio ſublimis, conditione humilis, ut quem ante paucos annos, ære uenditum fama eſſet, ſed quem ſubitò ſua ſors extulerat, ut ex alto rueret, atq; illi è ſuis quidam ſuaderent, ut Mithridaticum ſequens morem, antequàm Chriſtiani fratres ſuos, ut minabantur, inuaderent, omnes qui ſub eo eſſent morte mulctaret. Non eſt (inquit) illi temerè committendum, ut inſontes & noſtro utiles imperio perimamus. Neq; uerò Chriſtianorum minis ac iactantia nos moueri oportet, & ſi enim potentes, ac magnanimi uiri ſunt, uinum tamen bibunt, & idcirco multa ſerò minantur, quorum manè non reminiſcuntur. O latratum canis perfidi, cõtumelioſum, fateor, ſed uerum, ſic eſt enim, uitam noſtram, uitæ noſtræ dehoneſtant, & feruente uenis uino, uaniſacti ſumus, modeſtiamq; & rerum, ac uerborum fidem excluſit ebrietas, nec amici nobis credunt, nec nos hoſtes metuunt, quia ferè ad menſam & promittimus, & minamur. Quæ licet non uini quoq;, ſed abutentium culpa ſit, quia tamen latè patens, & radicatum nimis eſt uitium, neq; iam aliter, quàm uini penuria extirpari poteſt, crederem medius fidius, expediens mundo, ne uinum uſquam, niſi ad ſacra reperiretur. Clamabis tu, & tota acies tua, quid facerent ſtomachi? Quieſcerent, non feruerent, non tumerent, non tuctarent, non ſpumarent, non pugnarent, facerent quod fecerunt, ueterũ ſtomachi, priuſquàm uini uſus eſſet, hodieq; faciunt, quibus uini uſus nondum eſt. Sed nos gulæ culpam ſtomacho damus, & inuectos uino morbos, uino pellere, quaſi flammam flammis extinguere, nitimur. Scio hominem, qui nunc ſuper eſt, nec procùl hinc abeſt, ſuarum rerum teſtis idoneus, hũc ego adoleſcens, ſua adhuc uiridi ætate cognoueram, ſic podagra preſſum, ac chyragra, ut nulli penè rei utilis haberetur. Reuiſi eum poſt decennium, incolumẽ, nullis podagræ, ueteriſq; mali ueſtigijs, utentem expedito, & libero membrorum miniſterio, obſtupui, illi cauſam ſtuporis intelligens. Vinum (inquit) me fregerat ac ligarat: Aqua me reſtituit atq; abſoluit. Nudiuſtertius cum podagram illi reuerſam, poſt tàm longum tempus ex filio audiuiſſem, ſcripſi ſibi, uideret'ne cum amico eius uino hoſtis podagra ſubijſſet. Cui ille, non id uini potu,

sed esu tantum, immersi uino pacis accidisse respondit. I nunc, & rem optimam uinũ, nega, quod podagram facit, & conseruat, & reuocat, solo ut sic dixerim odore. Vinum certè proprium illustr auctorem, eum qui primam uineam plantauerat, primum uinea supplantauit. Vinum Loth, diuino iudicio tot ex millibus solum iustũ, in horribilẽ præcipitauit incestum. Vinum Nabal Carmelum, suæ hinc imbecillitatis, & in Dauid regem contumeliæ, illinc regiæ potestatis oblitum, in cõuiuio detinuit, eum iamiam ebrio mors instaret, nisi uiri periculo, prouidentia coniugis occurrisset. Ammon fratrem primogenitum, eum propter uiolatæ sororis iniuriam iratus, Absalon perdere decreuisset, uino grauem iussit interfici, quamuis aliter quidem posset, sed sic uinum possessores suos faciles præbet excidio. Et ut sacris literis, sæculares immisceam, uino adolescens ille Scythicæ filius reginæ, circumuentus à Cyro Persarum rege, cum toto ruit exercitu. Hi sunt qui Romanos sobrij uicerant, ab eisdem mox ebrij uicti sunt. Alexander Macedo ferro inuictus, uino uictus, atque ad acerbam actus est mortem. Vino Antonius Triumuir è Romano factus est Barbarus, uitæ ac famæ iactura insigni. Vino feruidos omnes, qui ad euertendam Remp. accesserunt, præter unum Iul. Cæsarem fuisse Cato ait. Vino denique, ipsius Catonis fama tentata est, sed radicata altius mansit immobilis. Et quæ memoria, seu quis stylus materiæ, non succumbat recensendis uini mœstis, ac funestis euentibus? Ad summã uerò multo mala uino accidũt mortalibus. Et uos aquæ potum interdicitis, homini ab infantia, pueritiaque, & usque sub finem adolescentiæ iugi aquæ potu enutrito, & consuetudine in naturam uersa, quod maximè uestri, ut audio trutinandum dicunt, uix serum ad potorum uini signa translato, fontem tamen adhuc plus aliquanto quàm dolium amanti. Nec me fugit obiicere mihi, illud Apostoli ad Timotheum scribentis: Noli (inquit) adhuc aquam bibere. Ecce nonne hic tecum loqui uidetur, & me alloqui. Fieri autem potest, ut ille uel consuetudinem, uel naturam alteram, & meæ dissonam haberet, & à iuuentute uino usus senior aquæ assuesceret, cuius contrarium in me est. Itaque mutationem hanc, ex deuotione forsitan exortam, illi damnosam, intelligens, Paulus id ei prohibet, quod mihi prohibuisse damnosum sit. Alioter enim nonne & uino inesse luxuriam, & bonum esse non manducare carnem, & non bibere uinũ. Paulus idem in commune prædixerat? Neque illi uinum tamen ut uinum, sed ut medicinã tribuit. Ait enim uino modico utere propter stomachum tuum, & frequentes infirmitates tuas. Vltimũ certè hoc annus iste, mihi nouum & insolitũ inuexit, crebras scilicet ægritudines, sed dum sanus sum, stomachum non noui, de quo multi per singulos lamentantur dies. Siquid autẽ aliquando forte grauedinis incidit, nil sanius experior, quàm bonæ aquæ, recentisque haustum. Scio me rem nouam Medicis & incredibilẽ loqui, sed & mihi, si mereor, de meipso aliquid credi potest, millies hoc expertus affirmo. Sed mutata est ætas, quis hoc nescit, & dũ loquamur, mutatur, mutabiturque tam diù, donec mutari amplius non possit, quod sola mors faciet. Nunquid autem excors, hebesque adeò sum, ut quid mihi prosit aut noceat non sentiam. Tepui equidẽ non refrixi, meque ipso frigidior, sed coæuis meis multis, & minoribus aliquanto calidior sum adhuc, & tamen aqua ittor partiùs quàm solebam. Quid uis amplius? Vt aqua prorsus abstineam frustrà uelis? Suspicor autem, tuo & amicorum consilio actum esse, ut ad hos colles uberes atque amœnos, in reliquis inaquosos, tameo uenerim, ubi aquam puram bibere, & si ualdè cupiam, non possum inter fontem scilicet, & hanc domum sic solis radio tepefactam, ut placida esse desierit. Sed si recentissimum urbanæ domus ad puteũ rediero, huius memor incommodi, uidero quorsum Modico consilio crediturus sim. Tu tamen & doctrina fretus, & ingenio, ualidum hic in me cõficis argumentum. Et si Medicis (inquis) non uis credere, nunquid saltem tibiipsi, nunquid experientiæ matri artium nõ credes? Cogita quot tibi hic annus, præter solitum morbos fecit, ex contemptu præceptorum Medicinæ? Aquæ potus, esus fructuum, ieiunia, horum causæ sunt malorum. Primam ut uides ultrò fateor morbos multos unum mihi in tempus incidisse, quis mihi uerò alteram præbet, illas quas Medici uolunt causas, hæc incommoda mihi ante tempus attulisse, & nõ potiùs in longum tempus forsitan distulisse. Occulta quidem & profunda ualdè sunt naturæ opera, de quibus rectè iudicare difficilimum est. Cæterùm suo ueritas loco stet, opinionem autem meam, m hi multis firmatã experimentis, non dicam Græculus ille unus, sed ne Græci quidem omnes eripient. Non si Vlysses astu, ferro Achilles, Aiax impetu, Nestor auctoritate, sceptro Agamemnon redeat armatus. Nec ignoro quid dicturus sis, nempe, quod solitus es. Fac ut liber (inquies) scito tamen, quia Medicis nõ credendo minùs uiues. Satis uixi amice, & si fabulam peregi, nõ recuso desinere, uel etiam imperfectam, si ludorum domino placet

cet interrumpere, fessus iam, nec si hodie moriar, iuste quidem de uitæ cõquerar breuitate. Nam si omnes ad meam perueniant ætatem, orbis terræ humano generi erit angustus, tantumque abest, multũ uiuere ut cupiam, ut uixisse nimis uerear, dum repeto, quos amicos, & quos uiros, quales ue præmiserim, & qua nihil hic fit, nisi idem hodie, quod heri, quotidieque peius aliquid, quot undique pericula, quot fortunæ minæ, quot habituũ ludibria, ab Aquilone nascentia, unde omnis semper mali radix, moribusque Barbaricis quam se docilem nostra præbet Italia. Quod in alijs faciliè passurus, in has ægrè patior. Quantũ denique uirtutum exilium, quantum imperium uitiorum, quot hominũ tædia, quot rerum. Hæc inter, tu suauem mihi, seu dulcem uitam putas, aspera & amara est, sed omnis asperitas, & omnis amaritudo, æquanimitate, & patientia lenienda est. Vitæ ergo patiens, non uitæ cupidus uiuo. Qualiscunque autem uita hæc, prolongari posset, si Medicis obedirẽ, hoc ego certe, nec cito penitùs, nec scio, imò unum fateor, ex his quæ prorsus ignoro, siue enim, quia nobis non usquequaque tutò creditur, siue quia nobis omnia credere difficile est, & credentem aliqua, nõ omnia credere periculosum. Multos Medicis obsequentes, quin & ipsos medicos uitæ breuis, & infirmæ, & rebellantes alioã uitæ diuturnioris ac sanioris agnoui. Proinde nec mea uita, nec mortalis cuiuspiam longa est, mea uerò, secundum communẽ iustæ uitæ modum, iam breuis esse non potest. Claudendæ aures uulgò sunt, excutienda errorum nubes, & caligo, abijcienda uitæ cupiditas, mortis metus. Alioquin nullus erit finis, semper annis aliquid detrahere, semper uosmetipsos fallere dulce erit, semper iuuenes, & esse optabimus, & uideri, ueram confessionem mors eliciet Ego non iam breuem, utinam non malam potiùs, & inutilem uitã queror. Quadriennio me minus ac decennio uixit Maro. Triennio minus uixit Cicero, triennio minus Aristoteles, decennio minus Cæsar, decennio minus Scipio, ille orbis uictor, hic Carthaginis euersor ac Numantiæ. Alexãdrum sileo, & Achillem, caducamque Priami familiam, & ex nostris Drusum Germanicum, Marcellinũ, & reliquos illustres, qui in ipso ætatis flore perierunt. An mihi non sufficit tantos uiros uitæ spatio excessisse, quamuis me decennio, & Augustus, & Augustinus excesserit. Horatius Flaccus pari spatio, & anno amplius. Plato tribus lustris, totidem Simonides, & Chrysippus, quatuor & eo amplius Cato, quinque Hiero Syracusius, quinque Carneades, septem Masinissa, septem Valerius Coruinus, ac Metellus & Fabius, accessére ad hũc numerum, Isocrates & Sophocles, & Cleantes, & Varro, uel hunc etiam attingere, quẽ Gorgias Leontius septennio supergressus est. Quid nunc igitur? Est ubi summa concupiscere uirtus sit, at rerum labentium mediocritate contenti simus Quamuis igitur, non uiuendi uoluptas, quæ mihi ut dixi cernenti, æui nostri mores fateor nulla est, sed studiorum meorum, ratio plusculum aliquid uitæ poscat. Sentio tamẽ quia si centum adhuc annos uiuerem, semper aliquid, nescio quid deesset. Quamobrem dico iterum, uixi satis, uiuam tamen adhuc, quãtum illi placuerit, de quo scriptum est: Constituisti terminos eius, qui præteriri non poterunt. In omnibus Deo gratias agẽs, & paratus ad utrumlibet, seu ille me uiuere iubeat, seu mori. Neque quod dum possem honestius unquam feci, longam ab eo uitam, sed bonum uitæ exitum optabo, sperans, non de meritis meis, sed de illius misericordia, quod uitæ huius finis, erit uitæ melioris initium. Hæc tecum amice, sicut præsens soleo, absens lusi. Et quamuis fugam temporis attendens, pridem animo firmassem, deinceps in epistolis maximè, breuior heri, tu propositi memoriam abstulisti, tàm suaue mihi fuit, tecum usque in finem lucis, & papyri marginem, præ loci angustia compressis literis, longum de nihilo texuisse sermonem. Tu uiue & uale fœliciter nostri memor, inter colles Euganeos, III. Idus Iulij.

Ad eundem de eadem re.

VIdeo amice apparatus tuos, totis copijs in aciem descendisti, quis non metuat, tàm ualidum bellatorem, tàm enixè armatum, tanto nisu omnes cuneos explicantem. Sentio uictoriam quæris, quamuis enim dicat, Plato communem morem Lacedæmoniorũ, inflammatum cupiditate uincendi, omnium tamen, hic hodie communis est mos, omnes Lacedæmonij facti sumus, sed dic mihi uir optimè, quæso te, si fortè tuis uiribus, uel mea imbecillitate me uiceris. Nunquid & ueritatem simul, & conscientiam tuam uinces? Credo, ædepol, eaque mihi de tua nobili uerecundia spes est, quod & si collocutorem tuum fando superaueris, uictum te tamen, in silentio à ueritate fatebere. Multa me quidem à congressu hoc, literatoque ut sic dicam prælio dehortantur, ac retrahunt, præter tui robur ingenij, ac peritiam dimicandi, fragilitas primum illa membrorum, quam mihi nescio, an perpetuam, an molestam

hospitam morbus absens reliquit. Occupatio deinde, non illa tantum iugis, ac uetusta studiorum meorum, quæ quotidie integrascit, tibi ut auguror, nõ ignota, sed famili[illegible] quoque quas tu nescis rerum. Multus sum in re rustica, multus in architectonica, ut a[illegible]cas enim, quàm bene Medicorum sententijs emendatus sim, omne nunc arborum genus, undecunque conquiro, inuitante hac aptissima insitionibus aiunt parte. Quod eô iam fidentiùs faciam, quò pomorum non te hostem ut uerebar, sed beniuolum profiteris, modestiam uerò nõ in pomis magis, quàm in rebus omnibus utilem, imò necessariam, sine qua nihil rit[illegible] ag[illegible]ur, ut in animo meo manibus suis serat, atque irriget cœlestem agricolam orabo. Licet autem alteri studio meo præsenti ædificandi scilicet, eadem ipsa pars temporis, iam aduersa esse incipiat, non desino tamen, aut lentesco, sed accelero tibi thalamum extruere, quem non rusticũ, nisi propter silentium, & quietem dicas. Ad quem urbanarũ rerum tædio, si quando diuerteris, in omnibus quæ sub cœlo, supraque cœlum sunt rebus, unanimes & concordes de solis cibis perpetuò litigemus. Accedit his tertia impediens, causa potentior, timeo te offendere, tãtus est enim timor ingenuus, quantus est amor uerus. Scio quidem, quia si quod in animo est liberè exprimam, offendam tuas aures, tuumque quod ualdè nolim animum. Ex diuerso autem, si taceam, uereor ne contemni putes, à quo longè abes, uides in quo biuio sim. Eligere medium callem nitar, ut si fieri potest, utrunque pari spatio deuitem, & si urgente materia, in alterum labi oportet, malim te parumper offendere, quàm ulla ex parte cõtemnere, offensa enim in amicis contrario placatur obsequio, contemptus omnis amicitiæ neruos secat, itaque nullus in amicitijs contemptus. Offensæ autem crebræ sunt, imò quidem raræ, sine offensis amicitiæ, cum dicat Anneus de amico loquens: Non amo illum, nisi offendero, offendã ego te forsitan, sed cauebo libentiùs si potero. Quod quidem, si pleno & perfecto iure amicitiæ uti uelim, hoc est, nihil dissimulare, nihil occulere, sed ita tecum loqui omnia, ut mecũ difficillimum, ac pene impossibile iudicio. Cuncta igitur circunspectans, & amico metu prouidens, si offensus fueris, iam hinc ueniam peto, certumque de tua humanitate me facio, quòd illa iam nunc mihi læta mente concesseris. Vnum nunc, etiam antequam incipiam, præfari libet. Ego in te personam duplicem cõsidero, & amici scilicet, & Medici, cum amico, ita mihi omnia conueniunt, ut nihil tibi, aut uideri possit, aut placere, quod non mihi protinus, & uideatur, & placeat. Non enim alium in amicitijs modum scio, nisi ut è duobus animis unus fiat. Cum Medicis autem multarum, & magnarum rerum, uetus & indecisa lis est, quam ne de nihilo natam putes, experientia longior, & obseruatio intenta mihi peperit, cũ ut uerum fatear, perrarò uiderim illius artis effectus pollicitis rèspondere, quod non minùs con[illegible] animi mei naturam est, quàm contra naturam corporis uenenum. Nec idcircò præmis[illegible]m, ne fortè animus tuus, orationis meæ turbetur aculeis, & si unus enim sis, nec reipsa d[illegible] nẽ pati possis, intellectu tamen etiam indiuidua diuiduntur. Siquid igitur dulce hic legeris, ac pacatum, amico dictum accipe, siquid amariusculum in Medicũ dici puta, & indignari desine, & mirari, & tecum dicito non Ioanni loquitur, sed Medico. Nunc uenio ad rem ipsam, in qua breuior fieri, non tàm spero, quàm cupio, tum quia de his totiens, & cum amicis, & cum Medicis disserui, & iam res ad fastidium uergat, tum ut offensionem tuam, si qualitate rerum uitare nequiuero, breuitate saltem minuam, sed ne id sperem, ipsa rerum efficit multitudo, & tuæ disputationis acrimonia, qua medicinæ partes ardentissimè quidem agis, nec immeritò. Postquàm te quòd usu adolescentibus euenit, per paterna uestigia, non tuũ certè iuditium, sed tua sors appulit, quamuis dignum esset ingenium tuũ, melioribus curis tradi, longeque aliud iter sequi, & neglecto fusci, fœdique huius & caduci carceris ancipiti, & inefficaci remedio, animi quæ pars nostri immortalis ac præclara est, remedia consectari. Quod utinam factum esset, non pro tua tantùm gloria, ac salute, sed pro magno etiam uitę meæ solatio. Sed linquo hęc, cum iampridem sis quod esse debueras, nec ut puto iam mutandi propositi locus sit, quanquam nonnullos illustrius, prouecta etiam ætate uitæ consilium, ac [illegible]dia permutasse nouerimus. Transeo autem, ne illum cum quo pugnare habeo, consi[illegible]gredi, & ad defectionem, ac transfugium exhortari uidear. Tu inprimis igitur, pro auct[illegible]bus tuis, quos non sat uideor ueneratus, pia ut se res habet arma corripuisti, utque eis au[illegible]ritatem, aliorum quæreres ab exemplo, Priscianum & Ciceronem in mediũ deduxis[illegible] a[illegible]dens & Virgilium, & Homerum, aliosque, sed omnium ultimum est Ptolemæũ. Hæc nem[illegible] perpropriè, un[illegible] est enim ad tribunal meum huius, & Medicorum causa, non quidem [illegible]per, sed ubi quod cupidissimè, audentissimeque, ne dicam impudentissimè, faciũt Astro[illegible] de iuditijs sermo est, & de stellis fata hominum colliguntur, quæ collectio, non solum [illegible]e fidei,

fidei, nostræq; religioni, sed omnibus ritè philosophantibus est aduersa. Quæris autem pluribus quidem uerbis, sed in hanc ferè sententiam. Si Prisciano enim de partibus orationis, earumq; inuicem iunctu, seu omninò de congruo crediturus sim, Ciceroni de ornatu, Homero ac Virgilio de figmentis, cur non pari ratione Medicis de salute corporea? Affers & alia famosorum nomina, quibus in sua arte cuiuslibet fides sit, sed multis ad unum finem, uno prorsus calle tendentibus, uni aut paucis occurrendo, simul omnibus est occursum. Quid uerò nunc eligam? Nosco me in magno esse periculo, & fateor libentiùs tacuissem, sed non possum, tua me urget auctoritas, & unum T. Hulij cõciuis tui, seu apud illum Hannonis Pœni prudentissimi uiri dictum. Senatori enim (inquit) ille, ego aut doctori interroganti, si reticeam, aut superbus, aut obnoxius uidear, quorum alterum est hominis alienæ libertatis obliti, alterum suæ. Loqui igitur oportet, neq; uerò aliud loqui decet, quàm quod sentio. Sæpè namq; silentium honestum, semper mendacium inhonestum est. Quid igitur quæso horum, quisquam habet commune cum Medicis? Grammatici scit subiectum, seu finem dicere maluimus est congruitas. Rhetoris autem ornatus, orationis, & ut ipsi dicunt oratoris officium est, apposité dicere, ad persuadendum finis persuadere dictione. De primo uideo Priscianum, & quosdam agere, quod linguæ proprium est Latinæ, quamuis aliter illa esse potuerit, in quantum positiua est. Cæterùm ut ea utimur benè ad hoc præsertim, quem tu nominas tractata est, adhibitis eorum testimonijs, qui illam reperere cum lingua Catonis, & Ennij, ut ait Flaccus, nec minus & Tullij, & Maronis, & aliquot præterea ueterum sermonem patrum dictauerunt. Non possum illorum loquendi morem, cum huius doctrina conscrens, negare, benè ab hoc traditam esse Grammaticam. Et siquid uitij inesset, non huius esse, sed illorum, inuentoris enim culpa est omnis, sed siqua est culpa. Recitator culpæ expers, sæpè particeps laudis est. Idem de Cicerone censeo, auribus atq; animo in hanc me sententiam cogentibus, ut nihil ab homine dulcius, nihil ornatius, nihil ad persuadendum efficacius dici possit. Iam Poëtæ de quo quæri solet officium est, non fingere, id est, mentiri, quod quidam cogitant indocti, alioquin & uulgares Musæ, & nimis multi passim in triuijs Poëtæ essent, quorum certe rarissimum semper genus fuit, ita ut præter solos Oratores, nullum rarius. Quid ergo? Officium eius est fingere, id est, componere atq; ornare, & ueritatem rerum, uel mortalium, uel naturalium, uel quarumlibet aliarum artificiosis adumbrare coloribus, & uelo amœnæ fictionis obnubere, quo dimoto ueritas elucescat, eò gratior inuentu, quò difficilior sit quæsitu. Enimuerò quis hoc nescit, ab Homero ac Virgilio, ante alios elegantissimè factum esse. Procede autem, teúe ad patientiam para. Medicinę subiectum credo sit sanitas, non ornatus, & Medici officium, non perorare, ut ego arbitror, sed curare. Et qualiter quidem Hippocrates, cæteriq; curauerunt ignoramus, nisi Galieno forté discipulo multa glorianti, fidem adhibere necessario cogimur. Aut Aesculapius Hippolitum suscitasse credendus, atque ita per illum, nunquid Medici suscitabunt, percunctanti Prophetæ Regio esse responsum, quæcunque tamen sit, de antiquis opinio, quæ pro distantia temporum, aut locorum ad libitum fingi potest, de his medicis, quos unà nobiscum, ætas una fert regio, seclusis Arabum mendacijs, licet asserere, nosse me aliquos disertos, de reliquo prorsus urbanum fuerit tacuisse. Nescio enim, qua seu fortuna, seu electione culpabili, cuncta melius discunt, quàm quod unicum profitentur, quorum efficaciam, in curandis ægris mortalibus, certus sum, nemo te meliùs nouit, nemo libentiùs argueret. Nulli est enim odiosior ignorantia quàm scienti. Nisi uerò de te ita crederem, neque tantum te amarem, neq; te tanti facerem. Siles tamen, idq; non tàm magnanimiter, quàm consultè, ne collegas tuos tibi reddas infensos, tum profectò maximè, tuum esset, pro industria, non solum odia paucorum hominum, sed totius orbis inimicitias constanter excipere, hosq; & increpare, & arguere, & clamare. Vt quid genus humanum fallitis? Et abusi crudelitate, & inscitia miserorum, funesta mendacia, pro ueritate uenundatis? Atq; ex homicidio, unde supplicium cunctis, nulli debetur impunitas, soli uos præmia indigna captatis. Quam pulchrè ista, quàm grauiter tuo ex ore sonarent? Sed tu odium uitas, reliquos metus aut ignorantia mutos facit. Ego unus clamo, nec audior, uulgus obsurduit, docti tecum litem fugiunt. Rei me suspectum dicunt, quasi de Consulatu, aut Prætura, aut de patrimonio, aut offensis aliquibus, aut studijs simultatum, aut deniq; de re ulla, nisi de sola ueritate sit quæstio. Sic te tacito, me iam raucescente, reliquis consopitis, aut certa conniuentibus, atque dissimulantibus capitalis error, radicibus creuit altissimis, & opinio solo insitus, & sæculo dementiæ uulgaris adiutus, & licentiæ ueteris impinguatus, irriguo, & præscripto præmio, ne

dum impunitate lasciuiens. Ego quidem, nam quid uerear, amico quàm Medico ... qui, hinc uerba Medicorum audiens, illinc curas aspiciens, sæpe in memoriam ... in Rhetoricis Ciceronianæ sententiæ, qua de arte loqui facile esse di... it, di... autem, secundùm artem operari, quod ita esse, nusquam clarius, quàm in hac arte perpendi... passim uerbis curant, rebus interimunt, ut in actu prorsus alij uideantur, ab his q... eint in sermone. Nec minus ideò ô monstrum horrendum, publica sit loquen... agentibus, ... des est, & præter multa, quæ memoras, illud habet Medicina præcipuum, ... tium tutissima est, unus barbarismus, aut facilis s... lœcismus, Grammaticum nudat, una le... uis aurium offensa, Oratorem uituperat, aut Poetam. Medicus perimit, nec culpatur, nec perimere sufficit, nisi accuset, hunc f... igus, hunc ieiunium consumpsit, hunc pomo... m esus, hunc aquæ potus extinxit. Nemo sine graui sua culpa moritur, nemo sine Medici magna laude sanatur. Scis tu, me etsi non grata quidem sensibus, nec blanda, nec dulcia, uera tamen loqui, non ignarum tamen, quid sit apud Medicum, Medicis detrahere, sed apud Medicum rarum, nobilem que crebris Medicis ac plebeis, quod omninò non facerem, n... communi grege segregatum, unde egregij nomen oritur scirem, & sæpe infamiam multorum ad unius laudem redundare didicissem. Ad quem loquor igitur, & quid loquor s... neque in hos scopulos inscius ueni, loquor rem auribus asperam, inamœnam, animo a... tem non ingratam ueritati, dedito non sectis, & non quid in opinionibus, sed q... qualibet sic quærenti. Contra Medicinam sanè, siqua est Medicina, nihil unquam dixisse re... periar, contra hos quidem Medicos dici uolunt, multa sæpissimè, quòd Deum testor in... tus facio, sed coactus rebus ipsis, optarem posse contrarium opinari, idque mihi multò ... tius futurum persacilè cogitatu est, tùm quia nescio, an in ulla lecta studiosorum ho... num, amicos plures habuerim, sed omnis amicitia uero cedit, tùm etiam propter me. N... ne enim & ego homo sum mortalis, ac fragilis, & si corpore, non immortalitatis capax, certè appetens sanitatis? Ad quam & nunc egerem, & sæpè per hos annos, sano Me... rum consilio exuissem. At cum indigentia sæpe præsens fuerit, remedia fuerunt semper a... sentia, non præclaræ autem promissiones, & uerba solantia, quasi mihi consolatore, m... lique Philosopho, non Medico opus esset, cum tamen non uerborum cultus, & copia, sed ... fectus operum sit Medici. Vt enim nulla medicina eloquentem, sic nulla eloquent... num facit, nec sine causa naturæ conscius Poeta, quòd mihi in omni huiuscemodi d... tione repetendum uenit, medicinæ unitam artem dixit, quæ non solum loquax ho... sed clamosa est. Ego itaque in infirmitatibus meis, uerborum quantum uolui semper, & ... lum, rerum nihil inueniens, euasi tamen hactenus, & cur putas, nisi quia nondum ... tempus aduenerat. Ex his autem & similibus mille, quæ transeo, ne ludus in Satyra... nat, iam ut reor uides, cur non ut de Grammatica Prisciano, & de Oratoria Cicer... de Poëtica Virgilio & Homero, sic de sanitate Medicis tuis credam, neque hoc mihi in... tiæ ut ostendis, aut præsumptioni dederia. Certus enim mihi uideor, quod quicunque ... dicus non pertinax, eoque magis quò fuerit maior cùm ad se redierit, & in suum cubicu... introgressus, clauso ostio, hæc quamuis auditu grauia ruminare cœperit, contradicet fo... fan exterius, intus autem, nisi se fallere uolet, uera fatebitur, repetens secum, quotiens ... aliorum spem illuserit, & à suo ipse artificio sit illusus. Ad hæc ego non sine multis expe... mentis casu aliquo, sed maximis ducibus hoc iter ingressus sum. Scis, nõ sum dubius ... de uobis uir doctissimus Plinius Secundus scripserit, & sapientissimus Romanorum ... e Censorius, tanto antè prædixerit, quàm è Græcia in Italiam ueniretis, non curo ... ineulcare notissimo. Ad totam primam epistolæ tuæ partem, & ad id quod multis u... ex me quæsieras, pluribus etiam est responsum. Antè uerò quàm ulteriùs progredi... uerto ne suspectum aliquid dixisse, & quod carpi posit, ab his qui nectendi laque... bis, artificio delectantur, quasi an Medicina esset in dubio posuerim. Quæ profectò ... tantia ingenijs nominata non fuisset, nisi esset aliquid. Ego uerò & esse Medicinam, & ... gnum aliquid esse, non dubito, ut quæ sacris in literis à Deo creata, & in libris fe... inuentioni deorum immortalium consecrata sit, quod propter Apollinem filiu... Aesculapium dictum est. Scio, quod si nemo mortalium superesset Medicina tamen ... ræque artes, nihilominus in seipsis essent, sed hæc artes, in abstracto uel solius in ment... sitæ, quid ad huius, aut illius, seu corporis, seu animi sanitatem, siue ornatum? N... esse artes, ut hominibus prosint, notæ hominibus fieri oportet. Qualiter autem M... ipsis Medicis ... tecum intende animum paruumper. Non ego amice, sed res ...

[illegible] præter [illegible] ftos [illegible] m ægritudinum euentu [illegible] passim Medicos [illegible] uideamus, ita [illegible] picari liceat, ut hanc ipsam [illegible], qualiscunque [illegible], inter homines tamen artem quandam esse, [illegible] ad [illegible] periculo mortalium ad [illegible] ntam, qua pauci ditarentur, multi periclitarentur [illegible] m ueram, & [illegible] ter excogitatam, [illegible] minime intelle [illegible] m, [illegible] hoc [illegible] s dicitur, [illegible] natu [illegible] hom [illegible] m quarum est [illegible] æstimabil [illegible] teres, mi [illegible] fidem. Quid enim a [illegible] r, dum [illegible] Medic [illegible] runt, [illegible] sæpe [illegible] de his loquo [illegible] uero [illegible] cognomine gloriantur. Nam illos alios, quos Chyrurgicos dicunt, quibus [illegible] s mechanicorum sordidum & infamiæ nomen impingunt. & in me, & in aliis remedia [illegible] al [illegible] m expert [illegible] s & sæpe [illegible] udi, grauia [illegible] era, [illegible] fœda ulcera, fome [illegible] is adlu [illegible] c [illegible] er au [illegible]. Nenique qui [illegible] gant, uident [illegible] ant. Reliq [illegible] um [illegible] remed [illegible] dijs actum e [illegible] t, de quibus [illegible] præterea suspicer, au [illegible] emum ui [illegible], esse arte [illegible] fili [illegible] uulis [illegible] uam, quantulumcunque præ [illegible] at [illegible] e [illegible] n [illegible] supersy [illegible] ra, qu [illegible] d perstudiose facit s, quibus prompt [illegible] us a [illegible] n [illegible] n [illegible] tions [illegible] a hanc i [illegible] fam tamen, Medicos dubitare: ideo [illegible] uam uer [illegible] seru [illegible] ne [illegible] ere. Quod si dicimus, quæ nam mihi [illegible] a [illegible] s a [illegible] is [illegible] cer [illegible] do, cum Medicis nulla sit, dicere [illegible] m qu [illegible] d scientes, u [illegible] lente [illegible] hi [illegible] et ueri faciem. Quid uerò præter hæc reli [illegible] opinabile, hæc dico, quam [illegible] agi [illegible] æta te [illegible] am de antiquis fortè aliter sensissem, si modo uera est fama, fuisse m [illegible] cum. [illegible] si [illegible] me fallit Asclepiadem qui diceret [illegible] deret, si qui [illegible] sibi per omnem ui [illegible] am, [illegible] extre [illegible] o morbus obreperet, nolle se [illegible] um dici, & constanti usque in [illegible] u [illegible] ut Medicus diceretur. Qui [illegible] m seu sponte, seu f [illegible] o quodam [illegible] ali [illegible] d pr [illegible] e, quàm promiserat, ut qui nec in mortem morbo incid [illegible] s [illegible] d [illegible] ate [illegible] ma, ex alto p [illegible] ens interijt, nunc cum iuuenes passim Medicos ac robustos ægrot [illegible] re, & mori [illegible] m qu [illegible] d sperare alios iubes. Ecce ne præsenti res exemplo egeat, quamuis plena omnia [illegible] lis, mortuus est ille conterraneus meus, quem nudiustertius uiuentem, nunc [illegible] lem fortunæ rotam, ò artem incertam, seu inualidam Medicinæ e [illegible] opibus, t [illegible] is artis opinione, ut & ipse mortuos suscitare crederetur, non à me quidem, sed [illegible] tò ab hac luce digressum, prior epistola in testem meæ complexionis accurrat [illegible] is adhuc uiuens, & corpore non præualidi hominis modo sed tauri. Quid nunc [illegible] isse illum medicinam, nunquam sis dicturus, ne tibi uel fama, uel [illegible] contra [illegible] anè medicina non succurrit morbis, aut medicinam ille contempl [illegible] uem illa di [illegible] t sæpe [illegible] m fateor notum, sicubus, pomis ac ce [illegible] sis, sic [illegible], [illegible] ut homi [illegible] a [illegible] medere, sed ut fœnum rodere soleant iumenta. [illegible] & [illegible] m [illegible] animad [illegible] mecum ue [illegible] o dissentientibus re ipsa & mente concor [illegible] bus, in eo maximè, quod il [illegible] ac tartareas [illegible] ones, quas cæteris de more porrigunt, sibi porrectas abijciunt, non hæc qu [illegible] era ul [illegible] c, modò ad primum, non tàm prompti essent. Proinde horum [illegible] et ele [illegible] on [illegible] enies credo, cur Medicinam sic uereri oporteat, quasi li [illegible] illa n [illegible] fal [illegible] s, u [illegible] rince [illegible], u [illegible] ab illa summis in necessitatibus deseri, ue [illegible] m des [illegible] am [illegible] s. Mirar [illegible] gi [illegible] ur o uir docte consilium meum? Putas'ne me adeo uel natura [illegible] uel ætate de [illegible] um, ut consilij sic egens consilia sana respuerem? Sed t [illegible] m m [illegible] ertum [illegible] discernere nesciens, quod nec illius artificij professores [illegible] q [illegible] quid [illegible] q [illegible] ar [illegible] am, quid apprehendam, cui hæream, totum anceps [illegible], & perplexum n [illegible] o [illegible] m [illegible] d ex [illegible] rreo, meque [illegible] aturæ meæ, imò cœle [illegible] is [illegible] xi [illegible] us [illegible] ntine [illegible] ho [illegible] ar [illegible] uis? [illegible] periculo [illegible] fluminis ad ripam, uadi nes [illegible] me [illegible] a [illegible] cer, alter illac, interim uiæ duces mergi intuens, su [illegible] stam, aut [illegible] almum ope [illegible] c [illegible] huc o [illegible] aliud iter quærens, irridebis, & non potiùs laudabi [illegible] An ue [illegible] p [illegible] a c [illegible] a c? An parum torrens uitæ huius am [illegible] iguus? Parum celebr [illegible] [illegible] lorum [illegible] ont [illegible] m, de quibus [illegible] d lie [illegible] t extimare [illegible] uel [illegible] el [illegible] ne [illegible] re, quid consulant, cum uideam e [illegible] s [illegible] s [illegible] erunt, uel minùs quàm cæteros homines consilijs fu [illegible], uel [illegible] Vt ad [illegible] ar [illegible] Medi [illegible] credere, duo sunt necessaria [illegible] a [illegible] ere, & ar [illegible] e [illegible] rimum, ut ipsi ante [illegible] c [illegible] s parea [illegible] cis [illegible] m [illegible] par [illegible] e, h [illegible] e de [illegible] crit [illegible] e ba [illegible] igitur, si utrunque ad credendum non [illegible] ector, el [illegible] ear [illegible]

 [illegible] gissimis.

[illegible] Rhet[illegible], at [illegible] dilectissimus, me cornutum pro[illegible] [illegible] ueritate co[illegible] manibus frontem tangam? Video hic te tra[illegible] omnia pelle[illegible] nec [illegible] enim ulla re potes, quæ ab amico, quæ[illegible] [illegible] quod dicitur, iniucundum, [illegible] & [illegible] ipsi [illegible] certissimum [illegible] ut, ut nunc mihi cui nil uideret ue[illegible] [illegible] bis credo. [illegible] sic amici illi tui, qui sententiam suam quæ[illegible] [illegible] idem mordicus tenent, eamq; sibi eripi [illegible] [illegible] multos annos, [illegible] forte mihi Galli[illegible] tunc agentem [illegible] Cardinalium Medici laudabant, eadem hæc lis esset exorta, m[illegible] [illegible] inde iactatis, tandem qua[illegible] ione sepolita, in iurgia erupeiunt, & nescio an [illegible] tam medici possent, in poëticam acriter inuehi cœperunt. Cumq; eg[illegible] [illegible] cœpi mirari, quid ita, si quid a me [illegible] essent, in Virgilium im[illegible] rent me enim qua[illegible] quam poëticis o[illegible] iuuenilis: delectatum, iam longe [illegible] dere. Ut [illegible] ferunt percontatentur. Quæ'nam mihi ars esset contra illam, [illegible] ros ut liqu[illegible] appareret, non ueritatem illos quærere, sed uindictam. Ego rec[illegible] [illegible] No[illegible] ambitus. Respondi autem me scire nullam, sed esse hortulanum [illegible] [illegible] ueritus dicere potui, quam nunc possum. Hortulanus namque [illegible] [illegible] suis Pomonam [illegible] peccas, qui ab insitionibus arborum, & herbarum cu[illegible] [illegible] his sermone. [illegible] nunc omissis iocis, si quis serio ex me quærat, quid artis [illegible] [illegible] Non [illegible] idem ut Pythagoras, qui similiter inquisitus, cum se Sop[illegible] tem dicere, quo cognomine primi illi septem usi erant, erubesceret, primus [illegible] minis huius inuentor Philosophum se respondit, hoc est, nondum sapientem, [illegible] amatorem. Quod tunc nomen humillimum [illegible] postea uehementer in[illegible] tumidum, & inane est. His [illegible] illud profitentur, non iam sapientiam, sed ostentatione[illegible] uentosas contentiones amantibus. Hoc itaq; solum dicam, eius me artis [illegible] professorem certe sed amatorem, neque illam habere, sed optare, quæcunque meliorem me faci[illegible] contra quam quisquis dicere uoluerit, non ille mecum bellum, sed cum uirtute ac ue[illegible] suscipiet. Iam uero ut ad libelli tui ordinem reuertar, illud quale est. Quod ad q[illegible] [illegible] Medicis hidem dicis, illos plurimum laborasse. Enimuero id ego nec nego, nec fate[illegible] scio, ut sit autem ita, si gloriosa omnia laboriosa dixeris, fatebor. Si conuerteris ne[illegible] per gloriam labor præit, sed non semper gloria sequitur laborem. An non mai[illegible] agricolæ, [illegible] m ducis, aut Philosophi labor est, quamuis ergo omnis gloria labori[illegible] pe tamen est labor inglorius. At quod sequitur, sic affecto, disputationem nullam e[illegible] cum Medico, & ipse etiam affirmo, atq; ita si memini, præfatus eram, non me[illegible] um [illegible] co disputare, sed ludere cum amico. At tu tamen congrederis propius atque arcti[illegible] do [illegible], non me [illegible] flectit auctoritas Medicinæ, mea me saltem ut tibi [illegible] detu[illegible] captum tenet, tuisq; armis uinctus expugnor meis, res non noua, m[illegible] [illegible] armis [illegible] pensere. Sic in montibus Gelboe Saul rex cum armigeri gladio perire non im[illegible] ipse gladio incumbens perit. Sic in ualle Therebinti Dauid Goliath p[illegible] rato [illegible] [illegible] n habet, illius gladio caput amputat. Sic ad Troiam, nocte illa ultima [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] bus in[illegible] uit, & idem facere socios hortatur, atq; ita armati, m[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] nt. Sed quónam tandem precor, modò meis armis, de me m[illegible] uictori[illegible] [illegible] scilicet fallus sum, quod negare nequeam, si uelim, & mutari indies, & mu[illegible] [illegible] ætatem, quàm naturam meam. Q[illegible] d hinc probas, mutata natura, & uiue[illegible] [illegible] oportere. Quis hoc urget, nisi [illegible] tis, & imbecillitatis immemor. A[illegible] [illegible] ita factum in me dixi, & dico iterum, parua ne tibi hæc mutatio uidetur, quod[illegible] [illegible] ætate mane, meridie, uespere, horis omnibus, aquam puram ad satietatem b[illegible] [illegible], [illegible] semel [illegible] tantum moderanter illam haurio, id[illegible] non med[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ræ? Quæ [illegible] squis ego sum, solers ipsa, quid expediat, n[illegible] fallor intelligit. [illegible] [illegible] teret q[illegible] od olim in his dico, quæ non essent honestati, atq; animæ aduers[illegible] [illegible] rere, recolens illud Catonis apud Tullium. Natura optimum ducem, tan[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] rem [illegible] is. Parui ego naturæ, & parere m semper [illegible] [illegible] on [illegible] atis scilicet, sed Dei. Quid præterea [illegible] [illegible] acerba, uel [illegible] aliquid, accensus complexionis igne, [illegible] rrel am, [illegible] [illegible] rapiebam, atq; [illegible] edebam, nunc illa præteriens, u[illegible] oculis aspicio, & [illegible] [illegible] mecumq; tacitus dico [illegible] tabiles [illegible]

[illegible]us [illegible] diebus nihil aliud edere quàm poma & pira & ficus, & per[illegible]ca, nūc ante uel p[illegible] cibum, [illegible] horum sum [illegible] semper del[illegible] ctationi gustus modestiæ frena sub[illegible] inge[illegible]. Non quia mihi id suggerit Galienus, sed con[illegible] trix mea natura mea, quæ d[illegible] iam nil noxium [illegible] peterc[illegible]. Ex hoc f[illegible] et a[illegible] dit [illegible] petus fa[illegible] de ex [illegible]s, quæ mihi certè sci[illegible] de[illegible]sime [illegible] p[illegible] obedien[illegible] sub ipsam. Quod pace sit dictum [illegible] amic[illegible] tam [illegible] tuo [illegible] [illegible]quam consilio quam illius facio, quæ non [illegible]ne causa mo[illegible] in [illegible] præsertim [illegible] [illegible]us passionibus expedito. Vbi sanè Med[illegible] cum interna [illegible] co[illegible] c[illegible]ncor dant, non inuitus illis g[illegible]atificor, pareo[illegible] in re[illegible] quis n[illegible] ita. [illegible] alia illa tria, ceu [illegible] [illegible] pacis conditione [illegible] libera cō[illegible]nacia rec[illegible]. E[illegible] Med[illegible] immortale bellum, [illegible]m iugum illud collo subeam. Quomod[illegible] enim fructus [illegible]onos matu[illegible]os & sa[illegible]bu[illegible] inc[illegible] [illegible]s abijcerem? Quia forte non placuerint Hippocrati. Quales ego a[illegible] quos noui: admodum dissolutos, alios sobrios ac modestos, qui pom[illegible]um [illegible] odorem [illegible] al[illegible] [illegible]m q[illegible]dem ferrent. Vidi ego Romanæ Ecclesiæ Cardinalem, [illegible]rum aute[illegible] tici[illegible] & gra[illegible]um, ita cotonea execrantem, ut quotiens uel unu[illegible]n aspex[illegible]et, f[illegible] faciem ei[illegible] angustiæ, & lu[illegible]id[illegible]s pallor inuaderet, e[illegible] atq; de hoc cura familiar[illegible]s, ne q[illegible]o tali t[illegible]rbaretur occursi. Vidi alium in domo Clementis VI. R. P. quem coæui iu[illegible]enes rosa unica per totum illud ingens hospitium persequentes, cuncta ludo, & fragore complerent. Sic [illegible] odor inui[illegible]us erat, ut fama esset, eum si fuga alia non pateret al[illegible]quotiens per fenestras, [illegible] [illegible]e prosilientem, graue uitæ periculum adiisse, c[illegible]m tamen haud facil[illegible] dixerim, an tel[illegible] c[illegible] alterius, quam pomi illius, fl[illegible] hu[illegible]s odo[illegible] gratior usquam s[illegible]. Quid autem [illegible], nil quod [illegible] duo isti fuissent [illegible] es Medicinæ, suis in libris cotonea, rosas [illegible] [illegible] ass[illegible]nt, ut[illegible] eis fides esset ab omnibus exegissent. Sunt hæc amice non iudicia, sed naturæ [illegible], ac delectus, non posse pati, quibus alij omnes iure optimo delectentur. S[illegible] a[illegible] ex diuerso qui omne quod delectat prædicent & extoll[illegible], quib[illegible] pro ratione sit gustus. [illegible] quem ego noui, nisi fallor, tibi quoque cognitum Ioannem Pe[illegible]ensem in Eccle[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]no[illegible]icum, & confratrem meum, qui qualiscunque e[illegible]et, in re[illegible]quis medicinæ, ma[illegible] [illegible]m s[illegible] nomen, non in patria sua solùm, sed [illegible] Romana curia inter [illegible]os Satrapas, inq[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]edicorum turba, & colluuione pepererat: ita ut primus, aut inter primos numer[illegible]ret[illegible]. Hi[illegible] poma omnia, communi Medicorum more ui[illegible]perans, ficus solas non permittebat [illegible], sed laudabat, & scis causam, quia reliquis offendebatur, harum æstimator erat exim[illegible] [illegible] respicimus, alieno uiuendum nobis erit appetitu, ego autem possum [illegible] tan[illegible] errare, & tecum hac in re, & in alia cum Hippocrate concordia, quando nec tu poma conde[illegible] & ille aquæ potum, ut tu scribis laudat. Modum tamen in utroque requiritis, quem & [illegible] non in his magis, quàm in omnibus & req[illegible]ro, & laudo, ita ut nihil absq; illo, quamu[illegible] benè fieri con[illegible]edā, de q[illegible]o ergo pugnamu[illegible] Miror ut qu[illegible]d hæc repetenda [illegible]re [illegible] quæ & supra satis, ut puto, & priori etiam responsum erat epistola. Non esse hanc po[illegible] f[illegible]licet, neq; aquæ infamiā, sed excessus, primis adhuc ergo uersamur in ter min[illegible], & quod ue[illegible] prouerbio prohibemur. Actū agimus. Viden' ut hasta & gladius con[illegible] [illegible]a me, de meo p[illegible]atus armario, nec c[illegible]peū hunc penetrat, nec loricā, ut tis u[illegible]tor, al[illegible] [illegible] arma sumend[illegible], atq; [illegible]s cotibus acuenda. Sed emergunt ecce de transu[illegible] [illegible] te[illegible] onis cau[illegible]. [illegible]um enim illis tribus, quæ nociua dicitis, carere in perpetu[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible]r non idem in tribus alijs [illegible]im facturus, quæris. quasi uerò, cui unū aliquid cred[illegible] [illegible]ncta credere sit necesse. Quod si in illis Medicos sequerer, forsitan non iniustè quær[illegible] [illegible] esset in reliquis, ut & tu putas eadē rati[illegible] & [illegible]onsulior idem. At cum illud mihi na[illegible] [illegible]deat, ut dixi, si quæritur quid in his aliud fer[illegible]tem, re[illegible]ondeo. Noli hoc à me [illegible]uære[illegible], [illegible]ed [illegible] illa, [illegible]æ mihi in illis aliter, quam istis usq; n[illegible] c[illegible] [illegible]. Cui si forte quod n[illegible] [illegible] qu[illegible] cōsulere cœperit, aut iubere parebo, illius Ciceronis immem[illegible] [illegible] Quid est enim aliud, Gigantum more bellare cum dijs, n[illegible] naturæ repu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]od minimè euenturum suspicabar, de ieiunio iterū disputare, seu ludere, u[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible]e me omnia in eo qui me c[illegible]rtat, irridens d[illegible]is: Nescio, t[illegible] qua[illegible]m med[illegible] [illegible]e[illegible]s Deum omnia posse? & iei[illegible]m, & omni [illegible]are[illegible] cibo [illegible], [illegible] mod[illegible], sed [illegible]lem facere? Te autem secundum Medicinæ re[illegible]ulas [illegible] qu[illegible] se[illegible] [illegible]uas in [illegible] [illegible]a[illegible], ut ieiunans sanus sim. Ergo amice [illegible]le, quantū o[illegible] us, [illegible] [illegible]o an tat[illegible] sperem, equidē nihil b[illegible] ne Dei adiutorio [illegible] osse a[illegible] & id [illegible] [illegible] quod in omni licet paru[illegible] re dicerem, [illegible] hoc tamen [illegible]llu Dei [illegible]re mira [illegible]lu ex

[illegible]log[illegible] Rhe[illegible]r, a[illegible] Dialecticus, me cornutum pro[illegible]et, putas'ne pr[illegible] exploranda ue[illegible] ontem tangam? Video hic te [illegible]ra[illegible]uilia fron[illegible]e hæc o[illegible] [illegible]em [illegible]lla re potes, qu[illegible] ab am[illegible]o[illegible]æue pr[illegible] uen[illegible]at amicat[illegible],d[illegible] [illegible]od dicitur, i[illegible]icundum, q[illegible] [illegible]s & fal[illegible]m e[illegible]e, dum ipsi [illegible]erissimu[illegible] [illegible]deretur, ut nunc m[illegible] cui nil uideu[illegible] [illegible]erius dici po[illegible] [illegible] rē b[illegible]. It amici illi tui [illegible] sententiam suam [illegible]ualem [illegible] [illegible] ti[illegible] [illegible]d[illegible] [illegible] ordi[illegible]is te[illegible]ent, eamq; sibi er[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]e ante mul[illegible]os a[illegible] [illegible] dum forte mi[illegible] in Gallijs tunc agerem, cum Papæ [illegible] dicti [illegible] Cardinalium Medici faucbant, cadem [illegible]æc lis esset exorta, multis & uerbo, & scri[illegible] [illegible]d[illegible] iactatis [illegible]ndem quæ[illegible]ione sepo[illegible]ita, in iurgia eruperunt, & nescio an [illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] me d[illegible] possent, in poeticam acr[illegible]ter inuehi cœperu[illegible]t. Cumq; ego subt[illegible] d[illegible]cerem me mirari, quid ita, si quid a me læ[illegible] essent, in Virgilium immeritum uindica[illegible]e enim quar[illegible] am poeticis olim iuueniliter delectatum, iam longè alijs curis inre[illegible] d[illegible]e, & [illegible] [illegible]per[illegible]ntaren [illegible]. Quæ'nam mihi ais esset contra [illegible]lam, à se e[illegible]c d[illegible] ros ut liqu[illegible] a[illegible] pareret, non ueritatem [illegible]os quærere, sed uindictam. Ego re[illegible]ordatus [illegible] [illegible]oi Nola[illegible] anti[illegible]titis. Respondi autem me scire nullam, sed esse hortulanum: quò [illegible] [illegible]uer[illegible]s dicere potui, quàm nunc possum. Hortulanus namque sum totus & [illegible] ado[illegible] [illegible] Pomo[illegible] [illegible]ca[illegible] peccas, qui ab insitionibus arborum, & herbarum cu[illegible] hoc me d[illegible]ra[illegible]is sermone. Et nunc omissis [illegible]ocis, si quis serio ex me quærat, quid ar[illegible] [illegible] ha[illegible]am, respo[illegible]d[illegible]ho. Non [illegible]uidem ut Pythagoras, qui similiter inquisitus, cum se Sophon, id est sapie[illegible] [illegible]e, [illegible]uo cognomine primi illi septem [illegible] erant, erubesceret, primus omn[illegible]um, [illegible] [illegible]is h[illegible]s inuc[illegible]or Philosophum se respond[illegible] [illegible]oc est, nondum s[illegible]ientem, se[illegible] sapie[illegible]tiæ amatorem. Quod tunc nomen humillimum, [illegible] cui postea uehementer intumuit, nun[illegible] & tumi[illegible]um, & inane est. His qui illud profitentur non iam sapientiam, sed ostentationem, [illegible] ue[illegible]osas contentiones amantibus. Hoc itaq; solum dicam, eius me artis non professore[illegible] cert[illegible] sed amatorem, neque illam habere, sed optare, quæcunque meliorem me factura si[illegible], contra quam quisquis dicere uoluerit, non ille mecum bellum, sed cum uirtute ac ue[illegible]ita[illegible] suscipiet. Iam uerò ut ad libelli tui ordinem reuertar, illud quale est. Quod ad quærenda[illegible] Medicis fidem dicis, illos plurimum laborasse. Enimuerò id ego nec nego, nec fateor, nec scio, ut sit autem ita, [illegible] gloriosa omnia laboriosa dixeris, fatebor. Si conuerteris negab[illegible] sem per gloriam labor præit, sed non semper gloria sequitur laborem. An non maior na[illegible]æ uel agricolæ, [illegible] m ducis, aut Philosophi labor est, quamuis ergo omnis gloria laborios[illegible], sæpe tamen c[illegible] labor in[illegible]lorius. At quod sequit[illegible]r, [illegible] affecto, disputationem nullam e[illegible] p[illegible]e cum Medico, & ipse etiam affirmo atque [illegible]a si memini, præfatus eram, non me cum Medico disputare, se[illegible] [illegible]udere cum amico. At tu tamen congrederis propiùs atque arctiùs, q[illegible] do igitur, non me [illegible]inflectit a[illegible]ctoritas Medicinæ, mea me saltem ut tibi uidetur conf[illegible] [illegible]o cap[illegible]um tenet, t[illegible]isq; armis u[illegible]ctus expugnor meis, res non noua, multi armis prop[illegible] pensere. Sic in montibus Gelboe Saul rex cum armigeri gladio perire non impetrat suo [illegible]e gladio incumbens perit. Sic in ualle Therebinti Dauid Goliath p[illegible]strato [illegible] quia suum [illegible]n habet, i[illegible]ius gladio caput [illegible]mputat. Sic ad Troiam, nocte illa ultim[illegible], Choreb[illegible]s a[illegible] [illegible]bus inst[illegible]ruit, & idem facere socios hortatur, atq; ita armati m[illegible]os orco Danaum [illegible]nt. Sed quo'nam tandem precor, modò meis armis, de me mihi uictori parta e[illegible] [illegible] scilicet falsus sum qu[illegible]d negare nequeam, si uelim, & mutari indies, & mutatam esse [illegible]tate[illegible] qu[illegible]àm [illegible]at ira[illegible]m. Qu[illegible]d hin[illegible] probas, mutara natura, & uiuendi mod[illegible] [illegible] opo[illegible]cre. Quis [illegible]oc [illegible]r[illegible]et, ni[illegible] mortalitatis, & imbecillitatis immemor. At qui eg[illegible] [illegible]a factum in me dixi, & [illegible] iterum, [illegible] atua nc tibi hæc mutatio uidetur, quod cum flo[illegible] [illegible] me[illegible]d[illegible], ue[illegible]pere, hor[illegible] omni[illegible]us, aquam puram ad satie[illegible]atem b[illegible]bere [illegible]o[illegible] [illegible] s[illegible] e[illegible] tantum moderanter illam haurio, idq; non medicinæ con[illegible] sed na[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]æ [illegible]q[illegible] ego sum, solers ipsa, quid expediat, nisi fallor intelligit? Et[illegible] hodie a[illegible] [illegible]etet [illegible] h[illegible] [illegible]c[illegible] quæ non essent honestat[illegible] atq; animæ aduersa, morem [illegible] [illegible]ere[illegible] re[illegible] [illegible] Catoni apud [illegible]ollium. Nat[illegible]ra [illegible]timum d[illegible]ce[illegible] tan[illegible] D[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]emus. Pat[illegible] ego nat[illegible]iræ, & parerem semper, n[illegible] ma[illegible]ris ob[illegible]ret im[illegible] [illegible]on H[illegible] [illegible]ris scilicet, sed Dei. Quid præterea? S[illegible]idebam [illegible]la ætate, [illegible] a a[illegible] [illegible]cer[illegible]a, [illegible] [illegible]u[illegible], a cens[illegible]s complexioni[illegible] ig[illegible] c[illegible] a[illegible], [illegible]amis p[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible]el[illegible] [illegible]æ[illegible]am [illegible] præteriens, [illegible] a[illegible] & repet[illegible] [illegible], me[illegible]q; tacitus dic[illegible] O mutabiles res h[illegible]æ. Quid quod nonn[illegible]m

litus,

[illegible] us [illegible] aliud edere quàm pom[illegible] & pi[illegible] & ficus, & per[illegible] a, n[illegible] ante [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] mo semper de[illegible] ctat[illegible] [illegible] s [illegible] destiæ frena sub[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] appetere. Ex ho[illegible] [illegible] prodit, quo ne ut iaculo [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] , quæ mihi certe sci[illegible] [illegible] pati[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] d pace [illegible] tanti amici, [illegible] [illegible] q[illegible] am [illegible] us facio, quæ non [illegible] ne causa [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ibus expedi[illegible] o. Vbi sane Med[illegible] um interna [illegible] consultrice concor[illegible] [illegible] tus illis gratificor, pareoque in re[illegible] uis non ita [illegible] Et idcircò alia illa tua, ceu [illegible] [illegible] s c[illegible] nditiones libera cōtumacia rec[illegible] Et malo cu[illegible] Medicis imm[illegible] tiale bell[illegible] m, [illegible] m [illegible] collo subeam. Quomodo e[illegible] m [illegible] ctus [illegible] nos ma[illegible] os & [illegible] bus inc[illegible] [illegible] m? Quia forte non placuerint Hippocrat[illegible]. Quales e[illegible] aliquos noui, admo[illegible] [illegible] os, alios sobrios ac modestos, qui pomorum nec odorem, ne[illegible] a[illegible] ectum q[illegible] [illegible]. Vidi ego Romanæ Ecclesiæ Cardinalem, [illegible] rum autenticum, & grandæuum, [illegible] execrantem, ut quotiens uel unum aspexi[illegible] er, su[illegible] ito fac[illegible] e[illegible] eius f[illegible] dor angu[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] llor inuaderet, eratque de hoc cura familiaribus, ne quo tali [illegible] are [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] m [illegible] domo Clementis VI. R. P. quem coæui sui[illegible] enes, ossa unica per totum [illegible] h[illegible] [illegible] itium persequentes, cuncta ludo, & fragore complerent. Sic illi [illegible] odor [illegible] at, it fama esset, cum si fuga alia non pateret aliquotiens per fenestras, si[illegible] e u[illegible] de, [illegible] [illegible] entem, graue uitæ periculum adiisse, cum tamen haud facilè dixerim, an rei [illegible] terius, quam pomi illius, [illegible] hu[illegible] odor gratior usquam sit. Qu[illegible] autem [illegible] quod si duo isti fuissent [illegible] es Medicinæ, suis in libris cotonea, rosas'p [illegible] [illegible] que eis fides esset ab omnibus [illegible] egissent. Sunt hæc amice, non [illegible] [illegible] ac delectus, non posse pati, quibus [illegible] omnes iure optimo delectentu[illegible]. S[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] quòmne quod delectat prædicent, & extollant, quib[illegible] pro ratione sit gustus. [illegible] noui, ni[illegible] fallor, tibi quoque cognitum Ioannem Pe[illegible] sem in Ecclesia [illegible] a [illegible] um, & confratrem meum, qui qualiscunque esset, in reliquis medicinæ, ma[illegible] nomen, non in patria sua solùm, sed [illegible] Romana curia inter il[illegible] os Satrapas, inq[illegible] il[illegible] a [illegible] um turba, & colluuione pepererat: ita ut primus, aut inter primos numer[illegible] retur. [illegible] omnia, communi Medicorum more ui[illegible] sperans, [illegible] cus solas non permittebat [illegible] dabat, & scis causam, quia reliquis offendebatur, harum æstimator erat ex[illegible] [illegible] ad[illegible] respicimus, alieno utiendum nobis erit appetitu, ego autem possum forsi[illegible] [illegible] ecum hac in re, & in alia cum Hippocrate concordia, quando nec tu poma [illegible] ille aquæ potum, ut tu scribis laudat. Modum tamen in utroque requiritis, [illegible] on in his magis, quàm in omnibus & requ[illegible] o, & laud[illegible], ita ut nihil ab[illegible] que illo, [illegible] hene heri concedā, de quo ergo pugnamus? Miror u[illegible] quid hæc repetenda [illegible] quæ & supra satis, ut puto, & priori etiam responsum erat epistola. Non esse [illegible] icilicet, neque aquæ infamiā, sed excessus, primis adhuc ergo ue[illegible] amur in ter[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] prouerbio prohibemur. Actū agimus. Viden' ut hasta & gladius [illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] atus armario nec clypeū hunc penetrat, nec loricā, ut sis uictor, al[illegible] nde [illegible] sume[illegible] da [illegible] nt, atque alijs cotibus acuenda. Sed emergunt ecce de transfuer[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] causæ. Cùm enim illis tribus, quæ nociu[illegible] dicitis, carere in perpetu[illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] non dem in tribus alijs sim facturus, quæris quasi uerò, cui unū aliquid cred[illegible] [illegible] redere sit necesse. Quod si in illis Medicos sequerer, forsitan non iniustè q[illegible] [illegible] rel[illegible] uis, ut & tu putas eadē r[illegible] o, & [illegible] onsultor idem. At cum illud mihi [illegible] a [illegible] dixi, si quæritur quid in his aliud seruem, respondeo. Noli hoc à me quærere, [illegible] ed [illegible] æ mihi in illis alter, quàm istis usque n[illegible] c consi[illegible] lit. Cui si forté quod nō credo, i[illegible] m? [illegible] que [illegible] osulere cœperit, aut iubere parebo, illius Ciceronis immemorabilis di[illegible] me[illegible] [illegible] est enim aliud, Gigantum more be[illegible] are cum di[illegible] s, ni[illegible] aturæ r[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] e euen[illegible] urum suspicabar, de ieiu[illegible] [illegible] spu[illegible] re, seu ludere, u[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] me omnia in eo, qui me confortat, irridens dicis: Nescio, in quantum medicus, [illegible] [illegible] eum omnia posse? & ieiunium, & omni carentem cibo uno, sanum modo, [illegible] facere? Te autem secundùm Medicinæ r[illegible] as loqui, se[illegible] nd[illegible] m quas im[illegible] os[illegible] [illegible] s sanus [illegible] m. Erg[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] erem, equidē n[illegible] l b[illegible] e De[illegible] ad u[illegible] o [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] omni licet parua te dicerem, in hoc tamen nullū Dei sing[illegible] re miracul[illegible] ex

po[illegible] si b[illegible] o uiuum diu, aut quo[illegible] t imm[illegible] p[illegible] meæ le[illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] d[illegible] N[illegible] anus [illegible] anus e[illegible] de iero, teiuare [illegible] poten [illegible] co [illegible] me m[illegible] us alit mœsto fateor [illegible] men o. [illegible] de [illegible] quasi u[illegible] sim, ex[illegible] m gre[illegible] [illegible] dum u[illegible] p[illegible] tentiam [illegible] ledi[illegible] rum modò, [illegible] [illegible] an[illegible] tuam [illegible] Nunc ut uideo, & doleo tua est, sed ha[illegible] [illegible] a qu[illegible] di[illegible] quid Medici d[illegible] lani, e[illegible] crebr[illegible] [illegible] milem a[illegible] ne[illegible] am moribus, non [illegible] tet sæpe g[illegible] [illegible] tate luc[illegible] an[illegible] ceps enim & lubrica, utque ait Cicero, u[illegible] fuct[illegible] tio e[illegible] litum, le[illegible] am se[illegible] ex fate[illegible] tur Augustinus, dum ut [illegible] itar[illegible] en[illegible] [illegible] en[illegible] baret ne[illegible] otium uol[illegible] tatis. [illegible] at s est mel[illegible] seu [illegible] me[illegible] o an[illegible] æ dare operã, quamu[illegible] s ma[illegible] pars [illegible] fim[illegible] us [illegible] o nnes ferè homines ca[illegible] itrantem, & indomitum [illegible] nc as[illegible] [illegible] & impinguent, famescente anima, cuius ad obse[illegible] depu[illegible] [illegible] ue[illegible] pe[illegible] am co[illegible] tant, & quamue[illegible] sciunt, uel oder[illegible] t, [illegible] men[illegible] iptum: Mens cuiusque is est, [illegible] non ca[illegible] [illegible] ari[illegible] otest. Vos [illegible] bris Aristotelem, cui de anima l[illegible] qui con[illegible] den[illegible] um, ma[illegible] ait. Sed nec ille, nec uos [illegible] ud quærere uider[illegible] ni, nisi quid [illegible] n[illegible] a, [illegible] tionibus con[illegible] tam [illegible] ssam, co[illegible] s e[illegible] re[illegible] oto n[illegible] a h[illegible] ca[illegible] m[illegible] in umbilis, no[illegible] m[illegible] m ut uos [illegible] s[illegible] biect[illegible] m, q[illegible] e re[illegible] mens, & sui obli[illegible] us [illegible] tellig[illegible], idque ipsum utinam benè haberet. N[illegible] h[illegible] a[illegible] s à Me[illegible] q[illegible] irendum dicerem, sed quàm bene [illegible] dixi hodie, & [illegible] q[illegible] ceteris atque ocij, sed non pl[illegible] a, quàm u[illegible] conue[illegible] iret [illegible] quo[illegible] uis exemplo, u[illegible] cut paruo [illegible] nculo, [illegible] stomac[illegible] o, non [illegible] m[illegible] a [illegible] rptum concoquenda (utor uerbis medicinalibus re[illegible] en[illegible]) & digerenda m[illegible] dent[illegible]. Probare e[illegible] et minimè, quid ad pr[illegible] posi[illegible] um tamen? Tu [illegible] ætati[illegible] te[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] imen[illegible] qua[illegible] plerique dissimulant, aut negant, [illegible] leg[illegible] & [illegible] emus, in p[illegible] u[illegible] de minuen[illegible] a ætate pertinaciter concer[illegible] antes, non [illegible] m[illegible] p[illegible] it [illegible] endacio mors differri, apertè ac ueraciter sum professus. Sed an nescis [illegible] d[illegible] an[illegible] o q[illegible] dra[illegible] esimo, quàm alios sexage[illegible] mo seniores, non omnibus una est f[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] Possem plu[illegible] s exemplis affluere, sed delector [illegible] lust[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] a[illegible] s, & [illegible] um [illegible] m Africani filius adolescens fuit, cum [illegible] o[illegible] ore C[illegible] & Mass[illegible] a rex, nonagesimum agens annum, solidis [illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] na[illegible] tientia. [illegible] me q[illegible] idem annos n[illegible] meras, complex[illegible] n [illegible] tas, [illegible] autem ad [illegible] a re[illegible] cere, qui[illegible] bratam uult proferre scien[illegible], [illegible] oro [illegible] is p[illegible] à recto c[illegible] le diuertit, neque enim est d[illegible] b[illegible] um [illegible] mò [illegible] te c[illegible] neque illud Ciceronis ambi[illegible] uum, Medicos [illegible] ausa mo[illegible] inuenta, [illegible] o [illegible] e. Sed hic l[illegible] bor, hoc opus est. Quid enim aliud tui fidelissim[illegible] [illegible] quòd [illegible] ca[illegible] a adhibes re[illegible] edia, & [illegible] consulis, no[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] me[illegible] oreæ pas[illegible] on[illegible] lore nimio ouantur. Intel[illegible] ectum est hoc sæpe [illegible] m [illegible] m præsent[illegible] anno [illegible] m re hic fama mei status, [illegible] lic flamma pri amoris, [illegible] [illegible] t, [illegible] e[illegible] te[illegible] ple[illegible] ur insi[illegible] is elegantiæ & tibi animo, & p[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] per te [illegible] m cognitus, iam[illegible] amicos, q[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] c[illegible] c[illegible] it[illegible] upor quod ætate hac, is ex me cal[illegible] r erumperet uix [illegible] n[illegible] e[illegible] ut thalam[illegible] penè omn[illegible] is arderet. Ego autem quamuis febre & [illegible] [illegible] erie[illegible] onet tamen admirant[illegible] m audieba[illegible] se [illegible] a[illegible] er [illegible] m[illegible] s ex rebus conf[illegible] d[illegible] mit[illegible] [illegible] m q[illegible] p[illegible] us ac fr[illegible] is. Quidam tamen [illegible] enes & cal[illegible] & [illegible] e[illegible] m & [illegible] a & [illegible] e[illegible] me[illegible]. V[illegible] di R[illegible] æ Stephanum ue[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] ad a[illegible] m o[illegible] p[illegible] ar[illegible] [illegible] ludi[illegible] x[illegible] er[illegible] ur, [illegible] est[illegible] bi[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] fre[illegible] e, sed [illegible] tuerat [illegible] se[illegible] an[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] p[illegible] u[illegible], & [illegible] e [illegible] tis ac strenuus re[illegible] di[illegible]

Facile

Facile quiescenti est, pater, è fenestra de laborantibus iudicare, & miranti uetera, more se[illegible] uidere præsentia. Generoso impetu descendit. Nunquid & nos uiros esse creditis? [illegible] ipse uoci ferans, & ascenso equo qui proximus steterat, stimulisq; adacto, hastam [illegible]m manu rigida correptam, in plurima frusta comminuit: multo cum spectantium, h[illegible] ante alios horrore. Ego me robustis nunquam miscui, dum robusta etiam esset ætas, nunc fragilibus misceo, sanis uerò hactenus me miscebam. Neque adhuc dum mediocriter ua[illegible]m, fragilitatem ullam stomachi sentio, uellem de reliquis partibus idem posse dicere. N[illegible]c quod ueré possum dico, sanus Deum testor, nunquam cibum, potumùe aliquem m[illegible]i nocuisse perpendi, quod quidem meminerim, si uel semel contrarium perpendissem, quo sum animo, illis in perpetuum abstinerem. At non sentientem forsitan me læserunt, [illegible] hoc quidem, & contrarium fieri potest. Hoc enim nec per meipsum scio, nec cui cre[illegible] habeam, cum quotidie cæterorum audiam querelas, hodiernum prandium, hesterna [illegible] nocuit cœna, uinum hoc, aqua illa me læsit: mihi horum nihil penitùs, nisi meos forsan angores, me meliùs sentiat Auicenna. Quod si crederem, optarem hercle semper, & se[illegible] & stomacho caruisse. Multi se formosos putant, cùm deformes sint, quod & faciem ip[illegible]am uidere non possint, & libenter sese fallant, & ab alijs falli optent, & fallantur à speculo. At quis nisi torpens penitùs, uel exanguis, non sentiat dum ægrotat, graui præsertim ægritudine, qualem stomachi esse perhibent qui probarunt? Audiui, qui amisso oculo interrogatus, ab illudentibus. Qualiter sibi esset? Respondebat, Medicus me uidentem dicit, e[illegible] mihi uideor non uidere. Ego autem sicut æger nulli sanum me dicenti, sic sanus nulli [illegible]um affirmanti credam. Igniculus quidem meus, potens est, sibi commissa percoquere, [illegible]q; aliquid si necesse sit, at plus interdum potuit. Non contendo, sed plus illi committe[illegible] quia plus appetebam. Iampridem in me appetitus rerum ferè omnium imminutus [illegible]beoq; & ipse cum Catone senectuti magnam gratiam, quæ ut uides, mihi sermonis [illegible]tatem auxit, potionis & cibi sustulit. Neque tunc tamen, neque hodie stomacho, nisi [illegible]ntum pati possit, & semper minus aliquid committo. Et quamuis de hoc, regula nulla [illegible], eò quod cibus idem uni nimius alteri exiguus sit, ut scis Aristotelem in Ethicis [illegible]ere, & exemplum ponere Milonis Crotoniatis Athletæ, cui cibus diurnus magnus, & integer bos fuisse traditur, eumq; aut grauatum, solus ad uesperam comedisse: cibus tamen meus & si multis fortè fragilioribus nimius futurus communi more hominum, semper na[illegible]er ad modicum uergit, & hunc ipsum angustare potiùs, quàm laxare studui, & si au[illegible]m amico, sed in domino gloriari, raro unquã, ex quo uiriles annos attigi, uel ab hac fru[illegible], & modica mensa mea, uel ab amicorum seu principum conuiuio, nisi esuriens surrexi, neque unquam ieiunij prætextu, die illa mihi largiùs indulsi, quamuis fortasis, in cra[illegible] condimento pridianæ famis, alacrius aliquanto comederim. Itaque cum religiosi e[illegible]m ieiunantes, duplici ut ipsi uocant uti soleant, pulmento, absit, hoc, semperq; absfuit à me, nunquam amplius quàm unico, & modico usus sum. Et quis unquam crederet, me [illegible] multa de cibis & stomacho locuturum, sed ad Medicum sermo est, maiora licet meri[illegible], & dicere, & audire, dico autem hæc fidenter, quia me uera loqui scio, nempe pro in[illegible]actantia, sed pro patrocinio ueritatis, ea dicere, quæ libentiùs non dixissem, sed gloriabundus potiùs uideri eligo, quam ulla tibi suspitio nasci queat, sub honesto nomine, inho[illegible]m aliquid me moliri, alioquin non ieiunium, sed ingluuies est, licet enim minus ma[illegible] semel, quàm bis, me tamen transiluisse utrumque, tamen est malum. Instas autem [illegible] ieiunium, & contra reliquas sententiæ meæ partes, debere me consentire Medi[illegible]his saltem, quæ natura ipsa suadeat, corpus humanum è contrarijs constans, uari[illegible]le, atque passibile, & sine intermissione uariari. Quis de hoc unquam dubitauit? N[illegible] persuasore, neque tamen hoc medicis, sed naturæ credo, imò nec idipsum cr[illegible]d[illegible]d scio, quanta de hoc prius ad te scribens dixerim. Meministi, & quantò plura d[illegible]ossint, sentis, si probatione res egeat, quæ per seipsam, heu, nimis omnibus mani[illegible]est. Id cogitans, & quasi chirographum meum tenens, ac iam uictor exultans, & pla[illegible]m physicum, non scholasticum puerilem, qualibet nunc utuntur, clamores no[illegible]us pleni sunt uici omnes & plateæ, qui nec loqui sciunt, nisi disputent, nec dispu[illegible]nt quia nesciunt, nec quod erat optimum tacere didicerunt. Itaque quod est pes[illegible]mant, irascuntur, insaniunt, syllogismum in me torques, & mutata inquis si[illegible]e alijs ex causis natura, simul mutari debet uitæ regimen, hoc non ego. Mu[illegible] natura tua, tum ætate, tum morbo, hoc si uelim negare, non potero, quod

confessus

confessus sum. Vrbanè autem facis, & grauiter, qui non infers stomachosum illud ergo Parisiense & Oxoniense, quod mille iam destruxit ingenia, sed quid ais? Ex his, quoniam te ut scio syllogisticę argumentationis forma non latet, quid inferatur, necessariò, meridiana luce clarius uides. Video planè, clarè uideo, sed nónne, & tu uides, frustrà te extorquere uelle, quod ultrò conceditur. Mos est iste Cæsareus de quo dictum est,

Concessa pudet ire uia.

Certè si epistolam meam primam relegis, & si hanc legis, inuenies me in uitę regimine immutasse, sed in illa parte præcipuè, quàm maximè mihi natura suggerit immutandam, cur non ergo in alijs idem facio. Iam dixi, & sæpè ijsdem interrogatiunculis pulsatus unum tepeto. Fac ut idem illa suggerat, prorsus idem faciam. Et hoc pro responso sit alterius, sed eodem redeuntis instantiæ tuæ, qua probare uis, si una in parte mutatio facta est, fieri eadem in omnibus debere, quod si ita dicis, quasi omnia æqua sint, & nõ damnosum, ac proficuum altero magis alterum, & omninò in rebus ingens differentia. Velles autem nunc & tu syllogismum montanum ac tusticum audire, secundùm naturę mutationem, quod ab initio fassus eram, mutari uitam etiam oportet. Mutata est autem natura mea, & eatenus mutata est uita. Non expectas, ut inferam. Obtemperatum igitur imperanti seu naturæ, ut ego dico, seu quod tu asseris Medicinæ. Ad hæc mutata est natura in quanto, non in quali, calidissimus enim fui, non iam calidissimus, sed adhuc calidus sum, aqua est frigidùm elementum, & poma sunt gelida, contraria uerò contrarijs curari, medicorum ut audio uox est, quamobrem sicut his fuit, aliquando profusiùs, sic nunc partius est utendum. Vtrumque autem factum est, quid sequatur nosti. Animaduerti autem in epistola tua, uideri me tibi pertinacem ualde, in defensione aquæ & pomorum, cum mihi magna pars Medicorum, pertinatior in eorum accusatione uideatur, quodque egregius fero, sine ulla prorsus ratione uel causa. Nolo alium quàm te testem, nam cùm satis rem discusseris, quid in his mali, quid nõ optimum reperiretur, nisi excessus? Quæ hic aquæ, quæ pomorum culpa est? Quid huic Medicorum odium? quidúe hanc merentur infamiam amplius quàm falsam? Sed illi amici Medicorum sunt, nolunt eos infamare, rectè id quidem, modò non infamarentur immeriti. Sic amicis enim amor est debitus, ut omnibus iustitia debeatur. Quid autem inter uos & illas uolucres, tantam fecit amicitiam quætere, & mirari soleo. Sed fortasis à Phaside Colchorum fluuio, unde nomen acceperunt, Iasonia, ut fertur, in Græciam puppe transuecti, & distantia chariores (auget enim rebus pretium difficultas) de gente in gentem diligi, & laudari cœpère, atque inde famosi ad externos, ac sequentis æui Medicos peruenère, sed nulla affectio uerum mutat, quamuis sæpè illud oppugnet. Quantumuis phasiani uestri chari ac dilecti nobis, quantumuis in se boni, si excessum addiderim mali erunt, imò non ipsi, sed excessus malus, sic de pomis, sic de aqua, sic de alijs. Sed de aqua, quia tu locum hunc curiosiùs attigisti, quid aliud sim scripturus, quàm quod scripsi? Propè enim unum dicimus, cum pugnantia dicere uideamur. Scio quod aquæ potus ubi modum excesserit nociuus est corpori, sed quid uini potus? Tu nocentiorem etiam non negas, immeritò. Aqua enim corpori potest obesse, uinum sæpe animæ nocet, & corpori, quanquam tu quod miror, inter uini laudes, in quibus nollem te esse tàm sedulum, calorem augere illud dixeris, quod mihi necessarium non esse, ne quicquam dico, de hoc sanè, & quàm multi melioribus sæculis, benè sine uino, pura ex aqua uixerunt, hodieque uiuant, quippè cum aquam natura repererit, uinum gula. Egisse uideor abundè, quem tu locum cautissimè disputator, uelut inaduertenter præteris, ut ignarus quanta sit aquæ, ut sic dixerim, maiestas, si uini paucis bonis, multis malis ac pessimis effectibus comparetur, sed hanc quoque, ut dixi temperabo, non inuitus temperabo (inquam) non omittam, nisi cum uiuere & bibere desinam, hos terrestres potus, qui quandoque sitim acuunt, quandoque leniunt, nunquam tollunt, & ibo si cœlitus datum erit, non ad illud, deorum nectar fabulosum, sed ad illud fontem aquæ salientis in uitam æternam. Quam qui biberit, amplius num sitiet, interim his de fontibus, moderanter aquam bibam, uinoque utar modicè, non quia id utile, sed quia sic oportet inter ebrios, quorum uita non in sanguine, sed in uino est. Alioquin ut ferocem, & inhumanum hominem me uitabunt. Tu autem sic habeto, quod nisi rex noster & Deus noster IESVS CHRISTVS, cuius uita omnis exemplar lucidum boni est, nostris quas, excepto peccato, in se suscepit omnes infirmitatibus condescendens, his usus fuisset, nunquam ego diuinitatem eius testor, ex præsenti proposito meo, aut uinum biberem, aut carnes ederem, spernerem hæc tanquam potum, grauemque cibum, non Pythagorea, sed Christiana deuotione,

nec

nec audirem Medicos utrunque laudantes, quorum ego miror obstinatam peruicatiam. Quid ita? Et si non studium modestiæ, at non saltem pudor, ab his indignis laudibus literatos homines dehortantur, & si dijs placet, audiendi sunt, de hac re etiam Arabes laudatores. Nunc uerò bibo & ego, ut cæteri nec tamen laudo, sed consuetudine rapior, ad id etiam quod non probo. Vnum antequàm desinam te obsecro, ut ab omni cōsilio mearum rerum, tui isti Arabes arceantur, atque exulent, odi genus uniuersum. Scio Græcos fuisse olim ingeniosissimos, ac facundissimos uiros, multi inde Philosophi & Poëtæ, maximi & Oratores, & Mathematici insignes, Medicorum principes, illa pars mundi genuit. Arabes uerò quales Medici tu scis. Quales autem Poëtæ scio ego, nihil blandius, nihil mollius, nihil eneruatius, nihil denique turpius, & quamuis animi hominū, alij ad alia proniores sint, ut tu tamen dicere soles, in omnibus elucescit ingenium, & quid multa, uix mihi persuadebitur ab Arabia posse aliquid boni esse. Vos autem docti uiri, nescio quo fragilitate animorum, magnis illos, & ni fallor indebitis præconijs celebratis, usque adeò, ut audisse meminerim, ab illo, cuius modo mentionem feci Ioanne Parmensi, audientibus alijs Medicis, dictumque firmantibus, quod siquis Latinorum Hippocrati etiam par existeret, loqui quidem posse, nisi Græcus tamen aut Arabs scribere non auderet, & si scriberet sperneretur. Quod dictum non modo ut urtica meum cor inussit, sed confixit ut subula, & quantò profundius confixisset, si illi forte studio datus essem, certè ad abijciendos codices, dolor ille sat uirium habuisset. Nunc uicem doleo Latinorum ante alios nostrorum hominum, quibus si ille uerum dixit, turpi diffidentia præclusum est iter ad gloriam, præreptumque illud Laberij, qui ait:

Lam est publica.

Et post Platonem atque Aristotelem, de rebus ad omnem Philosophiæ partem spectantibus, Varro & Cicero scribere ausi sunt, post Demosthenem de rebus ad eloquentiam pertinentibus, Cicero idem, post Homerum Poëticè scribere ausus est Maro? Et uterque quem sequebatur, aut attigit, aut transcendit, post Herodotum & Thucydidē T. Liuius, & Crisp. Salustius historias conscripserunt, & illos à tergo, quàm longissimè reliquerunt, post Lycurgum & Solonem, legesque duodecim tabularum, nostri iurisconsulti, de tàm paucis granis, in sulcos Græcorum ingeniorum parcè adeò effusis, legum ciuilium, tàm opimam messem in horreum Romanæ Reipublicæ congesserunt, ut in eo studio facilè ostenderent se uictores, post Mathematicos Graiorum scribere noster non timuit Seuerinus. Post illorum quatuor theologos, nostri totidem sic scripserunt, ut sine contradictore superauerit, post solos Arabes scribere non licebit? Denique Græcos & ingenio, & stylo frequenter uicimus, & frequenter æquauimus, imò si quid credimus Ciceroni, semper uicimus, ubi annisi sumus, quod si uerè de nobis in comparationem Græcorum tantus ille uir dixit, multò fidentius in comparationem omnium aliarum gentium dici potest Arabiculis, ut uos uelle uidemini, duntaxat exceptis, ô infamis exceptio, ô uertigo rerum admirabilis. ô Italica uel sopita ingenia, uel extincta. Singulariter ingenium tuum fleo, his angustijs circunseptum. Hæc extra propositum onerosa, & amara profuderim, ad te credo, & ad finem propero. Nimis impetum sequor, & si noris, quot & quàm diuersis interim premor curis, stupeas, absiste autem mihi, de præterito, aut futuro experientiam obiectare ut soles, & probare uelle aquam, pomorum ieiunium uel fuisse, uel futuras esse, mearum causas ægritudinum. Si hoc nempè probaueris uictus sum, tolle digitum, reddo arma. Sed nec probasti hactenus, nec probabis ut spero, sicut ego contrarium, non tàm possum probare, quàm credere, non nocuisse mihi ista, sed profuisse. Excessum uerò non horum potiùs, quàm cunctarum rerum, cunctis hominibus nocuisse, & nociturum esse non sum nescius. Et ad summam, si ut ais Hippocras aquam laudat, tu mihi aliter Hippocras, uel siquid est Hippocrate maius, apud Medicos pomis ac fructibus es amicus. Ego excessum quod sæpe repeto, ut uel semel audiar, in omnibus reprehendendum dico, quocunque te uerteris, restat inter nos lis sola ieiunij, cuius quidem ita tibi persuade, nullus potest esse finis, nisi cesseris, quod sine ullo dedecore sis facturus, est enim laudabilis uero uinci, quàm mendacio uincere. Et certè quæcunque sit uerum, mea saltem honestior causa est. Ecce autem pederentim, unde digressus eram redij, ieiunium nempè sancta res est, & animæ utilis, ac salubris, & corpori, studiosis uerò bene aliquid agentibus, securè dicam necessaria, seu deuotionis studium sit, seu negocium rerum. Neque enim de athletis aut fossoribus agitur, aut de his qui pedibus Sitoniam bacam ferunt. Profectò autem non decet uirum sobrium & castum, suum uas incorruptum cum honore seruantem, aut uirum magnanimum ingentia molientem, aut uirum doctum

doctum & sublimia meditantem, sæpè & multum ad mensam sedere, & hoc breue tempus, ac labile, æquis portionibus cum uoluptate partiri, quodq; comessationibus superfuerit, aut gerendis rebus, aut orationi, aut philosophiæ dare. Absit hoc à moribus nostris, imò contrà, quod illis superest, refectioni corporeæ tribuendum. Non enim corpus hoc ad dominum, sed ad seruitium animæ natum habemus, & sicut seruus domini, sic corpus animæ reliquijs uesci debet, & contentari. Vnum nunc etiam locus hic recipit. Quotiens putas interfuerim colloquijs transalpinorum principum, & præcipuè Prælatorum, ubi de moribus nostris sermo incidit: Sensi illos inter alia mirari, quosdam quoq; uituperare, cœnas Italorum, de quibus in reliquis extimationes claras atq; magnificas concepissent, idq; eò magis indolui, quò eorum iustam redargutionem, & Platonicæ sententiæ consonã intellexi. Nam & ille epistola sua quadam, ad Architam Tarentinum, cœnas, mensasq; arguit Italicas. Sed tanti Philosophi reprehensionem facilè sim laturus, quo autem animo, quantoq; putas audiam dolore, nos à barbaris sobrietate superari? Neq; uerò me fallit, ut olim apud maiores nostros Romanos, ueteres dico, usus non fuerit prandiorum, unde Poeticum illud:

Hac eadem labente die conuiuia quærit.

Et quid corpori utilius Medici disputent. Audiui enim eos, ut in multis, ita etiam hanc in quęstionem discordes certè rebus agendis, quibus Romani ante omnes dediti erant, opportuniùs rear ad uesperã distulisse, dies enim actui idoneus, nox intempesta, & inactuosa est, & refectioni aptior & quieti. Neq; enim cœnam, nisi prandio superingestam arguo, sed Medici per manus opiniones sibi mirabiles ac syluestres tradunt, & à stipulantibus gula, & uulgò unus alium docet, nihil peius esse ieiunio. Et miraris & dicis te nescire, neq; audisse unquam consilia Medicorum, diuinis aduersa esse consilijs, seu contraria diuinæ conditioni. Miror autem ego non minùs, talem uirum non audisse, quæ lippis & tonsoribus nota sunt, quia quæ displicent pigris semper auribus hauriuntur. Nolo tibi autẽ monstrare ubi quæras, quòd inuentum doleas, sed si quæris inuenies. In multis quidem à diuinis cõsilijs discordaris, ut qui corpus tantum, hostem animæ, atq; ergastulum cogitatis, in ieiunio præsertim. Eat uerò nunc quisquis duras habet ungulas, & extirpet errorem tot radicibus subsistentem. Et ò utinam ego te, qui me à ieiunio diuertere niteris, possem ad ieiunium fando conuertere, & uelles Medicinam, hac saltem in parte dediscere. Crede mihi, uictũ te gauderes, præter occulta namq; quàmplurimam corporis atq; animæ commoda, unum certè oculis, antequàm elaberetur, sumpto in manus speculo, uideres te uiuidius coloratum. Proinde ut hæc tria, de quibus bellum gerimus recolligam, ac perstringam, nitar ego sobrietatem in medio positam, adipisci, si extremorũ alterutro pereundum est, malim aqua pallere, quàm uino rubere. Malim pomis laborare, quàm carnibus, exhaustusq; ieiunio, quàm distentus crapula perire: erit saltem purius, erit honestius cadauer. Iamq; de insolita & prorsus aliena materia satis, superq; certatum est. Quod cum alio quocunq; ex his, qui Medici tantum, & nil amplius sunt, nunquam in animum mihi uenisset, ut facerem, iam solito magis lites, & discordias abhorrenti. Nam quis æquo animo uideat, sua omnia uastari, seq; erepto unico palliolo nudum linqui? Quis non ad iram, atq; ad odium, atq; ad arma prosiliat? Quod patenter quondam, cum illis expertus sum Papæ Medicis, quorum supra memini. Ex te autem tale nihil uereor, cuius scientiæ diuitiarum, leuis accessio Medicina est, quam licet olim, ut sępè multi, artes alias iuueniliter sis professus, pęnè tamen absq; illa modo, qualicunq; iuditio maior esses, ac ditior. Itaque uelut opulentißimi Patrisfamiliâs & amici fines, latiq; ruris sterilem angulum securus ingredior, & proculco, obstantesq; rubos falce reseco, propè cupiens, ut tui esse desinant, qui te his implicitam à cultu arui fœlicioris impediunt & auertunt. Vtcunque res casura sit, interim dum tu bellum instauras, ego adero sæpè congressus bellantium, & præsentes uultus sequestri pacis, & concordiæ fuerunt. Facilè forsitan dum ultrò, citroq; acies instruitur, pax erit, licet enim aliter atq; aliter tu à Medicis, ego adcò, ambo tamen unum uoluimus, ut quodcunq; scilicet uitæ restat, sanus degam, quo uita ipsa sit lætior, longiorq;. Quanquam cum diù siquid est hic diu distulerimus moriendum sit. Vale Euganeo in rure, febricitans scripsi, ut tantisper febris obliuiscer, xv. Cal. Decembris.

FRAN.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS, LIBER XIII.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NICOLAO MARCHIONI ESTANSI Ferrariæ domino, s. Epist. I.

Consolatoria super fratris morte.

HEu mihi duro nimium & uiuaci, ergo ego infœlix, & sinistro natus sydere, in hac misera & fugaci uita, tandiu ideò reseruatus sum, ut lætum aut dulce nihil sentiens. Tristia & amara cuncta perpetiar, ad hoc solum uiuo, ut quotidie amicorum & charorum mortes audiam, utiq; ait Satyricus multis in luctibus, inq; perpetuo mœrore, & nigra ueste senescam, per omnem uitam flendo fatigatus. Nullius deinceps hominum mortem flere decreueram, idq; & professioni meę debitum, & ętati rebar, sed nimis ad uiuum tangit dolor, heu Vir clarissime. Amisimus imò præmisimus, tu fratrem amantissimum atq; optimum, ego dignitate dominum mitissimum, charitate filium obsequentissimum, qui nullis omnino meis meritis, sed sola sui nobilitate animi, me ut nosti, sic amare dudum cœperat, nec tãtum amare, sed colere, ut ego ipse, & gauderem uehementissimè, & mirare non minus, unde illa tanta dilectio, tantaq; ueneratio in tanta status, atq; ætatis imparitate. Solet enim illa ætas hanc fugere uel horrere, ille uerò non ita, memini neq; unquam obliuiscar, neq; obliuisci debeo, ut hoc ipso anno, dum Romã petens, casu illo terribili retardatus apud te, quo me sors mea, in hoc saltem placata detulerat, q̃ti mei extam, non quasi alienigenæ paruiq; hominis, sed ut magni cuiuspiã uiri, tuo de sanguine suscepisti, dura & graui, ut publicè creditum fuit, ultima ægritudine laborarẽ, quibus sermonibus, qua pietate, quo uultu, per singulos dies, ter aut quater ad me uisendum illa fœlix, & bene ficta anima ueniat. Quas mihi assiduè consolationes, quas oblationes, quæ lenimenta doloris afferebat, uoce illa humili ac benigna, ut præ gaudio, & suæ admiratione uirtutis, meum ipse incommodum uix sentirem. Sileo è longinquo salutationes amicissimas, sileo nuncios, cum muneribus, & munus omne uincentibus, suauissimis atq; honorificentissimis literis ad me missos, quod est summum, dico floridum adolescentem moribundo, sic astare seniculo, hei mihi, non credebam, nec credibile erat ipsum ante me mori debere, neque accidere potuisset, siquis esset ordo rerum humanarum. Accidit autem, quia nullus hic ordo est, nulla constantia, nulla stabilis, aut certa iucunditas, sed confusio, & labor, & dolor, & gemitus, à quibus nulla sors hominis, nullæ opes, nulla liberat altitudo. Damnum quidem tuum, nostrumque omnium, qui te, illumque dileximus, neque dissimulo, neque uerbis imminuo. Magnum profectò rarumque, & eximium uitæ decus, ac solatium ad tempus amisimus, quod non flere etiam ad tempus, & desiderare non possumus, sunt tamen & magnis angoribus inuenta remedia, de quibus agere non breuis epistolæ, sed libri materia sit ingentis. Vnum hoc temporis breuitate sufficiat, siquidem pro nobis dolemus, occurrit Ciceronianum illud, semper in his casibus repetendum. Suis incommodis grauiter angi, non amicum, sed seipsum amantis. Si autem propter illum uanus est dolor, non solum quia irreparabilis est euentus, sed etiam quia faustus utique illi est, audebo enim dicere, quod uerum credo, quia fratri tuo nihil mali, imò multum boni accidit. Quamuis enim oculi nostri illum anxiè requirant, tamen proculdubiò benè est, tàm nobilis animus, tàm mitis atque innocens uita fuit, ut sperari de eo aliud non possit. Viuit ille, qui mori oculis hominum uisus est, imò nunc uiuere incipit, hæc enim ut sapientibus placet, quæ dicitur uita mors est, uiuit, inquam, & cum creatore suo, cumque angelis eius, ac beatis sanctorum hominum spiritibus, æuo fruitur beato, ereptus mundi periculis, & ludibrio fortunæ. Neque si reditus pateat reuerti uelit.

Gaudet

Gaudet enim laborem permutasse,cum requie,cum securitate formidinem, cum fœlicitate miseriam. Nam licet & dum nobiscum erat,fœlix uideretur,uerè tamen nemo hic fœlix, ut doctißimis uisum est,fœlix ergo ille,nos miseri dum hic sumus. Quocirca mœrere hoc eius euentu uereor,ut apud Ciceronẽ ait Lælius,ne inuidi magis quàm amici sit,& ille quidem nunc,ut mea habet opinio recordatur nostri,suosq; omnes in quibus,quia ita sibi placuit,ego me numero,sed in primis tantum,talemq; Germanum, quem semper unicè dilexit,eo nunc amat ardentius,quo æterno propinquior est amori. Non sumus enim,Deo gratias,de illorum grege,qui putant animas cũ corporibus interire: in nostra igitur,& nostrorum morte immortalitas animæ,& resurrectio corporum,nos solantur,quarum prima con solatio etiam Philosophis fuit. Altera nobis est solis,de quibus si impetum atque ardorem animi sequi uelim,longus ero. Sed non possum,uires enim mihi corporeæ nullæ sunt,neq; enim,postquàm à te,& ab illo,heu,ultimum discessi,ullus mihi sine grauibus morbis actus est dies,itaq; uix hæc ipsa perscripsi. Confido autem de sapientia,& magnitudine animi tui, quòd & hunc casum,quo tibi iam nullus acerbior euenire potest,& humana omnia, alta & inuicta mente tolerabis,& ingruentem sensibus tristitiam, infra leniens uirtute, in omnibus diuinæ confirmaberis uoluntati,& tecum in silentio cogitabis,cœlestem prouidẽtiam, á qua tàm multa,& tàm grandia recepisti,tibi hoc nũc,licet amarum gustui,bonum tamen, & consideratis mundi malis,salutiferum forsan,& optabile tribuisse. Hęc tibi manu tremula,humentibusq; oculis,statim scripsi,cum hac ipsa hora,ad me rumor mœstißimus peruenisset,ita ego æger,tristis,desolatus,consolari alios nitor. Proinde siccandæ lachrymæ comprimenda suspiria,calcandus dolor,hoc excellentiam tuam decet,quæ si uera est,nihil illi ar duum uidetur. Positi in excelso estis ò principes,dominiq; terrarum, ut exemplo alijs sitis, uos oculi omnes intuentur,omnes aures audiunt,linguæ omnes loquuntur, omnes uestri actus & uerba pensantur,enitendum summo uobis est studio,ne plebeium aliquid,aut uulgare loquamini,ne quid depressum atq; humili sentiatis,sed magnifica omnia,& excelsa,ne uos ullis impulsibus fortuna deijciat,nec inclinet quidem,quæ in uos,quò maiores estis,eo sæpè maiori accingitur apparatu,frustrà autem hoc inter homines fastigium posidetis, nisi sereniores,& altiores animos,cæteris hominibus habeatis,laboriosum fateor, sed uera gloria, & magnus honor, siue multa industria, & magno non quæritur labore, hic loquendi utinam,& dolendi finem facio. Sperans te,quod posceris tua sponte facturum,urq; ita sit, affusus ego,& omnes qui tuum nomen diligimus,obsecramus. Christus consolator optimus,te soletur,& conseruet in gratia sua, Arquade Nonis Augusti,mane.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PHILIPPO DE MASERIIS EQ. Ægiscyprij Scribæ, s. Epist. II.

Communis amici mortem lamentatur.

Fontem lachrymarum,de mœstißimi animi scatebris,per hos oculos erumpentem, tua simul excitauit,& compreßit epistola,tàm uarie meum quocunq; tibi libuit cor egisti,ut clarum faceres,quod à doctißimis uiris accepimus,omnipotentem, ut sic dixerim,esse facundiam, ita meum & totius Italiæ graue damnum, & irreparabile mihi in oculos ingeßisti,quod nisi confestim asperrimo uulneri, leuißimã Medicinam, docta manus adhibuisset,facilè imbecillem spiritum,& confixum abditis aculeis,dolori dolor abditus extinxisset. Quis enim non dicam,tanta amicitia,& affinitate coniunctus,tot obstrictus meritis,sed quicunq;,nisi hostis humanitatis,nostri Iacobi obitum, effuso gemitu non lugeret? Ereptum terris hospitem uirtutum,unum ex paucißimis, qui iam nostro æuo superant,& in ipso flore ætatis extinctum,nostræ decus priscæ specimẽ militiæ,uerè quidem, non me fallit amor,& si ualdè amem,mors illius mœsta eclypsi militiæ lumen presßit. Nam quis illo uerior miles,aut quis rectior,quis innocentior,quis iustior, quis pro uarietate rerum animosior ac mitior, & humilitati magnanimitas, & magnanimitati iuncta stupebat humilitas,insolitæ simul habitare. Claritatem sanguinis moribus illustrabat, quẽ natura generosum fecerat,uerè uirtus nobilem faciebat,perfectumq;,& undiq; perpolitum, ne uel sibi ulla militaris laus,ut nostro uirtutum inopi sæculo,quod de Demetrio suo ait Seneca, aut exemplum,aut conuitium deesset. Fuit quem excelso calle operum, multi ad gloriam sequi uellent,pauci possent uirtutem illam heroicam,etiam hostes uenerabant,& qui eum oderant,illam odisse non poterant,boni illam amabant,mali mirabantur, habet enim uirtus

hoc

hoc insitum, bonos in amorem sui, malos in stuporem trahi. Talis ille uir fuit, nihil prorsus illi defuit, nisi uita longior dicat aliquis. Ego autem nullam breuem uitam dico, quæ profectò uirtutum munere functa est, non refert, quanto in spatio pretiosa explices, nec thesauro pretium auget arca ingens, nec imminuit angusta. Illius uitæ tempus additum, uobis profuisset, atq; omnibus quibus ille uel charus fuit, uel utilis ad exemplum, sibi autem, ad quid nisi ad periculum, ac laborem? Omnia perfecit, quæ ad ueram gloriã pertinerent, plura facere poterat, non maiora. Ea fuit in iuuentute grauitas, in grauitate iucunditas, in iucunditate seueritas, in seueritate clementia. Ea demũ uirtus in animo, in proposito constantia, in consilio acumen, in præsentibus circunspectio, in futuris prouidentia, in conuersatione suauitas, in uerbis fides, in rebus atq; actibus industria, cum amicis charitas, cum hostibus leue odium atq; placabile, cum superioribus obsequium, cum subiectis humanitas, cum omni genere hominum iustitia. Nihil illo leuius inermi, nihil durius armato, nil ad iram tardius, nil promptius ad ueniam, ut qui nunquam, nisi pacis studio bella susciperet. Dulce mihi & amarum est, multa de illo, quem dileximus, imò uerò quem diligimus tecum loqui, & si de quibusdam ignauis potentibus, quidam longas historias texuerunt, opulentia admirati, quamuis de hoc liber rexit, queat ab illo præferum, cui nihil uiri huius incognitum sit. Sed hinc calamum luctus frenat, illinc tu mihi materiam abstulisti, sic perstringens eius laudes, ut prolixius fortasse aliquis, laudari melius, certè ac uerius nemo possit, fœlix ille tali stylo, tantoq; laudatore, fœlix tali subiecto stylus tuus. Ille quidem & uirtute sua clarus, & eloquentia tua adiutus, diù uiuet, imò proculdubiò uiuet semper, cum illo apud quem fons uitæ est, & hic quoque per famam uiuet. Denique in memoria æterna erit iustus, proinde uicissim ille de tuo testimonio, tu de illius præconio nomen nobis clarissimum quæsiuistis. Quem tu enim stylo non ornaueris, & quem stylum ille suis in laudibus, non disertum fecerit? Gratias tibi nõ meo tantum nomine, sed bonorum omnium, quia quod nec ego ita, nec puto alius potuisset, laudum eius agrum uberem, ingenij tui acuto & lucido uomere coluisti, & suarum florea prata uirtutum magni amoris pijs imbribus irrigasti? Vt multa equidem ac magna prætercam, à te scripta magnificè, ac fideliter enarrata, unum præterijsse noluerim, quod quoniam mihi aures, animumq; te loquente mira suauitate promulserat captare nunc geminam grata repetitioe dulcedinem, meus est. O' fœlices igitur oculi tui, qui uiderunt, quæ ab illo uiro ante non multum tempus apud Alexandriam gesta sunt, fœlix ille etiam, an licet expediens esset, & ab adolescentia exoptatum dissolui, & esse cum CHRISTO. Prolongatus est tamen uitæ modus, donec illa perageret, quæ & spectanti desuper res humanas cœli domino grata essent, & per omnes terras, fama celebri uulgarent, quæ & nostra ætas memoraret, & posteritas commendaret, quę demum & tu lachrymis scriberes, & ego flens legerem, fœlices quoq; aures tuæ, quæ audierunt fortia illa, & salubria, & gloriosa consilia, quibus si creditum fuisset, hodie quantum ego arbitror, & Petrus inclytus Cypri rex, indigni uir exitus, sed sacræ memoriæ uiueret, neq; in conuentum malignantium, & manus impias incidisset. Et nunc forsitan sub eodem Petro rege tuo, militans Iacobus frater noster, nec dum fato functus, ut quem pius aleret labor, sanctumq; exercitium uegetaret, imò quidem regi æterno ambo pariter militantes, per orientem ac meridiem CHRISTI nomen attollerent, & Christianitatis fines, atq; imperium prolatarent. Iamq; non tantum Alexandria, sed Memphis, & Antiochia, & Damascus, & Babylon Christianorum essent, CHRISTI nempè sunt omnia, nec Deus noster bonorum indiget nostrorum. Nobis quærebatur, & quæsitum nobis, quicquid id erat, & nobis amissum est. CHRISTO enim præter cor humanum, quod unicè concupiscit, nihil dari potest, nihil eripi, nobis, inquam, paucorum uirtute, quorum tu etiam pars fuisti, illa nobilis ciuitas data erat. Nobis multorum seu ignauia, seu perfidia erepta est, nec minus pudoris attulit, amissa quàm capta decoris attulerat. Sed sic eunt ferè res mortalium, rarò sanum consilium contradictore caruit. Ita dum in suam quisq; libidinem, non in commune bonum nititur, quotidianum in concilijs malum, melior pars, maiore & numero ueritas uicta est, uicit auara barbaries, uicit uilis amor prædæ, uicit interrumpendæ paululum metus uoluptatis, uirtus nuda & incomitata succubuit. Itaq; onusti præda, ad quam sola uenerant religione simulata, oneratiq; autem, bruti q; dedecore abierunt, omisso, neglecto fidei negotio, quo nescio, an ullum gloriosius [illegible] suorum memoria cogitatum sit, hæc hactenus. Vnum antequàm desinam, attingendum [illegible] tuæ probatissimæ fidei testimonium perhibendum. Tu quidem uir egregie, amicum è medio sublatum, non solùm lingua, & calamo affectum, animi testantibus, dulci pietate prosequeris, sed superstites etiam natos, memori charitate complecteris, bonam utiq; teq; rem dignam agis. Neq; mihi, neq; cuiquam suorum dubitatio ulla est, quin talis amici filios

ZZ tuos

tuos ducas. Cuius enim radix est propria, & rami proprij sint oportet, fuit uir ille usq; in finem tuus, neque ut au[illegible]iror unquam magis, quàm nunc [illegible], quando scilicet inexhausto summi amoris fonte perfusus totus est charitas. Certè Dauid rex filio Ionathæ, à quo dilectum se fuisse meminerat, quamuis persecutiones multas ab illius patre perpessus, sese præbuit indulgentem, & Masinissa rex Numidiæ propter memoriam Africani totam progeniem Scipionum miro amore usque ad ultimam coluit senectutem. Sed iam satis est frenabo impetum, alioquin nullus erit flendi modus, tu me fletu madidum flere uberius, tu me fletu exhaustum fletū comprimere docuisti. In dolore tibi parui, cur in cōsolatione non paream? Consolabor, quia tu iubes, & quia necesse est. Stultus est enim luctus longior, & lugenti damnosus, & illi inutilis qui lugetur. Non committam, ut propter meam multiplicem miseriam, illius morte contractam, lætam illam, fœlicemq; animam gemitibus amplius turbem meis suarum iam uirtutum laurea coronatum, de uitijs atque inuisibilibus hostibus in arcu æthereo triumphantem. Tu uiue, & defuncti, & superstitis memor. Vale, Pataui pridie Nonas Nouembris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI ARETINO, S. Epist. III.

De sua origine.

IGnoti hominis, sed noti nominis epistolam libens legi, fuit Ioannes alter Aretinus, quoque, cum quo longa mihi usq; ad illius uitæ exitum, ac fida semper stetit amicitia, Ioannis igitur Aretini ad nomen, in auribus meis olim crebrò dulciter solitum sonare, longo uelut è somno experrectus, caput atq; animum erexi, grataq; mihi chari capitis memoria renouata est, in hoc altero Ioanne delectauit me fateor nobilis indoles, & senilis iuuene, caniq; styli grauita[illegible]ed super omnia hic affectus, & hic amor erga hominem nescio, an aliquando uisum, [illegible] certè non cognitum, qui profectò tantus esse non posset, in te aliqua meæ ui[illegible]tuti[illegible] opinio decepisset. Error ingens, sed honestus, & tua præsertim ætate laudabilis, quosdam nempè nonnunquam falsi nominis sono ac splendore excitos, [illegible]ctis à tergo quos pro ducibus sequebamur, ueram perduxit ad gloriam. Optas & optando oras, ut familiaritate mea sterili quidem, & unica te digner epistola, quam te, ut thesaurum, sanctasq; reliquias seruaturum spondes, ad tuum, ut ais, tuæq; posteritatis longum decus. Non sum amice, unde hoc speres, paucorum est, ut nosti quibus scripserit famam dare, horū ego de numero non sum. Quomodo enim alijs dem, quod mihi nondum tanto studio quæsiui, scribo tamen, non ut te glorificem, sed ne spernam, & scribo inter angustias, magno rerum circumuallatus exercitu, quod ut tibi sit gratius, iam me temporis penuria parcum facit. Non hoc tamen impediet, quò minùs ad id tibi respondeam, quod tàm obnixè flagitas an scilicet Aretij natus sim, id enim te auguror audiuisse, & ita hoc q̄ris, quasi magnos hinc titulos quæsiturus patriæ, & clarorum certè hominū origines, terras, in quibus orti fuit, per se licet ignobiles ornant fateor, atq; nobilitant. De Homero quidem dubitatio uetus est, & multis indecisa lis gentibus, dum una quæq; illum sibi uindicat, & tanti ciuis gloriam ad se trahit, ad quod constat, sic nascendo Pythagoras quidem Samon, Brienem Bias, Miletum Thales, Abderam Democritus, Clazomenas Anaxagoras, Chalcedonem Xenocrates, Eleam Zeno, Stagirim Aristoteles, Lesbum Theophrastus, & ex nostris Arpinum Cicero, & qui tunc Andes dicebatur, inopem & angustum Mantuæ uiculum Virgilius, Tagastum Augustinus, Stridonem Hieronymus honestauit. Sed neq; aut horum ego rursus, ex numero sum, aut patria tua, ut sit nobilis unius cuiusq; hominis eget auxilio, quàm ab ipsis Romani imperij primordijs, inter tria Aetruriæ capita numeratam legimus. Quando uerò t[illegible]m anxiè me rogas, plus etiam aliquid, quàm interrogas respondebo. Non solū ergo Aretij, sed in uico intimo ciuitatis illius, qui Hortus uulgò dicitur, heu flos aridus, & fructus insipidus, natus, fatusq; etiam fui. Florentinis quidem parentibus, sed in exilium actis, ea scilicet tempestate, qua meliorem partem expulit, qui creber nostris in urbibus mos est, nostrique naufragij partem alteram, Bononia altero pio gremio fouit Aretium. Addam huic historiæ, quod haud grauatim te lecturum spero. Anno igitur iubileo Roma reuertenti atque Aretio transeundi, quidam nobiles conciues tui, qui me comitatu suo dignum censuerunt, dum extra mœnia urbis adducerent, ignarum me per illum deduxerunt uicum, atque inscio, & miranti domum illam ostenderunt, in qua natus essem, haud sanè amplam scit magnificam, sed qualis exulem decuisset, dixeruntq; inter multa unum, quod apud me (ut Liuij uerbo utar) plus admirationis habuit, quàm fidei uoluisses nonnunquam dominum domus illius, eam amplificare, publiceq; prohibitum, ne quid ex ea specie mutaretur, quæ fuisset, quando hi[illegible]us homuncio, tantusq; peccator intra illud limen, in hanc laborio-

sam

[illegible] am ut tam uenit, proinde illa digito tui ciues ostendunt, plusq; aduenæ præstat [illegible] m [illegible] rentia suo ciui. Sed hæc & alia [illegible] tolerada esse [illegible] ter, [illegible] & a[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible], quãuis illa præponderent, & [illegible] cum pr[illegible] multis, [illegible] hoc [illegible] eo gratias agens, qui [illegible] nunc mihi animum, & [illegible] mentem dedi[illegible] [illegible] qu[illegible] d [illegible] patientem & tarditatem meã, tuæ preci[illegible] Re[illegible] non me deinceps uidebit, & non meis la[illegible] [illegible], ne me [illegible] punge scinde, urge, [illegible] [illegible] sed ut[illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] ta Nemo [illegible] talia non disertus fuerit. Auditum tibi me[illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] num laudare iritus, & magnus [illegible] st labor [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] me [illegible] ut postulo, & ut te, meq; pariter [illegible] nun est. [illegible] [illegible] per angerycum [illegible] d Satyram. Vale Arquade inter colles Euganeos V. [illegible] Septemb[illegible].

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI ARETINO, S. Epist. IIII.

Desiderium regularum nostrarum alte tibi [illegible] cerno, ne[illegible] ideo d[illegible], sed [illegible] tum nostriq; amãtem, noscendiq; au[illegible] um reor, dicis te h[illegible] ere [illegible] las m[illegible] [illegible] s, ut im omnes, & maximè correctas habeas. Neq; [illegible] [illegible] de alijs uelim. Ad hæc cũcta nostra uulgaria, & [illegible] quid [illegible] [illegible] sed id mihi difficile est creditu. Cæterum [illegible] an[illegible] alia necess[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] am sentis, quæ à diuersis ut auguror, hisq; nec intel[illegible] gentibus me[illegible] [illegible] quot præterea libelli, qui te forsitan delectabunt, ego cert[illegible] tuam [illegible] [illegible] ijs adiutum iri, si qua sors tulerit gaudebo. Hæc hactenus [illegible] [illegible], neq; sat memini, an quid aliud responsi indignum attulisset. Vale [illegible] in [illegible] rem [illegible] uirumq; optimum Petrum nostrum, ut salutare iubeas quæso, Pataui, [illegible] Ianuarij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA DONATO APENNIGENAE GRAMMATICO, S. Epist. V.

Artium errores uitandos esse.

[illegible] ulam tuam, fili, simulq; munusculum recepi, pyra scilicet, qualia nulla quidem ut arbitror tellus fert, nisi Italia magna, ut Maro ait, parens frugum, utrunq; mihi p[illegible] gratum fuit. Nolim tamen hanc te curam amplius insumere, uis fortasse ue[illegible] gia [illegible] [illegible] tui sequi, qui mihi quod habet, quodq; non habet libentissimè largiretur be[illegible] [illegible] n feceris, eum in omnibus sequendo, nunquam eo duce à recto calle uirtutis aberra[illegible] enim patrem adhuc tibi forsitan, propter tuos annos incognitum, sed cognoscũ [illegible] quorum ego sum unus. Illum ergo sequere, illum cole, illum obserua, illi crede b[illegible] [illegible] ad portum diriget, neq; despicias, quia non est Medicus, aut Dialecticus loquax. [illegible] hi enim ueri nulli usque, Dialectici autem passim multi sunt, est certè, qui adol[illegible] [illegible] passionibus medeatur, & falsas opiniones, quibus illa ætas abundat [illegible] rarum tal[illegible] [illegible] ionum resecet, tenerisq; præcordijs, ueras inserat sententias. [illegible] mihi crede tuus [illegible] ur bonus, & literatus, & prudẽs, & ut breuiter dicã: Est (quod, ait Flaccus) ad ungu[illegible] [illegible] s homo, tuiq; amantissimus super paternum etiam amorem, quamuis tibi fortalis [illegible] [illegible] aliter uideatur, nam neq; blanditiæ patrem decent, neque prosunt filio, & si uerò, te [illegible] in omnibus alijs sequi uelim, in hoc uno nolim. Neque enim à te ista, neq; à tua [illegible] [illegible] que à tua ætate requiruntur. Stude modò, & uiriliter age, teq; ipsum attolle alis [illegible] studijsq;, incq; hoc patrem non tantùm sequere, sed transcende, uinci enim à te [illegible] [illegible] iter acturus es: Nihil (ut ait Comicus) loci est segnitiæ neq; socordiæ, de arti[illegible] [illegible] contulisti, elice quod tibi utile, quodq; animæ, moribusq; tuis salutiferum ex[illegible] [illegible] qua ut uenenum abijce. Non loquor sine causa, amor tui & parentis loqui cogit, [illegible] artium professores, ab infantia usque ad id tempus, ætas tua tenera est, atq; [illegible] [illegible] omnis impressionis capax, multæ ibi sunt spinæ, multi laquei, multi unci, qui faci[illegible] [illegible] m, leuemq; animam arripiant, atque ob[illegible] tu scientiæ à pietate detor[illegible] ucant. [illegible] deuia, multa inextricabilia, quibus [illegible] ptum sit, hac itur ad eo[illegible] [illegible] Qua qui pergunt, ueniunt ad ignorantiam creato[illegible] omnium. [illegible] [illegible] terminus, de promissa lu[illegible] ad tenebras perueni[illegible] [illegible] Iter hoc sæpe inaduerte[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible] s ingreditur, & credula omnium & cupida [illegible] [illegible] animis no[illegible] [illegible] præsertim nobili præditis ingenio discendi, scien[illegible] q; d[illegible] cedo quædam in[illegible] ta, sed [illegible] [illegible] o moderanda. Multa sunt enim quæ nescire eadem [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] omnis boni aliquid, uis discretionis exi[illegible] ur. [illegible] [illegible], a[illegible] equàm imp[illegible] iceris, eoq; pe[illegible] unde non [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] d [illegible] meco [illegible] atis ap[illegible], [illegible] immensa ac mansura decerpe- [illegible] audis, & ad [illegible] lis uir, quidem patet [illegible] expe[illegible]. C[illegible] doctos & [illegible] Philo- [illegible] enuam ueram am[illegible] ctus e- [illegible] Aristote[illegible] amice CHRISTO, sine [illegible] tuum est. CHRISTI autem inimico [illegible] Au[illegible] om [illegible]. At [illegible] sunt un[illegible] iudices eo- [illegible] d[illegible] illud quoque tibi persuade, [illegible] tuum [illegible] de[illegible] quod [illegible] ualde tibi metuerem [illegible] non di- [illegible] r, sed [illegible] senior te moneo. Narra[illegible] tamen hæc, [illegible] p[illegible] pa[illegible] meo, [illegible] m meum prob[illegible]. Al[illegible] fa[illegible] te gen[illegible]. Vale.

FRA[N.] PETRARCHA ROMANO RHETORI, S. Epist. VI.

TVa pr[illegible] epistola, [illegible] ùs ad me uen[illegible] mihi n[illegible] peperit amorem, [illegible] ctat[illegible] in[illegible] delectatus stylo, & quod minimè [illegible] an- [illegible] atque affectu [illegible] m uehement, qui nullo ignoo[illegible] sed e so- la a[illegible] etate pro[illegible] icifcitur. Senis amor, in adolescente [illegible] m, Ro- m[illegible] atque de[illegible] atus or[illegible] ine, qua nulla sub cœlo clarior, aut fuit, nisi [illegible] augurio, aut [illegible] ra [illegible]. Adde, quod h[illegible]d quaquã silentio obruendum erat, quia epistolæ auctor illius [illegible] Pandulphi, quo nil charius habeo in terris, altera aũt episto- la, [illegible] etum attulerat, ac mœrorem super morbo graui atque ancipiti Petri n[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] mei optimi. Quem enim tan[illegible] uiri casus ad lachrymas nõ moueret, ni[illegible] entiæ a[illegible]? [illegible] anè mihi persuadeo, nem[illegible] em esse mortaliũ, qui me ma[illegible] p[illegible] nd[illegible] us sua tangat aduers[illegible] as. Consternato equidem, mœsto an[illegible] us oculis epistolam illam legi, atque ilicet ut iubebas, iubebat & pau[illegible] me is me[illegible] tem, [illegible] m [illegible] ocem manus ambas ad c[illegible] elum tollens, oraui boni ominis au[illegible] rem, ne a[illegible] um mũdo utilem eriperet, neu me hoc uitæ solatio spoliare, neque me illi, [illegible] il[illegible] um m[illegible] item æterna fatorum lege decerneret. Id enimuerò sæpè me peccatorem in am[illegible] is a[illegible], sed heu, uota sæpè irrita, fuisse mœstus memini. In hoc autem, & si ego pecca- tor indi[illegible], quia tamen preces in se dignæ sunt exauditum iri spero, eoque maximè, quod mul[illegible] uxerunt dies, & nil no[illegible] audio, neque uerò talis uiri obitus famã publicam, neque [illegible] la iute[illegible] eas ad nil aliu[illegible] intẽtas fallere potu[illegible] uiuit ergo, ut augutor Petrus meus, [illegible] fœlix [illegible] dem in cœlo semper fœlix uiuat, CHRISTVM prec[illegible]. At [illegible] la[illegible] m[illegible] is, & [illegible] spes [illegible] gat, atque h[illegible] manã ferre sciat hu[illegible] an[illegible] tùs, admone, p[illegible] mo[illegible] mo[illegible] orem saluere [illegible] m iube, & uale.

FRAN. PETRAR[C]HA MATTHAEO LONGO AR[C]HIDIACONO LAODI- ENSI, S. Epist. VII.

De utriusq; statu.

E[illegible] fo[illegible] nnis, quem m[illegible] solenniorem fecit, ac lætiorem tuarum a[illegible] ent[illegible] itu[illegible] erarum, dies, i[illegible] quam, qui ad uestigia saluatoris adoranda, tege[illegible] [illegible] m a[illegible] nte p[illegible] rduxit. Nunc ad me prædulciter salutandum, mitissimas talis a mi[illegible] literas, [a]b extremo attulit oc[illegible] ente, uidentem omnia CHRI[S]TVM test[illegible] uix t[illegible] al[illegible] uid læti [illegible] teram audire. Mul[illegible] s [illegible] m iam per annos, de te certi nihil audieram, c[illegible] m [illegible] ies tua, semper [illegible] b[illegible] affixa præc[illegible] dijs [illegible] hæreret, qua inde diuellere, nec locis, nec tem- p[illegible] ne[illegible] am [illegible] icuit au[illegible] ebit, dubitabam tamen, & humani more anim[illegible] metuebam [illegible] Me[illegible] lano a[illegible], & amic[illegible] s meus quidam fidissimus Per- game[illegible] q[illegible] mei c[illegible] sci[illegible], sæpe me de[illegible] ua u[illegible], ac sal[illegible] te c[illegible] tiorem n[illegible] u[illegible] s[illegible] a. Q[illegible] s mortales na[illegible] a protule[illegible] t nequ[illegible] im[illegible] a[illegible] n[illegible] que m[illegible] tem me[illegible] ere d[illegible] eamus, m[illegible] cum tamen ipse recogitans, p[illegible] æt[illegible] t[illegible] & r[illegible] P[illegible] pũ[illegible] limidum in curia quæ Romana dicitur, uersarentur Cau[illegible] Sal[illegible] en[illegible] m Episcopum Cardi[illegible] a[illegible] em, nullũ mihi iam eorũ, quos à iu u[illegible] te[illegible] ã, fate[illegible] r, non timere, de utroque solli[illegible] itus, de te autem e[illegible] amn[illegible] mea meti[illegible] s, atque dinumerans, crebroque suspiran[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] e charus Pat[e]r, & amicus [illegible]. O [illegible]. O [illegible] u[illegible] [illegible] dc [illegible] iam [illegible]

[illegible] lumen [illegible] ciens. [illegible] time [illegible] feles on[illegible], qui breui epistola [illegible] me [illegible]. De meo [illegible] statu, [illegible] dit assiduè labi, de [illegible] uo [illegible] scriberem [illegible] breuibus accipe. Sum animo per CHRISTI [illegible] m [illegible] a [illegible], & iuuenilibus, nisi fallor, prodeun passionibus expe[illegible], contem[illegible] m, qui mi[illegible] atur humanum genus, [illegible] am [illegible] riter tecum, sed in d[illegible] lo [illegible] Qui [illegible] mihi spero, corpore diu l[illegible] nus fueram, ho[illegible] ennio infirmi[illegible] o [illegible] uo tamen adhuc quantuluscunq; sim tuus ut [illegible] ro, in rebus [illegible] est mihi, ut erat quando ultimum me uidisti, ex quo [illegible] nte [illegible] mer[illegible] hic [illegible] imus est, tempus uitę, propè ne dicam absentiæ [illegible] um [illegible] po[illegible] eq[illegible] dem [illegible] re, sed nolui, omnis mihi altitudo suspecta est. Maro [illegible] er[illegible] in humi[illegible] tate mea, id [illegible] dens atq; iocundius, & ad summam, nulla re fermè au[illegible] m, quam fu[illegible] ni[illegible] tot [illegible] aliquot libellis. Mallem scientia ac uirtute, nulla re [illegible] nuit[illegible], nil [illegible] ali[illegible] me pro[illegible] & amicis, quos mihi quàmplurimos paucis annis, dura m[illegible] s [illegible] puit, p[illegible] entiamq; m[illegible] uehementer exercuit. Aliquandiu Venetijs moras traxi, n[illegible] m P[illegible] in ec[illegible] [illegible] ens. Fecit Deus, inscio me, ut tempestiuè admodum [illegible] de[illegible] ederem [illegible] urbes, [illegible] e[illegible] issimo, quod nunc sæuit bello. Futurus ibi [illegible] pectus, [illegible] m [illegible] a [illegible] ates temporum rure a[illegible], nunc eti[illegible] m, ut semper [illegible] din[illegible] p[illegible] s [illegible], cogito, hæc uita, hæc delect[illegible] tio mea est, qu[illegible] mihi [illegible] mea [illegible] rum tam iugi studio, tàm pauca, tanto [illegible] tempore didicisse. [illegible] io [illegible] h[illegible] m inuideo, nullum odi, & quod ante lo[illegible] g[illegible] imum tem[illegible] [illegible] me, nunc multos despicio, primum me. F[illegible] tur prima [illegible] re iuuenili contemptrix omnium, præter se, media autem grau[illegible] tate [illegible], tu[illegible] [illegible] ptrix, hæc ultima libertate senili, & suipsius ante alios, & pene omniũ n[illegible] qu[illegible] s [illegible] contẽptui eximit, rarũ genus. Ad hęc nullum ualde metuo, nisi ualde amen[illegible] [illegible] cupio, nisi bonum finem, turbam famulorum, uelut hostium fugi[illegible], fugiturus o[illegible] [illegible] et, id ne liceat, ætas atq; fragilitas efficiunt. Visitatores nullo usquam secessu [illegible] [illegible] is fugere ualeo, honorificum uitę meæ tædium ac laborẽ. Extruxi mihi in collib[illegible] [illegible] neis paruam quidem, sed decoram atq; honestam domũ, ibi reliquias uitę, qua datur, in [illegible] ace exigo, & defunctos, & absentes amicos tenaci memoria, animiq; ulnis arctiùs sem pe[illegible] amplectens, singulatiter tui memor, tui cupidus, si qua sors sineret. Neùe quid te lat[illegible], m[illegible] ar[illegible] erum sæpe per hos annos à Romano pontifice atq; imperatore, quin etiam à [illegible] re[illegible] e, alijsq; principibus multa cũ instantia, ac sæpe magna, nescio quidem cur, quo[illegible] e [illegible] tum, sed quod magis reor, fato quodam euocatus, æquè omnibus hacte[illegible] d[illegible] s [illegible] [illegible] tra multorum enim sentẽtiam, si expediens arbitror libertati. Sed nimis te [illegible], & uale Pataui ad uesperam Epiphaniæ.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PANDVLPHO MALATE[illegible]TAE, S. Epist. VIII.

De sua ualetudine afflicta.

E[illegible] tolam tuam uir clarissime, plenam tuæ illius antiquæ mundo quoq; iam notissi[illegible] mæ charitatis, ante non multos dies acceperam, dumq; & alijs ex causis, & ut tibi op p[illegible] tuniùs respondere dimisso rure, ubi libentiùs multò, quã in urbibus habito, Pa[illegible] [illegible] ium [illegible] issem, tibiq; quod placiturum certus eram, de mea salute anxio, scribere [illegible] er. Ex longa me scilicet ægritudine, propè iam sanitati reddi[illegible] um, credo ut mœ[illegible] am [illegible] itatem, quàm lætum mendatium audires cœlitùs effectum, ut me subito ad VIII. [illegible] laias familiaris mea uiolentissima febris arriperet, conuenerunt Medici, & quos no[illegible] [illegible] is urgebat, & quos nostra trahebat amicitia, & multis altercationibus hinc inde ha[illegible] [illegible] morem, diffinierunt me nocte media moriturum, & erat iam noctis ill[illegible] prima [illegible] ides quantulum mihi uitæ spacium restabat, si uera essent, quæ hi nostri fabulantur [illegible] ates, sed quotidie magis, ac magis me in illa, quam de his semper habui opinione [illegible] mant. Dixerunt unicum longiusculæ remedium uitę esse, si fidiculis nesc[illegible] ibus a[illegible] mnus abrumperet. Sic me ad auroram forsitan peruenturum, ex[illegible] ui spacij tædio[illegible] [illegible] im tamen somnum mihi in eo statu eripere, esset haud dubiè mortem dare. Ita[illegible] n[illegible] ratum. Nam sic am[illegible] os oraui, sic famulis mandaui, ne quid quod à medicis [illegible] m fiat in c[illegible] pore. Siquid penitùs fieri debet contrarium [illegible] at, proinde [illegible] a[illegible] profund[illegible], placidę [illegible] morti, ut ait Maro, simillimo sopore transegi. Quid [illegible] Nocte med[illegible] [illegible] rũ, mane redeuntes, fortè ut exequijs interessent scribe[illegible] [illegible] ateni[illegible] [illegible] l aliud, quod dicerent, habuère, n[illegible] hominem me esse mirabi[illegible] [illegible] e decepti, & elusi, nec iterum, & iterum impudenter a[illegible] erere desinunt, quod ignorant,

ignorant, nec clypeum alium inueniunt, quo ignorantiam suam tegant. Et ut sim fortasse mirabilis, quam [illegible] mirabilius quam quilibet credunt, non tamen mirabiles, sed superbi sunt. Hic ergo sum ut [illegible] clyte [illegible] me fors uersat, & reuersat, & quanquam [illegible] sanus uidear nonnunquam, semper tamen [illegible] æger sum. Aliquin unde [illegible] febres erumperent, nec simul repullularent, sed ecce, ut [illegible] illa media [illegible] obeam, quid ad me? Ad hoc [illegible]. [illegible] quid nocet mox casurũ cadere seu quid prodest surgere illicò ruiturum? Quando tamen generosum animum tuũ, hæc tàm humilis curæ contingit, ut scire cupias, qualiter mihi sit, scito me de statu mei corporis prorsus incertum, neq; me [illegible]lum, sed omnes quicunq; hic uiuimus mortales, cò me tamen incertiorẽ, quò uisibilius quotidie ipsa cum morte confligo, quæ siue me confestim oppresserit, ut iam quater intra unius anni spacium minata est, siue diuticulè distulerit, diù nempè nõ differet. CHRISTO Deo meo æquè de omnibus gratias ago, ipse enim nouit, quid mihi expediat. Et ipse faciet, utrum sanè sit melius mori, an uiuere Deus scit, hominem quidem scire arbitror neminem, aut moriens apud Ciceronem ait Socrates. In me tandem sic diffinio. Nec tibi uirum optime, nec eorum quibus charus sum cuiquam amplius sum cogitandum, aliquid uel optandum, nisi bonũ finem. Et certè iam tempus est, nõ expedit ad fastidiũ uiuere, ad satietat[illegible], tu uiue fœliciter, mei memor, & uale inter colles Euganeos, VI. Idus Iunias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PANDVLPHO MALATESTAE, S. [illegible] IX.

Se tempore pestis ad loca salubria euocanti respondet.

TVa breuis ac prædulcis epistola, qua nil suauius cogitari potest, ingentem mihi lætitiam in aduersis attulit, ac solamen, quamuis nouum ueræ nihil attulerit. Scio enim, ab olim cor erga me tuum, at quod tritum, & uetustum in animo meo erat, tua hæc præsens scriptura renouauit, itaq; tantam inde dulcedinem legens cœpi, ut præsentium immemor dolorũ, totus in tui uultus, multũq;, diuq; exoptata mihi præsentia respirarẽ, & quiescerẽ, tantusq; me subitò scribendi ardor arripuit, quod si eum sequerer, & hos digitos iam defessos, & occupatas maioribus aures tuas fatigare. Sed desiderio tempus deest, meq; aduersa impedit ualetudo, uixq; hæc pauca perscribo, unum hoc ergo suffecerit, oblationes tuas reuerẽter amplector, & quas possum gratias ago, uerũq; Deũ CHRISTVM testor, me de nullo homine magis sperare, quàm de te, & si quæ infortunio. Quæ regum quoq; diademata uersat ac proterit, ad indigẽtiam coarctarer, nullius me quam tuam, seu domum, seu arculam, seu uillam fidentiùs aditurum. Nempè quam experientiam me docuit meam esse, uenirem fateor cupidè, quo me uoceas, non metu mortis impulsus, sed desiderio tui tractus, nisi statu mei corporis impedirer. Nobilis autem ueræ, meritoq; gratissima mihi charitas tua est, sin secura mihi metuens, nil timenti. Pone hunc igitur metum, quæso, nã nec Pataui, nec Venetijs, quibus nũc in urbib. pestis regnat, sed inter colles Euganeos sum, loco quẽ nuncius hic tuus me monstrante oculis suis uidit, delectabili admodũ ac salubri, ad quẽ, & mei amore, & locorũ specie captus, harũ dominus regionum, amicus tuus sæpe uenit, & morulas mecũ trahit. Reliquũ est ut scias me, tuæ mihi charissimæ faciei licet incognitæ coniugis transitũ, mœsto animo percepisse, non tàm propter eã, quæ relictis his miserijs, haud dubiè nũc cœlesti uita fruitur, is sibi ut nobilitatis atq; originis, sic Romanæ pudicitiæ splendor fuit, quam propter animi tui statũ, quẽ turbidũ suspirijs, atq; undantẽ fletibus cogitabam, quis enim tãto nõ moueretur damno? Multa hic dici possunt, larga est materia, sed angustũ tẽpus hæc omniũ summa est, tua magna uirtus, & magnis in rebus sæpè cognita, magnam hanc uincat asperitatem, id magnitudinem tuam decet, hoc igitur fac & CHRISTVS consolator optimus te soletur. Vale Arquade Cal. Septembris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PANDVLPHO MALATESTAE, S. Epist. X.

Se tempore belli ad loca pacifica mutanti respondet.

NEc cessat tua meeum, nec lentescit humanitas, gratiam habeo, quãtam quisquam grati hominis speret è pectore. Anno altero, ut me faucibus sæuientis latè pestis eriperes, blandis scriptis, ac nuncijs, ad loca salubria euocabas, nunc belli minis ereptururus, ad loca pacifica me inuitas, sic in omni discrimine. Inq; omni siue elemẽtorum, siue hominum motu, pia me amplexus memoria, te ætate [illegible]ium, amore, ac sollicitudine patrem geris, urges literis, quæ possint duris è rupibus saxa conuellere. Addis comites, addis equos, nihil omnium prætermittis, quamuis & equorum, & comitum satis [illegible], & desiderij infinitum, at uirium & uigoris corporei parum est, occupationum uerò longè [illegible]imium. Hæc ad te p[illegible]perantem animum meum frenant, adde asperum tempus, iter intractabile,

[illegible] hoc in [illegible] quod [illegible] ad [illegible] pidee [illegible] ex [illegible] ætas excuset [illegible] ex parte [illegible] excuset tuæ [illegible] fateor, [illegible] ineptiis cerno, quas omnibus [illegible] notas ue- [illegible] betingenii [illegible] ætatis [illegible] tamen [illegible] dederet gra- [illegible] Omnia iam in uulgus effusa sunt [illegible] quam [illegible] bus animis scri [illegible]. Quomodo [illegible] anxie flagitanti, quæ me [illegible] habet, & lace [illegible] od quæraris, habes etenim quod pet [illegible]:

Tu modo te iussisse, Pater Romane memento.

Inq; meis culpis tu tibi da ueniam.

[illegible] magnus, ad Theodosium Augustum. Ad hæc [illegible] eios atque [illegible], raritas absoluat, qui hinc famoso quodam studio, [illegible] tem uero scribentis inertia, & bellorum fragor, diu ante multurus hæc [illegible] conuitonans ueteuisset, incorrectionem operis, si qua occurret, mea excuse [illegible] feci hæc, per alios reuideri. Denique exterioris habitus pauper [illegible] tem, [illegible] set a [illegible] tentia, profectò enim si fuissem præsens, dum in libri formam ligaret, [illegible] en, & [illegible] bulas saltem argenteas habuisset, multa nunc de [illegible] ua graui ægritudine, [illegible] hementer exterruit, & afflixit, multa quoque de tuorum casibus mihi p [illegible] [illegible] bus stylo sese offerunt, quæ iam fessus calamus recusat. Nolo quidem putes il- [illegible] epistolæ tuæ partem, sine suspirio, ne dicam lachrymis legisse, qui mihi æternum ue- [illegible], ac præclaræ coniugis, simulque magnanimi fratris tui dulcem, acer [illegible] amque memo [illegible]. Illa enim quem suis nunquam, sed tuis oculis tantum uidit, non aliter [illegible] pa- [illegible] me dilexit, honestique uicem meruit amoris. Ille autem familiarissimè co [illegible] tum, & a- [illegible], non uerbo tātum, ut huius temporis mos est, sed realibus mul [illegible] & ad summam alter, imò idem ipse mihi Pan [illegible] [illegible] ar. Ita [illegible] [illegible] qui mori poterant, qui cor meū pa [illegible] cuspide uulnerauerit. Sed [illegible] præter patientiam remedij genus ullum. [illegible] es hæc [illegible] maximis uiris, & à me p [illegible] sæpè [illegible] est, se [illegible] d [illegible] solet, aut dici potest, [illegible] otissimum sit oportet, prud [illegible] mo atque obser- [illegible] casuum humanorum, illa omnium consolatio summa est, quod ambo [illegible] peros tenui [illegible] cred [illegible] di sunt, & amborum uita fuit, ea insignis mat [illegible] ea [illegible] illustris excellētia, cessat igitur altera dolendi causa. Si quid enim mal [illegible] cidit, id per ipsum magnitudine animi superandum est, ne nimis nos amar [illegible] [illegible] stra incommoda uideamur. Vale Pataui pridie Nonas Ianuarij al [illegible] nte bello.

[illegible] PHILIPPO SABINENSI EPISCOPO, CARDIN[illegible] SEDIS APOSTOLICAE LEGATO, S. Epist. XL

A [illegible] multis an [illegible] diebus [illegible] tuæ rumorem ægritudinis, per literas c [illegible] mei aman [illegible] ssimi, ac de [illegible] s, qui de tua salute solicitus, [illegible] conscius, mihi scripserat te [illegible] ægrotasse, rem tamen ad salute m [illegible] rare. [illegible] uero non tam [illegible] lescentiæ, quam ægritudinis rumo [illegible] mou [illegible] es [illegible] ac de quæ cupiunt cre [illegible] nt, unus ego, quæ metuo, itaque [illegible] s, & ætatis ad [illegible] m, non eram sine pauore perpetuo, donec literas [illegible] us ac susp [illegible] ensus accepi, tum salute [illegible] ua co [illegible] ira [illegible] mei [illegible] & [illegible] a, & gratiarum meritas, actiones, die [illegible] m [illegible] non læ [illegible] [illegible] Romani ducis edict [illegible] uoce pre [illegible] dd [illegible] s, qu [illegible] literarum, te superni tegis imperio libera [illegible] nt autem ex

 mnib

[illegible] & quam [illegible] nos interuiximus [illegible] ut non [illegible] meis [illegible] uel [illegible] omni [illegible] eodem tempore [illegible] amicitiate [illegible] hominus illa ant [illegible] gentis [illegible] ampl[illegible] [illegible] temporis reuocati, & eam [illegible] longum dum [illegible] inter libros somni [illegible] tam [illegible] transegimus [illegible] Q[illegible] possunt non [illegible] dem [illegible] lætitie [illegible] libros du[illegible] [illegible]am. Quis [illegible] læta, animoque alacrior [illegible] sicut mihi post [illegible] omnes [illegible] bros abijceres [illegible] præter m[illegible], eum ad me [illegible] faceres. [illegible] tem ad reliquas [illegible] dign[illegible] eres, quanto ergo, cum [illegible] hunc proxim[illegible] ipse cogita, qui animum meum uides, parcat tamen illis Deus, qui humeris tuis [illegible] labore fatigatis, hoc tam graue licet honorificum pondus imponere uoluerunt [illegible] Pontifici suaserunt. Noui autem mores, dum eis bene sit, qualiter sit alijs non curant, neque alienos labores, aut pericula, sed suas tantum cogitant uo[illegible] tates sunt ex eis quidam, quibus bonorum omnium [illegible] præsentia, eosque non tam [illegible] non [illegible] possint [illegible] & [illegible] conspicuo teste pec[illegible] care. Sed [illegible] propositum uertat [illegible] & faciet spero de [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Apostolo [illegible] corp [illegible] mo [illegible] Q [illegible] ut [illegible] s in dem [illegible] s [illegible] S [illegible] non pol [illegible] CHRISTE [illegible] nonme [illegible] Ego [illegible] sacer posse hat Ambro [illegible] Ego haec pate amant [illegible] Kal. [illegible]

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO BRV [illegible] Epist. XII.

De quibusdam suis secretis [illegible].

O[illegible]is familiarium rerum curis, quibus in [illegible] epistolam [illegible] dignas censeo, & de quibus a[illegible] us, al[illegible] d [illegible] e premit, quodque tuis in literis [illegible] legi [illegible] Philippus [illegible] s, uirorum [illegible] & Ecclesiæ, mundoque utilis, mihi ueri superindul [illegible] in leg [illegible] [illegible] s, & in crastinum moturus, [illegible] Papam adi[illegible] & accepta[illegible] nomen meum memoriæ eius imprimeret, me [illegible] recommenda[illegible] [illegible] ente & uerbis lenibus appro[illegible] anti, urgente demum [illegible] ra, ut [illegible] [illegible] et. Habet[illegible] inquit) oro, Pater sanctissime, commendatum [illegible] [illegible] quàm dici possit afficior & propter [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] phoenix unicus est in terris. Hoc iterum atque iterum dixit [illegible]. Vnus [illegible] Reuerendis[illegible] qui dig[illegible] to cœlum uoluut [illegible] iam digre[illegible], sermone [illegible] [illegible] ca[illegible] & laudatorē & laudatum mordaciter [illegible] t. Et quamuis tu [illegible] ta modes[illegible] [illegible] t, quasi rebus i[illegible] s inte[illegible] ucum nolle mihi [illegible] a [illegible] quicquid [illegible] amplius uenerit, de me lo[illegible] [illegible] ipse quoque interd[illegible] charus mihi, nunc ex merito od[illegible] [illegible] ex me quam [illegible] ter. Ip[illegible] me propter [illegible] [illegible] tem, [illegible] perbiæ semper aduersa e[illegible] illum [illegible] propter [illegible] [illegible] cuius ut uno uerbo expe[illegible] [illegible] quo[illegible] s, imo nimis est, dictu [illegible], quan[illegible] [illegible] m, nisi quem diligo. Ipsum [illegible] uo in [illegible] [illegible] s [illegible] sed ipse p[illegible] [illegible] ego [illegible] dem Ph[illegible] meus assert [illegible] Cred[illegible] int enim propter m[illegible] tas, [illegible] copia [illegible] [illegible] quoque tuis erat in literis, [illegible] [illegible] uoluntatem in a[illegible] dam, [illegible] Ag[illegible] ex[illegible] Tag[illegible] postremò ut [illegible] aureu[illegible] [illegible] nihil est [illegible] magn[illegible] [illegible] ta, n[illegible] me [illegible] [illegible] dem in magno p[illegible]

 [illegible]

[illegible] cognomine [illegible] posuit. Certè, ò frater, [illegible] aliud, q[illegible] ad morte [illegible] [illegible] quia nos [illegible] TO [illegible] propè ex̃catis [illegible] semel assequi bene est. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO BRVN[illegible] S. Epist. XIII.

De ijsdem rebus.

E[illegible] oculis nũquam uidi [illegible] noui melius, quàm [illegible] plurimos annos egi. [illegible] causa [illegible]. Nempe [illegible], quibus magis cernimus [illegible] te altiùs desixi. Siles quidem, & silentij [illegible] scribis quàm potes, [illegible] optabas [illegible] noli [illegible] minum [illegible]. [illegible] Nullum est damnum [illegible] addi posit, damnum [illegible]. Sæpe eq[illegible] quos [illegible] uerum scio. Nitere omnes [illegible] quod cu[illegible] ex[illegible] & expertus [illegible] id iampridem [illegible]. Quid [illegible] nisi? Nempe [illegible] contrà quò cõmunis [illegible]. Cumq; inter longum [illegible] ergo [illegible] & [illegible] amicitiæ [illegible] atq; [illegible]. Scis quid de te [illegible] in turpi ex[illegible] reuerti. [illegible] quid uis [illegible]. Credis [illegible] [illegible] permitterem sanctitati. An [illegible] ingenium tuum, & [illegible] tenus, ut [illegible] [illegible] ex [illegible]

... quod mirari habeam, uel irasci? Non sum humanarum adeò inexpertus re... homo est, an non ore Dauidico spiritus sanctus ait: Omnis homo ... excipitur. An non tunc mentitus est Pontificum omnium princeps Pe... iuramento negauit, quia non noui hominem. An Pontifici huic nostro ... dixit olim, quod in animo non habebat, uel nunc nolle quod uoluit? Neu... redo. Sed habeo ibi ego, habet & ueritas aduersarios magnos, qui toto nisu e... & honoribus meis obstant. Qui si scirent quanti eos facio, quantoque mihi est ... m mediocritate mea, quam eis cum omni eorum pompa atque inani magnitudi... erent forsitan aduersari, uel fortassis inuidiæ & stimulis agitati, multò etiam aduer... ardentiùs, quantum mihi à bonis, & insignibus uiris honoris impenditur mihi (in... Nam quod ibi fieri putant, non fit eis, sed eorum insulis, phalerisque, & quàm mul... ... uenerando despiciunt, & oderunt. Et quid, quæso opes inopes, cum omnibus ... ac uoluptatibus? Quid honores inglorij, & uentosi cum omnibus ... ulis, quibus stulti tument ac superbiunt, & sibi placent, cum his ipsis & Deo di... mundo? Quid hæc (inquam) in hora illa nouissima infœlicem animam adiuua... cibatum diu corpus, opiparè futurum mox uermium uilem cibum uisu hor... autem importunum, horam quidem illam serò uenturam sibi fingunt. Nam ... nruti ... Illa uerò magnæ illorum parti, propter senium iuxta est, propter im... mortalium, & uitæ breuitatem, & uarietatē casuum omnibus propè est, & lon... potest. Hoc est sanè ne quid tibi contra amicitiæ legem celem, hoc est, unde tibi ... licerer, quòd horum metu ac stupore obmutuisti mecum, ita quod mihi in ani... uenisset, ut crederem, hostes meos quod murice uestiuntur ualdè suspicis, ... ipsum ualdè despicio, ab adolescentia spretor maximus ignauorum diui... quos spreuerim iuuenis senex mirer? Contrà est, multa quæ mirabar iuuenis ... & tu spernere incipies, mox ut te raptanti cupiditati indomitæ frena substrin... ... Indignatio loquitur non ego. Quid enim in cœno illo fœdissimo, iam di... senex hæreas miror, quo tibi proficiscendi auctor fui, suadente rei familiaris an... ætate inde causis cessantibus tibi digrediendi auctor sim? Nam ut ait Anneus. ... tus erit? Quid expectas donec desinas habere quod cupias? Nunquam erit tem... quæ sequuntur. Et tibi non alteri dici putas Lucilio loquebatur: tibi loquitur: imò ... eodem morbo animi laborātibus. Epistola est, nisi me memoria frustratur XIX. ... quod debui, facies tu quod uoles, dum memineris quod nitens Florentia te expe... iam fastidit Auinio, ubi mori malis elige, & quicquid elegeris zelum meum ... le, amor & pauor loqui cogunt, alioquin non soleo mihi officium reprehensio... consultoris assumere. Satis in me habeo quod reprehendam. Vt uerò iam tandem, ... & tibi, ut arbitror inamœnam materiam relinquamus, illud ad summam meo ... ne amplius quàm nolo, quamquam expedit penes Pontificem sollicitus sis mei, ... mihi posset esse molestiùs, committe rem ipsam uoluntati suæ, & fortunæ meæ, imò ... sitioni cuncta committo, & quoniam nondum satis notus uideor, cui esse no... ... abar, bona fide omnes tibi latebras mei cordis aperiam. Scito igitur & com... be, nihilo magis me magnis operibus gauisurum, quàm honesta paupertas ani... ... ret, hunc mediocritas non quietabit? Ea uero mihi semper affuit, unde usque ... sat liberaliter uixi, ita nulli unquam inuiderim, cum multi mihi semper inui... ... ntoque magis uererer, ne mihi si accessissent opes, obsintque, quam quod prosint. ... & ... mecum ipse recogitans, quòd epistola ad te superiore dixeram, ut si Deus no... ... in memoriam Pontificis reuocasset, de me disponeret, ut uideretur, immuto, & ... catinet, oro, ne reuocet, atque ita sentio uti ius mihi multo esse, quòd paupe... ... iam quod ditior. Et qui mihi aduersantur, & si lædere cogitent, prosunt tamen ... ... ibus animis, rebus ipsis mecum sentiunt. Tu uerò quasi spe magna deiectus, & ... ... uictus taces, quia me scilicet, diuitem non fecisti, imò uerò assurge animo, & ... emnere opes, ut Maro ait, non tantum pro te, sed pro amicis etiam, & si quis fortè ... uellet obnitere, & ingenti nisu obsta. Ego nunc Pontifici nihil scribo, ne illum in ... m mei, suæque promissionis reuocem. In quam si per se ipsum fortè redierit, animū ... quem iam puto nosse incipis clarè dic, ut intelligat, quanto fœlicior Anacharsis ... e, Diogenes Alexandro. Neque uerò tàm horum exemplis inniti uelim, quàm con... mi Xenocratis, qui de quinquaginta talentis, quæ sibi inde miserat Alexander, ne ... ipe ... ete uideretur, ac nuncios contristaret, triginta minas tantùm, magni mu... ... uam partem cœpit, hunc sequar, ex omnibus quidem, quæ mihi Pontifex Roma-

nus,

nus, aut dar[illegible] aut [illegible]et, literas suas [illegible] cam liter[illegible] A[illegible] amplecto[illegible] ere,du[illegible]us [illegible] Ego [illegible] cum [illegible] horum me [illegible] uæ [illegible] lat, [illegible]erare [illegible] & delectabilia uideantur, & for[illegible] op[illegible] Quid [illegible] iam ergo si [illegible] ca[illegible], quod [illegible] malui [illegible] p[illegible]t, u[illegible] [illegible] ip[illegible]im [illegible] qui me [illegible] ordationis [illegible] ca[illegible] mo u[illegible] [illegible] & quod [illegible] di[illegible] mobile [illegible] cœp[illegible] [illegible] ut [illegible] non ma[illegible] redi[illegible] [illegible] quid de illis [illegible] [illegible] ant, quibus [illegible] CHR[illegible] quod [illegible] nere. [illegible] quidem di[illegible], in hac [illegible] n[illegible] permane[illegible] hab[illegible] haud dub[illegible]e, quæ [illegible] epist[illegible] dam [illegible] in [illegible] hi de [illegible] u uideretur, magna, paru[illegible] s liberta[illegible] sum. [illegible]ma, in qua illum acribus uerbis increpueram, [illegible] d [illegible] mm[illegible] m[illegible] etri de[illegible] illo [illegible] xisset ergaliu[illegible] libenter legit, remissisque ad me li[illegible] copiosæ adm[illegible] m L[illegible] d[illegible] quod mihi certissimum bene institutæ me[illegible] tis iudicium fuit [illegible] [illegible]berius, tantò enim a[illegible] rioribus reprehen[illegible] aculeis ace[illegible] ba[illegible] ro[illegible] est, clara [illegible] pta deferentis, quam non inc[illegible] pientis, [illegible] ut [illegible] ter me[illegible] thalami [illegible] euasit, seque [illegible] sum [illegible] de [illegible] [illegible] ne [illegible] ptare desierim ut ben[illegible] Ille enim mihi uir un[illegible] is a[illegible], efficere quod [illegible] nec ignorantiæ [illegible] entia excæcasse [illegible] rofames. [illegible] fe[illegible] minei coeruasse debuerant, [illegible] eam ipsum scripsi latiùs. [illegible] optimus, & ad omne b[illegible]um opus si [illegible] mu[illegible], sed magna, [illegible] res est ualde, perseuerantia generosi propositi, inter [illegible] & uafra consilia tot [illegible]es dissonas, tot aduersis flatus [illegible] abilem se tenere, quid est aliud, quàm contra uentum na[illegible] [illegible] quod ab uno homine præstari posse difficile, seu uerius impossibile factum [illegible] quidem illud internum multorum auxilio, multoque remigum sudore, qui illi q[illegible] nulli erant. Omnes in contrarium nitebantur, omnes uentum sequi, omnes [illegible] in naufragium cupiebant, quid unus ille, tot inter aduer[illegible] pot[illegible] [illegible]ed [illegible]. Penè [illegible] alienam culpam, la[illegible] omnia cunc[illegible] [illegible] us si p[illegible] uoluisset, u[illegible] quidē non inficior [illegible] quam [illegible] re[illegible] [illegible]bar. Flecti [illegible] se [illegible] artem, & uem[illegible] hom[illegible] placer[illegible] [illegible] & Petr[illegible] o[illegible]us, & quibus h[illegible] is, Deus bo[illegible] u[illegible] [illegible] erant, & [illegible] seu[illegible]que non plac[illegible] [illegible] o fœlix, [illegible] contemp[illegible] d maximè fui[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]us im[illegible] pr[illegible], æter[illegible]im inter clarissimos nume[illegible] [illegible]us, ut quod [illegible] nuper [illegible] flebil[illegible] bam [illegible] morte, quæ p[illegible]xim[illegible] mo contigua [illegible] erat, quod [illegible] de[illegible] quia c[illegible] omni ætate, de morte no[illegible] [illegible]tar. St[illegible] magna [illegible] m[illegible] dementia atque insania summ[illegible] est [illegible] [illegible]m, in morte [illegible] suum [illegible] Apostoli cuius hospes erat, ac succe[illegible] [illegible]ens, [illegible] bon[illegible] uoluntatis [illegible] imam emi[illegible], Deum, hominesque testatus, [illegible] a inde [illegible] m [illegible] culpā, sed e[illegible]re, qui tàm turpi [illegible] [illegible]es. Ne[illegible] est d[illegible] luit, utique enim [illegible] poterat, & sci[illegible] [illegible] quorum [illegible] quod benè e[illegible] at [illegible] ane animi mol[illegible], atque fra[illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] ane [illegible] [illegible] a ut [illegible] Ego [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] ec[illegible] su[illegible], [illegible] M[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] cl[illegible] [illegible] di[illegible] me [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] e[illegible]s fam[illegible] ma[illegible] & m[illegible] [illegible] mis acce[illegible]. Nihil[illegible] n ad [illegible] uiro [illegible] unde me sol[illegible], quib. ego peccato[illegible] d xi[illegible]

[illegible]eri

[illegible] d[illegible] ortum quod Romani Cardina[illegible] [illegible] ptione [illegible] mus ad ho[illegible] linguis le[illegible] quem [illegible] nō no[illegible] alio noc[illegible] ū [illegible] gere poterant [illegible] Nulli [illegible] es moribus [illegible] nunc [illegible] & [illegible] alto maledicta [illegible] nulla [illegible] tàm clara [illegible] cieret, & [illegible] ipse [illegible] tantes habuit, & [illegible] inceptum. Sic igitur [illegible] spem mean [illegible] neq; de hoc P[illegible] hanc m[illegible] [illegible] quam putas [illegible] omn[illegible] [illegible] us, [illegible] & mentis. Certè dum [illegible] corporis [illegible] deformatam [illegible] tractatas in [illegible] & [illegible] non bon[illegible] tamen [illegible] ne dedecus atq; flagitium prolapsa, ut [illegible] est nob[illegible] ad fundum mi[illegible] [illegible] cam, huius finis [illegible] est, [illegible] tis tàm nulli honesto studi[illegible] [illegible] bus o[illegible] utæ, ut quantum [illegible] est, flore con[illegible], nostram [illegible] pœniteat, pudeat q; uiuendo, in hoc tempus [illegible] [illegible] nt iderem [illegible] aut [illegible] tempore a[illegible] emotus, aut loci [illegible] [illegible] apud Ser[illegible] studium p[illegible] [illegible] meliores ulla spe [illegible], & ua[illegible] habere uideat, rem differri non posse [illegible] ipsa iam [illegible] de[illegible] num pe[illegible] adet, quibus hoc tempore præter solitum [illegible] & [illegible] em cupiam [illegible] & [illegible] datur, esse CHRISTO, cum [illegible] s e[illegible] ptem, ut hinc abeam, & de p[illegible] hactenus, priuatum [illegible] quod op[illegible] erat, quies animi, quam mihi P[illegible] ntifex ille sanctissimus, non tantum p[illegible] paterne per literas spondebat, ac nuncios, præstititq; non dubito, quod in[illegible] illam præstare non sit homini. sed Deus ab eo igitur illam pet[illegible] [illegible] quæ pro amico metuas, & quid optes, nihil unquam pro me hominem [illegible] [illegible] obsecro, ut qui mundi statum qualem cupiebam uidere [illegible] animi meæ statum, sic compositum & tranquillum uideam, ut securus [illegible] m uitam, ex hac morte digrediar. Vale fœlix, inter co[illegible] Euganeos, ubi nunc [illegible] bella pepule[illegible] . IIII. Cal. Iulias.

[illegible] IRAR[illegible] A[illegible] ANNI DE DONDIS PATAVINO, S. [illegible] XIII.

[illegible] m, & honestam uoluptatem percipere, uir optime, nec[illegible] nec hinc tamen æquo amplius gaudeas mea hæc fo[illegible] lida [illegible] tremula, & infirma est, sicut omnium mortalium, sed mea [illegible] mu[illegible] uidem, unde, uel naturæ, uel fo[illegible] pu[illegible] me [illegible] arbitrabor, quam omn[illegible] ex[illegible] quod [illegible] CHRISTO propitio egressurus [illegible] bon[illegible] Deo gratias ago bene[illegible] præstat, & [illegible] gauder[illegible] tamen fortasse [illegible] ut amara obsunt, a[illegible] Q[illegible] idem [illegible] in co te. [illegible] atque id ò absentiam æg[illegible] ferre no[illegible] t quod addis, & perfici [illegible] non m[illegible] Quomodo [illegible] tu uideris qui dix[illegible] quoque, non [illegible] aman[illegible] uem [illegible] qualem cupiunt, talem fingant, ut[illegible] hac [illegible] ex[illegible] repeto, quod olim [illegible] uitam [illegible] me dixisse memini. Siquidem in hoc erras, [illegible] un[illegible] uam posse uelim gloriosum mihi, [illegible] od ego autem u[illegible] uersa [illegible] audeam sosp[illegible] enobis rure de[illegible] us, indies grauit[illegible] uol

[illegible] pe[illegible]as, [illegible] Vale [illegible] Cal. [illegible]

[illegible] DONDEO PATAVINO, S. Epist. XV.

I[illegible]dium meum est tædia au[illegible] tu[illegible] langu[illegible] [illegible]es m[illegible]is, humana [illegible]mnia h[illegible]nitu[illegible] [illegible] Quæ de imper[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible]is, planè a[illegible] [illegible] atq[illegible] d[illegible] te ex me, & [illegible] erfect[illegible] [illegible]am [illegible]mam quæ est p[illegible] perfectum [illegible] no[illegible]re, atque ideò [illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] rele, sic est [illegible] dixi [illegible] audio, [illegible] [illegible] Sed ipse mox adero. Vale mei memor [illegible] Cal. [illegible]

[illegible] PETRAR[illegible] GASPARO VER[illegible]NENSI, S. Epist. XVI.

CVra tua de me [illegible]itudo & metus amoris comites non sunt res nouæ, nec [illegible] [illegible]utæ [illegible] m[illegible] non [illegible] soli, sed [illegible]ibus quoque notissimæ, quas [illegible] [illegible] tu[illegible] ac[illegible] lite[illegible] recogn[illegible]oui, a[illegible] gratia[illegible] quod [illegible] [illegible] agit [illegible] ad c[illegible]te redij, iam t[illegible] & f[illegible] me[illegible]m, [illegible] ad tard[illegible]s cras expecto, libello[illegible] [illegible]m [illegible] [illegible] reliqua continuabit CHRISTVS qui sollicit[illegible] mei, qui q; à [illegible]a, imo [illegible]s meæ licet indignum, & imm[illegible]itum, me custodit, quæ si tamen [illegible]mi[illegible] nò de[illegible] [illegible]endi[illegible] hac uoluntas Dei, mihi de cætero satis est, sepulchrum domus ubi [illegible] [illegible]am [illegible] am[illegible] dictat, & tu [illegible]is, de inscri[illegible]endo nomen meum, ipso domus in limine, [illegible] quam accommodatum est rebus atque temporibus, Studiosorũ nomina Mars[illegible] [illegible] est amice nomen meum, ut tibi [illegible]calijs charum, uerendumque. Neque ego me [illegible]llo, sed ne pace quidem no[illegible] meum multum mihi profut[illegible] [illegible] Deo c[illegible]mi[illegible]tur, ut prædixi, qu[illegible]re pacifico odij hostilis a[illegible]do[illegible], [illegible] potens est, u[illegible]um & [illegible]ua[illegible] properem [illegible] noluerim, si [illegible] [illegible] tam [illegible] sollic[illegible]ne effecisti, quod impossi[illegible]le iudicabam, ut plu[illegible] [illegible]m sol[illegible]o, Casparum meũ ame[illegible]. Vale & pro me Deum ora, Patauii XV. Cal. Decem[illegible]

[illegible] PETRAR[illegible]HA GASPARO VERONENSI, S. Epist. XVII.

De statu belli.

LIterulam tuam non absimilem sororum legi, plenam solliciti amoris ac timoris, gr[illegible]um habeo ut debeo. Noli tamen te in talibus animo lab[illegible]rare, & generosas occupationes tuas interrũpere, familia illa mea, cui magis lon[illegible] quàm mihi metuebam, in[illegible] [illegible]nitrua Martis euasit, & hic Deo gratias mecum e[illegible]. Non enim [illegible] [illegible] sed ut l[illegible]ter[illegible]dum imple[illegible]m, [illegible]bit animum res no[illegible]a quidem, [illegible] ex[illegible] [illegible] licet cu[illegible]dam m[illegible]me [illegible] dictum, his in[illegible]rere. Dum quodam tem[illegible] [illegible]us in[illegible]r Flore[illegible] ac Pisanos exar[illegible]sissent, qui peccatis utrorumque [illegible] [illegible] penè a[illegible]uersarij n[illegible]is sunt, iamque exercitus Florentinus portis egrederetur, stultus [illegible]dam, [illegible] per urb[illegible]m n[illegible]dus ibat, [illegible] rerum motus inq[illegible]t, & quid rei esset? Respon[illegible] à proximo quodam fuit. An ignoras fatue, contra Pis[illegible]llum esse susceptum? Ad hæc [illegible]ltus. An non (inquit) belli huius pax erit. Quomod[illegible] is qui loquebatu[illegible] pac[illegible] [illegible]tas, o demens, nunc maxi[illegible] bellum incipit. Quæro tamen, inquit stultus. An non belli [illegible]us a[illegible]iquando pax futura [illegible]. A[illegible] ait alter, nul[illegible]um bellum semp[illegible]iternũ est, erit [illegible]que pax [illegible]que, sed nun[illegible] bel[illegible] e[illegible] igitur, a[illegible]ltus, satius esset nunc pacem facere a[illegible] [illegible]peret bellum u[illegible]l proc[illegible]ret? Quid [illegible] dicam? Nisi quod [illegible]ci licet [illegible] [illegible]sapiens fuisse u[illegible]retur, quod nunc utin[illegible] nostri be[illegible]atores ac[illegible] [illegible] fo[illegible] u[illegible] cœp[illegible]tum bellum, antequàm damnis minus & be[illegible]cis [illegible]us premeremur, po[illegible]quas, utique pax futura est. Bona illa quidẽ licet sera, quæ tem[illegible] [illegible] esset optima, uerum aures sanis consilijs clausæ sunt, utque ait ille, proficitur bello, imò [illegible]ci[illegible], insanitur, peccata hominum profectò omnium causæ sunt malorum, hæc ha[illegible]ctenus de euent[illegible] uidebimus, & expectabimus cœle[illegible]s Domini uoluntatem. Vale Patauii X. Cal. Decembris.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER XIIII.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO CARRARIENSI. Epist. I.

Humana mirabilia non esse.

GRAVITER affectum, & penè me tædio rerum præsentium consopitũ, una tua uir inclyte & breuissima, & simul doctissima uox exciuit. Ea uerò fuit huiuscemodi. Quæ in mundo fiunt, seu contingunt omnia, seu bona illa, seu mala sint, & mirari te, & non mirari. Idq; te mihi ceu talium cognitori, uerbis utor tuis, ac magistro, rei huius iuditium relinquere. Ego in his ingenium tuum olim mihi notissimũ reco[illegible]nosco, & generosi ænigmatis uim perpendo, simile quiddam h[illegible]bentis Heraclito. Ille enim ait. I[illegible] idem flumen bis descend[illegible]mus, & n[illegible]n descendimus. Tu autẽ rem eandem, & mirari te dicis, & non mirari. Contraria hæc uidentur, sed non sunt, utriq; [illegible]uæ sunt causæ, ut & miretur sapiens, & nõ mire[illegible]tur, [illegible]umq; mirabile sic habendum. Fuit aliquando, qui quæreret. Si est Deus unde ma[illegible] [illegible]si autem non est Deus, unde bonum? Perplexa illi forsan interrogatio, nobis & omni[illegible] [illegible] non in totum desipiunt, Deum esse nulla prorsus est dubitatio, quamuis insipiens [illegible]e[illegible]o dixerit, non est Deus, de hoc ipso tamen Deo non solùm innumerabiles exteræ [illegible]es sed quòd dolendum est magis, multi etiam ex nostris, seu ignorantia, seu superbia m[illegible]ntu[illegible]t ac senserunt, de quo quidem non modò Christianæ religionis Theologi, sed p[illegible]r & [illegible]am superstitionis Philosophi questi sunt, immeritò illi quidem, non enim in uno e[illegible]at[illegible] in altero, sed quicquid loquuntur, aut sentiunt error est, cum Deos celebrent non [illegible] sed ne longiùs eam à proposito, quicquid usquam boni est, ab hoc uno Deo esse nõ [illegible]tur. Quicquid autem mali uel à suggestu dęmonũ, uel à peruersitate hominum, qui [illegible]reati arbitrio, ad deteriora uoluntariè inclinantur. Cùm igitur aut insignis pietas, aut [illegible] aut [illegible]es in homine cernitur, est fateor, quod mireris. Cur quæso? Nisi propter exi[illegible] [illegible]at[illegible]n, multa enim mirabilia raritas fecit, quod natura non fecerat, raros autem bo[illegible] [illegible]atyr[illegible]cus poeta, & numero uix septem esse confirmat, quos ad unũ regius propheta [illegible]. Sed sequamur communia, certè quotcunq; sint boni, paucissimos esse nemo est [illegible], hoc est, admirandi causa, de qua Satyricus idem ait:

Nunc si depositum non inficietur amicus,

[illegible] ueterem cum tota [illegible]gine follem: prodigiosa fides, & tu scis digna libellis: Quęq; [illegible]n[illegible] lu[illegible]ri debear ag[illegible] quæ in hanc sententiam sequuntur. Contrà uerò, dum cœ[illegible] [illegible]trare uirtutem omnem non ab alio esse, quàm ab illo, qui est dominus uirtutum [illegible]aber[illegible] ab eodem, qui potest omnia, & uult bona, non in animam modò rationalem [illegible]nimal l[illegible]tum, aut saxum insensibile infundi potuisse, uirtutem, quam prima faci[illegible] [illegible]aris. Ex diuerso autem si quando filius in patrem, frater in fratrem, uxor in uirum, [illegible] [illegible]minum, in benefactorem suum aliquis beneficij oblitus insurgat, gratitudine a[illegible] [illegible]ati[illegible] quis nõ & doleat, & miretur, quod malorũ tanto est maior numerus, quam [illegible]? At cùm ad rei causam de qua dixi, & multò maximè ad consuetudinem quoti[illegible] [illegible]se a[illegible]nus reflexerit, illicò desinet admirari, quis enim miretur, quod in oculis ha[illegible] [illegible]cuiusq; contrarium, quasi nunquam uidet, hunc sensum, mi Domine, è tuo bre[illegible] [illegible]ei, breuitas intellectus elicuit, si rectum, hoc est, si tuum benè quidem, si min[illegible]s ex[illegible]e[illegible]benter audiam & tenebo. Te autem hortor atque obsecro, ut quod ma[illegible]n[illegible]u[illegible] [illegible]pien[illegible]am tuam decet, humanum nihil admirans, sed uirtute inferiora ducen[illegible] o[illegible] [illegible]am in CHRISTO & misericordia sua figen[illegible], aduersus l[illegible] tuum sang[illegible] [illegible]tientes, uigili animo excubes & intento. Sisq; ad om[illegible]ia imperterritus & [illegible]etuens, omnia tamen circumspiciens [illegible] cauens, nec pass[illegible]m omnib. qu[illegible]

ardent,

arrident, sed tuorum probatissimæ fidei te committens, difficilis fateor discretio, puros animos, fucatosq; discernere, sed multũ de ingenio tuo fido, deq; tua rerum experientia, in qua nulli cedis. Super omnia autem spero de custodia IESV CHRISTI, de quo scriptum est. Si iniquitatem aspexi in corde meo, non exaudiet Dominus: quod uerbum si diligenter excuteretur, hos t[illegible]e ulla iusta causa pernitiem molientes, multum terræ debuerat, sed benè habet, & ru[illegible], & prima c[illegible]niurationis cuspis effracta est, tot iam insidijs patefactis, de reliquo, & ill[illegible]gniores ad in[illegible]idiandum, & tu eris instructior ad cauendũ, & CHRISTVS ipse ab initio custos [illegible]uus, non r[illegible] destituet in finem. Si enim in coniuratione pari, scribit Valerius uigilasse oculos deorum, pro salute Tyberij, & si Marcus Antoninus ille doctissimus principum, in periculo simili, uxorem suam Faustinam, dum per literas solaretur, ita de mendacibus Deis scripsit. Esto igitur secura, Dij metuentur, dijs pietas mea cordi est, quid tu de uero Deo, & dicere potes, & sperare? Illi ego quantuscunq; peccator, teq;, tuamq; uitam ac salutem suppliciter recommendo, optarem præter preces ac uota posse tibi aliquid præstare, uel auxilij, uel consilij salutaris: Nil libentius unquam feci.

FRAN. PETRARCHA STEPHANO COLVMNAE, S. Epist. II.

De libris Agapiti Columnensis.

MVltas tibi literulas his temporibus scripsi, nec ullius merui responsum, miror, non propter scribentem quidem, neque propter scripturam, sed propter materiam, de qua scriptæ erant, de te scilicet tuis, meisq; uti consanguineis Dominis meis, neq; enim obstat ætas tenera, radicato altiùs amori atq; honori. Erunt semper mei domini, meiq; simul erunt filij, quicunq; ex illa radice prodierint, quam dilexi, & diligam, non illum mihi mors amorẽ, non læthei gurgitis unda præripiet. Sunt ut scis penes me libri, olim claræ memoriæ Agapiti senioris de Columna, nũc adolescentium nostrorum, ego quidem hoc biennio, ter aut quater cum morte luctatus sum, quæ si me strauisset, poterant facilè libri illi perdi, non sine illorum iuuenum detrimento insigni, & mei animi dolore, & quotiens tibi, quotiens eorum clarissimæ genitrici scripsi, ut me hoc fasce leuaretis, uos responsis, aut nullis, aut perplexis adeò rem traxistis, ut denuò cogar ad calamum, teq; per omnes cœlicolas obtester, ut quàm primum hac me graui sarcina expedias. Certè si nunc prodigiosum est, depositum non negare, ut Satyrico uidetur, quantò est prodigiosius, nolle illud accipere, & orantem ut recipiatur non audire, crede mihi, si ut iuris ciuilis, & canonici sunt, sic Ciceronis, & Varronis libri essent, fortè non totiens te rogarem. Proinde tu ut uisum erit, ego quãuis rerum fessus, & fidem, & quam potero diligentiam adhibeto, si per suos steterit, quos res tangit, quicquid euenerit sine culpa sum. Ipsa me ueritas, & hæc excuset epistola, ad quam ut rescribas obsecro, & si quis tibi mei amor unquam fuit, si qua tibi superest nostrorum memoria defunctorum, qui in cœlo semper ut spero, certè adhuc in memoria mea uiuunt. Patere, quæso, imò fac ut deinceps alijs de rebus, quàm familiaribus tecum loquar. Viue nostri memor & uale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA STEPHANO COLVMNAE, S. Epist. III.

SCribis inter multa, quibus uel seorsum literis, uel ipsa nuncij tui uocem respondeo, Pont. Max. meam optare præsentiam, neq; ad labore[illegible]eũ, neq; ad usum suum, sed ad hoc unum, sicut ait, ut mei præsentia suam curiam h[illegible]et, optarem & ego fateor primum talis esse, ex quo id meritò speraretur, id enimuerò quò minus sum, cò maior in me est dignatio tanti patris. Secundum uerò, ut ex his locis, meam præsentiam optaret, in quibus ego peccator, & nisi fallit opinio CHRISTVS & Petrus suam optant, ire enim si nequirem, terri niterer, ut Vrbano uocante dudum feci, quamuis possibilitas, piæ tunc defuerit uoluntati, fortasse ideò ne Pontificem ipsum miserabile illud, ad ergastulum redeuntem, quòd auribus mœstus audiui, oculis mœstissimus uiderem. Quid nunc sanè tanto respondeam uocatori? Et quid putas, & si inuisum ad locum, amabilem tamẽ ad dominum, prono saltem animo, uenirem nisi in me senectus simul, & morborum exercitus, conspirassent, quibus obsessus, uix proximam ad Ecclesiam proficisci queo, de ipso enim, quamuis nihil meritus, multum spero, plurima quidem habeo suæ charitatis indicia, nominarim uerba illa mi[illegible]qu[illegible]us p[illegible] alia missa sæpè, per nuncios ipse mecum præsens Ticini usus est, dum præde[illegible]m [illegible]um sequens Romam peteret. Cæterùm is mei nunc corporis status est, ut uenire [illegible]o p[illegible]im modo, quinimò si ibi essem, non usui sibi esse, sed labori, expediret enim inter cætera mihi, de [illegible]edicis prouideri. Iocor tecum, uir optime, Medicis enim nunquam credidi, nec credam quidem. Vale Arquade Cal. Decembris.

FRAN.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IORDARDO A SIRICO, S. Epist. IIII.

De habitatione rustica & urbana.

SCripsisti mihi quo lætiùs de te nihil audire potueram, neq; nunc illud metior, quòd te magno mei uidendi desiderio teneri ais, ita quid [illegible] esse, imò al[illegible] esse non posse cer[illegible] t[illegible]n, nota mihi fides tua, nota charitas, notus amor, non uerbis inanibus, aut arrisu a[illegible]icitiarum fragili caducarum uinculo, sed rerum infallibil[illegible]bus argumentis ani[illegible]rum nexu ualido ac tenaci. Et quamuis hoc tuo desiderio delecter, ac gaudeam, mirū & p[illegible]nè incredibile, magis delector impedimento. Quis unquā hoc audiuit, placerē cui quàm ua[illegible]e unum aliquid, sed multò amplius placere contrarium. Sic est tamen, gaudeo, hercle, [illegible]od me cupias uidere, nam & ego te cupio, opto ut nos inuicem uideamus, etsi c[illegible]m ani[illegible] te me semper, ego te uideam, amicorum tamen conspectus & præsentia, & conuersatio [illegible]e aliquid uiuæ uoluptatis, imò uerò quàm [illegible]urimum. In hoc enim planè cum Anneo sentio, in eo non æquè consentio q[illegible]od ait, uenit ad nos ex his, quos amamus etiam absentibu[illegible] gau[illegible]ium, sed id leue & euanidum magis p[illegible], quod idem ali[illegible] amicus, inquit, animo [illegible]ossidendus est, hic autē nunquam [illegible] uult quotidie uidet. Neq; enim maius priuilegi[illegible] insani amoris, de quo [illegible]

Absentem absens audit, [illegible]

Quàm h[illegible]nestę amicitiæ debēt esse, [illegible] ec nimis è natura illud apud Senecā abiēti dicitur amico. Mecū stude, mecū cœna, mecum ambula, quàm illud apud Virgilium de amante:

Hærent infixi pectore uultus Verbaq;.

[illegible] quòd de absentium gaudio ille ait, potest id quidem uerum esse, in his qui imagines a[illegible]rum leuiter sibi in animo depinxerunt. Nam qui eas ibi solido, quasi de marmore in[illegible]sculpserunt, his non leue & euanidum, sed firmum gaudium de amico, non solum paruo terræ spatio distante percipitur, sed de extincto etiam ac sepulto. Quòd igitur me, quem mente co[illegible]icis, oculis sperare cupias gaudeo, ut dixi, at quòd metus reuidendæ urbis, cuius me [illegible] incolam non electio mea, sed necessitas mœsta facit, hoc desiderium tuum frenet, ma[illegible]agisq; gaudeo, & libentissimè te uisurus, te libentiùs non uideo, dum scilicet re[illegible] cau[illegible]rem ipsam cogito, ita ergo fac obsecro, nec te noster amor, ab hac sancta, & sobria in[illegible]ne dimoueat, malo me non adeas, quam urbem simul adeas, & me non præsertim to[illegible]epertur us. Vix quicquam tanti pretij reperias, quod non adeundi periculo sapienter sperni possit, ac negligi:

Impiger extremos currit mercator ad Indos,

Benè ais Flacce. Nempè inde ad nos, & gemmæ, & aromata deuehuntur, longum iter, labor ma[illegible]nus, & periculum non paruum, sed ut mores hominum sunt, nihil arduum ducit auari[illegible] [illegible]hil gula difficile, quòd ut exprimeretur adiectum est:

Per mare pauperiem fugiens, per saxa, per ignes.

Hoc est, per tempestates ac scopulos, cœliq; intemperiem, & ardores. Finge autem, & per [illegible]nes illuc iter esse, [illegible]æ inde petuntur, è medijs ignibus rapienda, nemo iam curret [illegible]s. At qui in urbi[illegible] solum ignis iste materialis, sed quòd multò est grauius, mul[illegible]nestius, inuisibil[illegible]orum flammæ & incendia uitiorum omnium exæstuant, & [illegible]mmam quot sunt ur[illegible]tidem sunt sentinæ libidinum ac scelerū officinæ. Vbi enim [illegible]so, ni[illegible] urbibus uoluptates fœdæ habitant? Vbi lenocinia, & prostrata passim pudi[illegible]lcata uerecundia, pulsus decor? Vbi demum stupra & adulteria, & incestus atque o[illegible]generis corruptelæ? Vbi fraudes. ubi doli, simulatiq; contractus, & suppositi partus, & exp[illegible], & hæredis ad nutum composita testamēta, ubi furta & rapinæ? Vbi periuria, & pe[illegible]a mendacia, & corrupti iudices, infidi notarij, falsi testes, interq; iustitiæ patronos op[illegible]stitia? Vbi ad ultimum uana lætitia? Verus dolor? Vbi inanis gloria? Verum dede[illegible]bi luxus & gula inexplebilis, & mœsta pauperies, & sollicitæ, operosęq; diuitię, & uo[illegible]um fœnus. Et pomparum strepitus? Vbi mons superbiarum, uallis formidinū, pa[illegible]di[illegible]m, sylua negotiorum, & mare miseriarum, & tempestates litium, & errorum nu[illegible] puteus odiorum, ubi imber assiduus lachrymarum, ubi ex æquo risus ac luctus incō[illegible]& querelæ, & clamores, & contentiones, & iurgia amara, & mellitę, uenenosæq; blan[illegible], & [illegible]su[illegible]ri infames, & clandestini morsus, & studia partiū, sine fine flammantia, utq; o[illegible]mul strin[illegible]am, ubi uirtutum fuga, & imperium peccati omnis, ubi & patentes inimi[illegible]& oc[illegible], & fraudū tendiculæ, & in[illegible]d[illegible] capit[illegible]les & ueneficia, & cædes & quicquid [illegible]omo [illegible]omine molitur. Mul[illegible]a ecce nec dum omnia diximus. Qui hæ[illegible] quæ sunt hu[illegible]odi emere expetit, uel audire, non long[illegible], proximam urbem petat, quæcunq;

illa sit, quamuis angusta, quamuis amplissima, & plena talium inueniet, & capacem, horum certè atq; omniũ malorum fons est ciuitas, adeò quæ ad tutelam human[illegible] generis facta erat, ad eiusdem excidiũ uersa est. Benè igitur facis & prudenter qui illuc metuis reuerti, u[illegible] nemo unquã peior factus habitauit. Vnde nemo unquã, n[illegible] melior fidendus accessit, nemo non melior factus exulauit, inique illam suis ciuibus, tu ad alterã pertines ciuitatem, rure habita. Illa dulcis & innocua ac tranquilla, opportunaq; moribus tuis h[illegible]bitatio, ubi non uoluptati studeas, sed uirtuti, imò & uoluptati, sobriè ac modestè, nulla enim certior, nulla iucundior uoluptas, quàm quæ de animi bonis innocẽtia ac uirtute percipitur. Illic habita ubi nõ corpus, sed ingenium colas, imò & corpus, quod exundãtia opprimitur, parsimonia ac frugalitate uegetatur. Deniq; ubi non mundo placeas sed Deo. Neq; quid de te cæci extra sentiant, & insani, sed quid conscientia tua intus, quid cœlestis desuper speculator attendas. In omni enim quod honestè, quod piè, quod sanctè, quod uiliter sis acturus, quanto fieri potest longiùs à uulgi consiliis, atq; opinionibus fugiendũ, & ab illo aures, quasi à Sirenũ cantibus, oculos nõ al[illegible]ter, quàm a basilisco a[illegible] diu[illegible]rtendos censeo, hoc & tibi, & mihi, & omnibus eodẽ aspirantibus consiliũ do. [illegible] quidem, quoniam abundè in libris quos ad Philippum meũ, magnum illum utiq; semp[illegible] tũc tamen exiguum episcopũ, [illegible] gent[illegible] Romanæ Ecclesiæ dignitate, non m[illegible] [illegible]alem, scripsi, di[illegible]eruisse [illegible]dror, n[illegible] te ad illos remisisse contẽtus ad instituta pro[illegible] [illegible]ectauit me in epistolæ [illegible] fine, dialogus ille, cũ tuis hospitibus habitus, uitã tuã [illegible] mirantibus, uoluptariamq; la[illegible]dantibus quid'ni autem delectet ac placeat? Nihil sententiosius, nihil breuius, de quo quidem iuu[illegible]t hic pauca decerpere, ut intelligas quid mihi sapiat sermo tuus, cuius iocosa & abscissa breuitas, me in risum, librata ueritas in stuporẽ egit, dũ unus è grege illo, qui fœdi corporis turpissimæ parti neutri seruiunt, ridens quæsiuisset: Quid comederes. Respondisti panem & polentam, & poscenti potum ostendisti puteũ. Præclarè, nam quid aliud siquis illã roget? Natura ipsa respondeat, nec natura solum rerũ prudentissima, seu naturæ consentiens, Anneus acer Stoicus, & uirilis sectæ, sed famosus ille patronus uoluptatis Epicurus. Panẽ (inq[illegible]) & aquam natura desiderat, nemo ad hæc pauper est, intra quæ quisquis desiderium suum [illegible] sit, cum ipso Ioue de fœlicitate cõtendat. Quid hic aliud dici possit, quàm quod utriu[illegible] me duces hac in parte concordes dicunt? Siquidem Epicurum Anneus in hoc sequitur, & Anneum Nepos, ubi ait:

Satis est populis, fluuiiq;, cereq;:

Quod quidem ne uulgi uulneret palatum, sic intelligi uolo, ut Seneca idem alio quodã loco. Non est res iucunda (inquit) aqua & polẽta, aut frustũ panis hordeacei, sed summa uoluptas est, posse capere ex his etiam uoluptatem, & ad id se deduxisse, quòd eripere nulla fortunæ iniquitas possit. Et alibi: Non diues ille rex Pergami, quin contrariũ sensi[illegible]et haud dubiè, sed pauper ille amicus Senecæ Attalus. Ad ueras (inquit) te conuerte diuitias, disce paruo esse co[illegible]tus, & illam uocem magnus atq; animosus exclama, habeamus aqua[illegible], habeamus polentam, Ioui ipsi controuersiam de fœlicitate faciamus. Addidisti autẽ res[illegible]so, & olera interdum, & legumina, & lac bouis. Ex hoc rursum sobriè, quando & ipse Epicurus quantumlibet mollis auctor, defensorq; sententię, uixisse tamen exiguis l[illegible]tus plantibus horti traditur, & Curius fortissimus dux Romanus, qui ualidissimam Italiæ gentem, qui dit[illegible]ssimum Græciæ regẽ uicit, ut de eo scriptum est, paruo quæ legerat horto, ipse focis breuibus pondebat oluscula. Eadem ratio leguminum. Nempè quibus & Seuerum principem, inter tot delitias, & Pythagoram Philosophum carnem fugitantem, uti solitos acceperas. Eadem deniq; ratio lactis est, quòd non hominum modò, sed bubalum manu pressum, Cæsari Augusto placuisse legimus. Quis omninò hominum cibum aspernetur, aut respuat, cuius m[illegible]di dominum, non dico patientem, sed appetentem audiat? Sed turpis gula tumidæ [illegible]cta superbiæ, rerum nobis omniũ fastidiũ fecit, nisi quas difficultas cõmendat aut pretiũ, h[illegible] iners animal, & caducũ, simulq; insolens, & petulcũ, perstudiosus uoluptatũ, & ciboiũ, cib[illegible] ipse mox uermium futurus, sed hinc quoq; progredior. Quem uerò non delectet tua illa responsio, dum quæren[illegible] [illegible] ut carnes ederes, lupum te non esse dixisti, & hoc propriè. Adde autem nec leo, nec ursus, nec uultur, semiferumq; aliud, & immane animal. Edimus & nos quandoq; carnes, ut cæteri sed nisi CHRI[illegible]TVS rex noster, & Deus noster, ut repetam, quod communem ad a[illegible]icum nuper scripsi, non quidem gulæ obsequẽs, certè nec necessitati suæ co[illegible]ens quãuis ut h[illegible]mo interdum esuriens, sitiensq;, sed nostrę potius imbeci[illegible]tati, u[illegible]cum e[illegible]o [illegible]bitror, condescendens, his usus fuisse diceretur, auderem & ego cum Vi[illegible]gi[illegible]o [illegible]piorum ci[illegible]um appe[illegible]lare. Sic enim ait, illud ante Iouem, mul[illegible]rum malorum p[illegible]incip[illegible] atq; errorum tempus aureum, describens, ante etiam sceptrum Dyctæi regis, & ante

[illegible] pia quam cæsis gens est epulata [illegible]
Aureus [illegible] ante uitam in terris [illegible] agebat.

[illegible] m scilicet parc[illegible]m & modest[illegible]am, & terræ frugibus, contentam, & animalium cædibus [illegible] tem, præcipueq; terrestrium. Mutata res sub Ioue primum, eoq; ferme deducta est, [illegible] s iam iuuencis, sed [illegible] ar[illegible]tur animan[illegible]tium, ita [illegible] & horrenda, [illegible] uenenosa tenentur, pers[illegible] asumq; est homini, q[illegible] & [illegible] animal, quod [illegible] morte uix uiueret. Qui[illegible]m, qu[illegible]d mul[illegible] ma[illegible] ores Antro[illegible] Arctoa Borysthenem circa amnē, dum human[illegible] carne [illegible]dus, quam cibo [illegible] al[illegible] omem sedant sicut mœstā in circuitu[illegible] late uasta sol[illegible] ferarū hor[illegible] e[illegible] ntiam e[illegible]ecerunt, fertur in aduē[illegible] undi[illegible] gens altera, sed [illegible] & uictus, & nominis, famæ uerò tenuio[illegible] aq; [illegible] s, [illegible] [illegible] tur immanior. Ille enim cibus pericul[illegible]us [illegible] autem [illegible] & [illegible] an[illegible] [illegible] quando igitur quæso iuuencis abstinea[illegible], qu[illegible] [illegible] ede mihi amice, quocunq; uerteris, ferocissim[illegible] animal [illegible] de[illegible] [illegible] q; [illegible]llisimum, & ut dicam breuiter, miser[illegible]ū. [illegible] igitur ma[illegible] p[illegible] de[illegible] o[illegible]ne scribuntur à multis. Lege natu[illegible]ralis histor[illegible]æ li[illegible]rum V[illegible] s[illegible] doctus uir, uidetur mihi m[illegible]o compendio human[illegible] [illegible] quoniam multiformis & u[illegible]a el[illegible]q; minor [illegible] [illegible]ctam tibi hodie decerpsisse p[illegible]ā huic inserenda[illegible] [illegible] ex[illegible] ma[illegible] Vni (inquit) animantiū [illegible]s est [illegible], u[illegible] luxuria, & q[illegible] [illegible]us modis, [illegible] per singula membra, uni ambitio, uni auaritia, uni immensa [illegible] [illegible] persu[illegible]o, uni sepulturæ cura, atq; etiam post se de futur[illegible]. Nulli [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] libido maior, nulli pauor con[illegible]or, nulli rabies acrior. Hæc sunt Plinij. Qu[illegible] [illegible]ud ut ad rem pertineat, addi potest. Nulli solicitior, atq; operosior gula e[illegible], ade[illegible] [illegible] animalibus cibus unus sufficiat, uni homini [illegible] sufficiunt omnes, cui ut u[illegible]de d[illegible] [illegible] euertat, cum tot cibi sint nec humano qui[illegible] g[illegible]u, nec tant[illegible] [illegible]gni studio, iure Apu[illegible] [illegible] Madaurensis in [illegible]ius libri fine qui uocatur, As[illegible], quasi gl[illegible]ns dicit. Con[illegible] ad puram, & sine animalibus cœnam, n[illegible] la [illegible] ani[illegible]s cœna, & c[illegible] mu[illegible]a [illegible] e probro habetur. Neq; ego inter hominū mis[illegible] cul[illegible]a pono, de[illegible], mul[illegible] sed nescio an breuius aliquid quàm quod [illegible]. Homo natus de m[illegible]ere [illegible] s[illegible] pore, repletur multis miserijs, heu mihi quàm multis, & quam grau[illegible]us, [illegible] [illegible]bus, quibus coacti, quidam sunt asserere. Optim[illegible]m homini non n[illegible], pro[illegible] [illegible] m primū mori. Inter quas tamen cæci, & miseri mortales, & ignari rerum, & c[illegible]ndi [illegible] exultant, oppletiq; mero, & carnibus, uelut ex[illegible]a fœlicitate tripud[illegible] & nos [illegible] etiam oderunt, illorum [illegible] insanias, aut uerbo, aut supercilio [illegible] te[illegible] [illegible] Dauid. Adhuc (inquit) escæ eorum erant in ore [illegible]orum, & ira Dei a[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]q; [illegible]ud uulgatum:

Extrema gaudij luctus occupat.

[illegible] tibi uis: His atq; alijs, sed ob[illegible]ser[illegible]tionē in primis humana[illegible] rerum quotidie ma[illegible] [illegible] r Gr[illegible]o[illegible]ari, qui [illegible] o huc loquēdo peruentum erat, [illegible] tereundus non fuit [illegible] libro X[illegible] q[illegible]t) [illegible]serius terra nutrit h[illegible]m[illegible]e S[illegible]d [illegible]m satis [illegible] [illegible] e q[illegible] aloq[illegible] [illegible]dium, ul[illegible]ra quàm destinassem. Quid q[illegible]d uasa Corynthia [illegible] ania quæ [illegible] ilia dicimus prætendi[illegible]. Profectò non [illegible] rūm urbis [illegible] se[illegible]es, ani[illegible]sq; mortaliu[illegible]te Corynthium illud corrupit incen[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] n hio[illegible]m prodijt uas[illegible]um, [illegible]or[illegible]m immodicus apper[illegible]s, cla[illegible] maxi[illegible] [illegible]m [illegible]æ homi[illegible]ū notam cupid[illegible] [illegible]nde quod co[illegible]at Aug[illegible]s Cæs[illegible] [illegible]ius ab [illegible]ectiatoribus dictus est. At C[illegible]lle, [illegible]uius suprà mem[illegible] [illegible]m c[illegible]stantis [illegible] aduer[illegible] Samia, quod hunc tantum [illegible]m, tantumq; uictorem, ra[illegible] to[illegible] [illegible], & in fict[illegible]libus reponētem legimus. Et miramur dum hæc agen[illegible]i, non [illegible] [illegible] quidem admiratione uirtutis sola, non Coryn[illegible]th[illegible]um [illegible]s, sed auri ma[illegible] p[illegible] a[illegible] quod ille [illegible]bus posthabitum, magnifice[illegible]c recusauit. Iam [illegible], [illegible]d [illegible] [illegible]nam [illegible] cus esset. Ignem respond[illegible]ti, & [illegible]oq; perpropè, fuit apud m[illegible] [illegible]os cocus ser[illegible]rum omnium uilissimus, nunc fa[illegible]æ princ[illegible]e[illegible] [illegible] inuenies præter gulam, hoc nobis, & non u[illegible] malum uicta [illegible] A[illegible]a, [illegible] [illegible]ium luxuriæ t[illegible] uer[illegible]dos, ex[illegible]rmatos, ener[illegible] [illegible]rulit & qu[illegible]o[illegible]nd[illegible] A[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible]t ex or[illegible]ne pr[illegible]equent[illegible] [illegible]um [illegible]amulum [illegible] [illegible]amulam [illegible]. Ad[illegible] [illegible] aber[illegible] te[illegible] [illegible]e, a[illegible] [illegible]um a[illegible] Sar[illegible]nam [illegible] [illegible] Sen[illegible]o [illegible]

nius, ueri hostes sunt, & [illegible] a ut in [illegible] mis [illegible] diabolus, [illegible], fons impa- [illegible], materia [illegible], qua rarus [illegible] certe est. Pr[illegible], quæ te d[illegible] pe[illegible] sat [illegible] propositum, neq; [illegible] m[illegible] Philosophiæ studium, coniugiumq; co[illegible], q[illegible] h[illegible] quidem, & sententia, & [illegible] ce[illegible] coniuge capiaris, ut cupidè descendas in tar[illegible] d[illegible] Eurydicen. Nec plane esses Orpheus, teq; Thr[illegible]am cytharam [illegible] cantem, feræ atq; arbores [illegible] tur. Illuc unquam me hortante de[illegible] ores ha[illegible], qui muliebri [illegible] o & nocturnis amplexibus atq; [illegible] onuitijs, uag[illegible] tuq; infan[illegible] & [illegible] tio dele[illegible] tur, eoq; modo maximè claritatem nominis, & per[illegible] etui[illegible] tatem familiæ m[illegible] ntur, quo nihil ince[illegible] s. Nos si dabitur, nostrum nomen non [illegible] ugio, [illegible] s, sed [illegible] ris, non fœminæ, sed uirtutis auxilio propagamus, pa[illegible] m tibi [illegible] D[illegible] ad gratia posteritatis, ac gloriam opem polcit uxoris, uxor enim [illegible] [illegible] te [illegible] uum, & curas sibi pariet & labores. Clarum nom[illegible] ac [illegible] gæu[illegible] se[illegible] pepererit, non habebis. [illegible] fœmineos, hic u[illegible] est partu[illegible] Q[illegible] rum [illegible], aut Aristotelis, quam [illegible] Homeri ac Virgilij [illegible] esset si[illegible] o[illegible] [illegible] comparandum censuerint. Non sunt hæ uiæ ad gl[illegible] [illegible]s. Neq; hac ad splendorē famæ pergitur, sed sæpe ad p[illegible], [illegible] q; ad d[illegible] dec[illegible] a, [illegible] ferè semper ad tædia, & cer[illegible] peri[illegible] rum atque de[illegible] rum [illegible] um [illegible] exempla. Atridas interroga, Argiuumq; a[illegible] m, & de nostris ducibus A[illegible] m[illegible] rem, Magnumq; Pempeium, & collegam eius Crassum & Agrippam de principib[illegible] Cæsarem, & Tyberium, & Seuerum. Duos inter mille duarum adulterio infames [illegible] num, & Domitianum cum sua Domitia, quæ tibi nomine par fuit & moribus, atq; a[illegible] mnes Claudium, qui inter Messallinas atq; Agrippinas suas, hinc se fœda, & uulgata libidine inquinatum, hinc ueneno ancipiti attenuatum, peremptumq; fatebitur. Et omitto Ma[illegible] tum, & Arcturum reges, fabulasq; Britannicas, ac Philippum Macedonem Alexandri [illegible] trem, falsò creduum. Coetaneos quoq; nostros sileo, ne ut uiuentibus assolet nimium [illegible] sit ueritas. Nam coni[illegible] um tædiorum pleni sunt thalami, omnes lecti, domus, [illegible] tria, plate[illegible] de[illegible] agere i[illegible] tæ mater[illegible] æ [illegible], non sunt e[illegible] ueda uolum[illegible] p[illegible] cu[illegible] eg[illegible] de [illegible] diq; c[illegible] m q[illegible] u[illegible] q; pulsaberis. No[illegible] g[illegible] horum [illegible] Hadrianus, & Augustus Maxim[illegible] filijs dicam, propter [illegible] s uxo[illegible] V[illegible] unq; certè & uxorum & natorum, qu[illegible] m[illegible] ceps me[illegible] n[illegible] um dici n[illegible]. Sed omissis quæ infinita sunt, quia de uxoribus fa[illegible] ctum, quod ad natos atti[illegible] pro summari[illegible] regum gustu, testes prodeant Marcus Au[illegible] Antoninus, & quem proximè nominaui, Seuerus ipse Septimius. De quorū primo [illegible] Ca[illegible] linus historicus, in hunc modum scribit: Et hic (inquit) sanè uir tantus, & talis, a[illegible] ui[illegible] morte coniunctus, filium Commodum dereliquit, qui si fœlix fuisset, filium non [illegible] liquisset. De utroq; simul Aelius Spartianus. Veniamus (inquit) ad genitos. Quid M[illegible] fœlicius fuisset, si Commodum non reliquisset hæredem? Quid Seuero Septimio [illegible] B[illegible] [illegible] m nō g[illegible] tendimus, atq; u[illegible] linquimus Ciceronem [illegible] soli, ut [illegible] o [illegible] me [illegible] n habere. Quod non lic[illegible] sibi id me[illegible] [illegible] id[illegible] de alijs dicitur, sic & de al[illegible] at[illegible] alijs di[illegible] p[illegible], h[illegible] [illegible] ue[illegible] t, [illegible] c[illegible] s, insuper & c[illegible] q[illegible] a[illegible] m [illegible] us, u[illegible] infamis, [illegible] dolores & le[illegible] quàm [illegible], & gr[illegible] [illegible], plus gloriæ quæ iu[illegible] ille q[illegible] em [illegible] o suo (heu) t[illegible] laud[illegible] tu[illegible] [illegible] post fata ut quibu[illegible] d[illegible] p[illegible] cuir[illegible] infœlix. At qu[illegible] potuit ux[illegible] o [illegible] as, o pportuno diuortio [illegible] iam induci quiuit, ut expe[illegible] o semel ac[illegible] m nato [illegible] go, [illegible] rum colla submittere [illegible] obi[illegible] è quibus remedium il[illegible], & [illegible] necessarium e[illegible] set adeptum erat, dum libertas pr[illegible] ns, & mille compedes ab initio pr[illegible] idendo, De[illegible] tia & prouisum fuit ne in hos laqueos incideremus. Quod & te, uulgo licet aduersan[illegible] [illegible] stanter se[illegible] h[illegible] us, & [illegible] m in multis iuueniliter uarium, in hoc semper u[illegible] [illegible] ad [illegible] uenisse, gratulor seu consilio, seu fortunæ nostræ [illegible] a de [illegible] um nostrum, quod sæpè sapientibus displicuit [illegible] [illegible] nobis placeat. Du[illegible] etiam nunc supersunt, antequàm re[illegible] cio tuo reddam [illegible] ranti, Solli[illegible] udi[illegible] te, & [illegible] as. & tædia rel[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] s. [illegible] Ad [illegible] et & scelera & [illegible] a, uo[illegible] m [illegible] in [illegible] tare [illegible] ad[illegible] [illegible], & d[illegible], acp[illegible]

[illegible] rerum [illegible]timarum, atq; habituum pessimarum. Et quoniam hodierna die, Seneca teste, [illegible]mus, non curemus, nunc alium fatigare, is ergo quid ait. Inimica multorum est con[illegible] & consuetum: Vtiq; inquit, quo maior est populus, cui miscemur, hoc periculi plus [illegible] H[illegible] de seipso loquens: Auarior, ait, redeo, ambitiosior, luxuriosior, imò uerò crudelior [illegible] inhumanior, quia inter homines fui. Et iterum cum se ab Attalo sua multa bona ac salu[illegible] [illegible] dixisset, hoc addidit. E[illegible] deinde ad ciuitatis uitam reductus, ex benè cœptis pau[illegible] [illegible]uit. [illegible] Senecæ tali uiro tàm forti, tàm rigido, tàm constanti accidit, quid fragilibus [illegible]m credimus? Pulchra prorsus & optanda doctis habitatio, ubi auaritia, ambitio, luxuria, ad extremum crudelitas, inhumanitasq; discuntur. [illegible]ona uerò & salutaria dediscun[illegible], am[illegible] tui, quod t[illegible]m cupidè urbem fugio, admirandi ipsi, cum uulgò potiùs ac stupendi, [illegible]pinis ac balneis, in lupanaribus, & macello suam omnem posuère fœlicitatem, [illegible] [illegible]xcitate. Eadem [illegible]tio est admirationis alterius, quod uiuorum respuens consortia, [illegible]ter obsequijs, & familiaritate frueris mortuorum, hoc ille rerum nescius ridet, hoc [illegible]us est laudet, ab his enim quos appellant uiuos, uix quicquam boni unquam, aut [illegible] diceris aut exemplo. Cōtrà, uix à mortuis quicquam mali, bona autem multa quo[illegible] [illegible] qui tædiosissimi isti sunt, illi semper affabiles & modesti sunt, qui licet ip[illegible] [illegible]re[illegible] agerent, difficiles ac morosi essent, quod penitùs euitare uix est nost[illegible] [illegible], in [illegible]m tamen sermonibus, quos scriptos reliquerunt, illorum flos ac fructus ingenij [illegible] [illegible]ultu abundans, & honestis, & utilibus, & iucundis, cum interim de his nostris, [illegible]uentibus dicam uerius, spirantibus, seu defunctis dicam rectiùs sepultis, rei, speiq; bo[illegible] [illegible] nihil appareat. Quis ergo tàm cæcus, & tàm excors, ut inter ista non eligat, longū est [illegible] [illegible] sed hæc attingere libuit, ut nosses tuam mihi sententiam probari, qua perlecta, di[illegible] [illegible]m uir hic rectum iter graditur, iamq; cum sene Terentiano in portu nauigat, dignus [illegible]ores, morasq; urbium odisse. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVLIELMO MARAMAVRO EQ. NEAPOLITANO, S. Epist. V.

F[illegible]i amice ut soles omnia, quòd me rerum nuper apud Neapolim gestarum, tuis [illegible]teris participē uoluisti, non enim tu illius animo meo iucundissimæ historiæ seriē [illegible]descripsisti, aut pinxisti, quòd ipsum ritè facerem, aut præclari scriptoris, aut egregij [illegible] pictoris, sed quòd cœlestis fuit ingenij, me præsentem rebus in medijs pos[illegible] [illegible]on legi, nec audiui, sed uidi, tecumq; omnibus interfui, rarum opus, & paucorū ho[illegible] [illegible]m gratiam tibi habeo non mediocrem, illius nempè, si nescis filij mei, & gaudia, & ho[illegible] [illegible] mei sunt, illo benè agente, ac prosperante glorior & triumpho. Alma quidem Regina [illegible]m [illegible]um tenuit, paruificum nihil agere didicit, proceres quoq; Parthenopei, quāuis in [illegible]m hac in parte, loqui aliter uisus sim, illum qui apud uos, nescio, an adhuc agit [illegible]um [illegible]reum perosus, cogitans, tamen nullam tàm benè moratam ciuitatem, quæ non aliquid [illegible]ensione dignum habeat, pleno in reliquis ore laudandos, celebrandosq; se nunc of[illegible] [illegible]iberales semper ac munifici, & fideles amici. Quòd ita esse Roma ipsa testabitur, quæ [illegible] unico secū [illegible] afflictis imperij uiribus, ab omni ferme Italia derelicta, imò attrita qui[illegible] [illegible] omnibus, & oppressa a Capuanis, ante alios uicinis nostris, de quibus optimè mere[illegible] [illegible]o quibus multa & magna bella gesserat prodita, & iniurias perpessa grauissimas, p[illegible]ta[illegible]rum liberalitatem eximiam ac fidem, extremis suis sensit in rebus, unde & ego [illegible]en[illegible]us, & nouis argumentis inducor, ut censeam qui Parthenopen nouit, & non amat, non no[illegible], aut nō amare uirtutem. Fecerunt benè igitur nobilissimi Ciues, & quòd [illegible] [illegible]nt, qui generosum & egregium adolescentem, ad omne bonum opus aptissimum, & [illegible]o licet Italico orbe uenientem, alumnamq; simul suam, apud eos reor ortam, nutritāq; [illegible] præclaro c[illegible]iugio unirentur, honoribus ut tu scribis concelebrauère magnifi[illegible]s, uno [illegible] [illegible]orē solitū possidētes, benè meritis honorē debitū exhibētes, de his hactenus. Sta[illegible] [illegible]istoria quam exposcis longiuscula est, ideoq; prætereo, summa est, quod animo ut [illegible]r, nō desperans benè ualeo, honestis studijs nūquā magis incubui, nunq; maiorē, in[illegible] [illegible]tatem percepi, quàm hodie percipio, dicam tibi rem mirabilem, sed ueram, cùm ad [illegible] omnia senescamus, ad hoc unum quotidie iuuenesco. Hæc quæ dicitur fortuna, mo[illegible] me[illegible]m agit, nec e[illegible]eo, nec abundo, imò equidem abundo, quando & multi mihi in[illegible] [illegible]uod aliqu[illegible]ndo nō credidi, sed nunc scio, & nihil est sub cœlo quod ualde cupiam, [illegible]m exi[illegible]m, parum ne tibi diues uideor hoc animo? Corpusculum hoc solum uide[illegible] [illegible]le[illegible] ad [illegible]m frangere loquor impropriè, hac lege conuenimus, & iam simul satis [illegible] [illegible]ue & uale fœliciter nostri me[illegible]

FRAN. PETRARCHA GERARDO CARTHVSIENSI FRATRI SVO GERMANO, S. Epiſt. VI.

Magnum tempus, & ni fallor quartus eſt annus, quòd de te nullos huiuſmodi rumores, uno uentre digreſsis, magna ſatis intermiſsio, quamuis Deo gratias, iam de te nil niſi fœlix, fauſtumq; nunciatum iri ſperem, eo ſiquidem conſcendiſti, ubi tuta ſunt omnia. Quod ultimis ad me literis flagitaſti, alacriter adimpletũ eſt, & de omnibus quæ uolueris idem fiet, eſt enim mihi uotorum tuorum olim nota modeſtia quibus obſequi me ut uelle, ſic & poſſe non ſim dubius. Status meus cuius noſcendi auidum te ſcio, tam uarius, tamq; incertus eſt, ut uix eum uerbis aſſequi poſſe queam, expediã quo datur. Hoc integro triennio, æger fui, ſeu eſt ætas, ſeu peccatũ meum, ſeu quòd ſat crediderim, utrumq;. Ecce enim quòd olim ſcripſi ad Ioannem de Columna, piæ memoriæ Cardinalem dominum, & altorem meum, paucos fratres ſimul ad ſenium peruenire. Ecce, inquam, nos peruenimus, deq; illis paucis, facti ſumus ego primus, tu ſecundus, ambo tamen terminum, quem petebamus attigimus, tempus eſt at modò, ut pro ſanitate corporea, quę uſq; ad inuidiam floruimus, partem noſtram guſtemus humanæ miſeriæ, imò uerò non miſeriæ ſed naturæ, quamuis adhuc te ſatis ætati reſiſtentem audierim, tunc tamen ego etiam [illegible]ebam, ſcis autem, quòd ego te ſemper tẽpore aliquod, ut ſic dicam p[illegible]ibus pręibam, tu me uiribus, expecta igitur, & eſto animo paratus nõ longum incommo[illegible] ſenectutis effugies, niſi optandæ, licet formidatæ mortis auxilio. De me quidem, & de mea uita, ſæpè per hos annos à medicis quibus nihil credo, & ab amicis, quibus omnia, deſperatum eſt. Quibus ego nil moueor, quid enim refert, quàm laborioſi itineris in parte ſubſiſtam, ubiq; requies feſſis optabilis, ſiue ſim ſanus igitur, ſiue infirmus ſeu uiuam, ſeu moriar, ſicut Domino placuerit ita fiat, ſit nomen Domini benedictum. De reliquo ſum, licet indignus, in magna opinione hominum ac fauore, non populorum modò ſiue ori, ſed principum, ut ſimiliter regis regum IESV CHRISTI. Me ut imperatorẽ ſileam, regesq; alios, & qui nunc eſt Pontifex petit, & qui nuper fuit, uſq; ad obitum expectauit, ad quem mitiſsimis literis pluſquam ſemel euocatus, imò ut propriè dicam exoratus, læté ibam, eò maximè, quod ad locum ſanctum, ac uenerabilem uocabat. ſed infirmitas morti ſimilis, quæ iam tunc me latẽter inuaſerat, greſſus meos, medio quidem calle detinuit. Ad quid uocer, ſi me roges [illegible]o, & miror, aptus enim dominorum familiaritatibus nunquam fui, & ſi quando fuiſ[illegible] eſſe deſij, atq; utiq; iam non ſum. Aetas præterea & ualitudo mea, ut audiſti, non eſt apta diſcurſibus, quorum, quid non dies mutat? Ante non mille annos inſatiabilem me uidiſti. Deniq; multa circunſpiciens, & multa deliberans, mea duxi omnia, magna, & omnibus optata relinquere, & reducere me ad mediocrem, & ſolitariam uitam. Itaq; ne longè nimis abirem, ab Eccleſia Euganeis iſtis in collibus, non amplius, quàm decem millibus paſſuum, Patauina urbe diſtantibus, domum paruam, ſed delectabilem & honeſtam ſtruxi, cumq; oliueta, & aliquot uineas, abundæ quidem non magnæ, modeſtæq; familiæ ſuffecturis, hic quanquam æger corpore, tranquillus animo frater dego, ſine tumultibus, ſine erroribus, ſine curis, legens ſemper & ſcribens, & Deũ laudans, Deoq; gratias, & de bonis agens, & de malis meis, quæ non ſupplicia niſi fallor, ſed exercitia mea ſunt aſsiduè. Præterea CHRISTVM orans, bonum uitę exitum, & miſericordiam ac ueniam, quin & obliuionem iuuenilium delictorum unde nil ſuauius in labijs meis ſonat, quàm Canticum illud: Delicta iuuentutis meæ, & ignorantias meas, ne memineris. Interea ſolum te germane unicè ſuſpiro, & ſæpe tacitus mecum dico, ô utinam eſſet his in collibus unum aliquod Carthuſienſe cœnobium, quòd hîc ſtaret aptiſsimè, ubi meus ille famulatum CHRISTO notum, fideliſsimeq; iam ſupra triginta annos exhibitum conſumaret, tum demum mihi, quæ haberi poteſt in terris conſolatio plena eſſet, cæteri enim noſtri omnes mecum ſunt, lęti quidem, niſi eorum animos mea turbaret ægritudo. Eſt præterea nobis hic amicorum bona copia, quãta nuſquam alibi, & ſi enim per diuerſa terrarum multos habuerimus, mors iam penè nos omnibus ſpoliauit, quæ communis ſeneſcentium omnium pœna eſt. Ad hæc & locorum dominus, Vir ingentis ſapientiæ, non me ut dominus, ſed ut filius diligit, atq; honorat, & per ſeipſum ſic affectus, & magnanimi patris memor, qui me dilexit ut fratrem. Hæc tibi ſic ex ordine cuncta deſcribo, ne quid neſcias eorum quæ te noſce uelle auguror. Nam communia illa de familiaribus rebus, quę digna notitia, ſed indigna ſtylo cenſui, uiuis nũcij uocibus cõmiſi. Illud inter haud prætereunda poſuerit, quòd in hoc ſtatu, neq; mihi magnæ diuitiæ ſunt, neq; moleſta paupertes, quæ mihi quidem ſors rerum optima uidetur, quidq; in ſummis opibus repono, ſorte mea contentus, aliud magnopere non requiro, uix noui hominẽ cum quo ſtatum meum

permu-

permutasse uelim, statum hunc loquor extrinsecum. Nam internum animæ statum, cum omnibus bonis, & sanctis uiris libentissimè permutarem, magnæ uerò diuitiæ, quid ad me? Aut in quo melius mihi esset: imò in quo nõ peius, si multò amplius terræ, uel auri possidetem, non est locus, ut de opum ingentium periculis atq; laboribus disputem, nota sunt omnia, & experta, quis non Horatianum illud audiuit,

——Multa petentibus
Desunt multa, bene est, cui Deus obtulit
Parca quod satis est manu.

An uerò non sufficit necessarijs affluere, nisi & superuacuis opprimamur? Ego quidem non bis tantùm, quæ mihi necessaria sunt abundo, sed quæ meis omnibus, ante alios tibi, scribe modo, quid fieri uelis, non frustrabor tuum desiderium, nec differam, neq; uerò ut peteres [illegible] ectarem, sed uolens occurrerẽ, nisi didicissem q̃ peculiola illa, quã aliquotiens tibi misi, [illegible]n peruenit ad manus tuas, rigore, ut credo, tuæ religionis obstante. Scripsisti interdum, [illegible]si ante te morerer, quod si sit, secũdum naturæ ordinem, & secundùm desiderium meum erit, certam pecuniæ summam tibi testamento legarem, ad te minutis, pro occurrenti necessitate, solutionibus perventuram. Enimuerò id iampridem factum noris, & legato quantitas triplo maior, quàm petebatur incerta est. Nec tamen expectari mortẽ testamenti confirmatricem expedit, iube parebitur, & tibi gratius erit, & mihi, quod ipse fecero, quàm quòd hæres meus. Hæc tibi frater amantissime, quid ni aũt, cum ad notitiam me memoria uel sola suffecerit. Sed quoniam de triplici statu meo loqui cœperam, & quid de anima, quid de rebus exteriùs sentiam uides, teq; ut credas charitas cogit, de residuo sententiam meam accipe. Ego quidem mihi ægritudines has corporis, tàm frequentes, & tàm puras ad salutem animæ datas credo, non minùs utiles, quàm molestas, ea mihi de Deo spes est, modo cum passionibus, patientiã præstet, quòd & fecit hactenus, faciet in finẽ spero, si tamẽ ipse idem, qui solus potest, mihi nec petenti, nec petituro quidem, unquam sanitatem corporis offerat, non quam olim adolescens, sed quàm nuper iam senescens habui, quamuis animæ fortassis [illegible]utilem esse posse nõn dubitem, non recusem tamen, ut id modicum quod superest uitæ, sine angorib. exigã, neq; à studijs impediar meis, à quibus fateor, nũc uehementer impedior, hunc sui corporis amorem, miseris mortalibus inseruit natura. At si, quod nulli unquam fecit, c[illegible] possit omnibus adolescentiam, mihi seu iuuentam restituere, & transactum tempus [illegible]lenti reuehere sit paratus, ipsum de [illegible]o loquimur CHRISTVM testor, non con[illegible]am, nihil est enim, utraq; illa ætate miseri[illegible], cum suo illo uitiorum inseparabili comitatu. Mirabuntur senes nostri, qui quod esse ne[illegible]eunt, uideri stupent, cùm nihil sit certè ridiculosius, nihil sene deformius, qui iuuenis uult u[illegible]deri, dicam quod mirentur magis. Siquidem mihi immortalitas offeratur, hos inter mores, semper uicturus recusabo, nam & difficillimum est, ineptis comitibus longum iter agere, nec fidelis est seruus, qui quamuis affluens delitijs, faciem domini non requirit. Vale frater in CHRISTO.

FRAN. PETRARCHA LVDOVICO MARSILIO SVO, S. Epist. VII.

MEnta de te mea, amice quæ multa commemoras, pace tua dixerim, nulla sunt penitùs, nisi quod ab ipsa tua pueritia te dilexi, nescio quid iam tunc præsagiens, & nunc magis ac magis indies diligo, cito iam qualem in te cupio uirum sperans. Libellum tibi, quem poscis libens dono, donaremq; libentiùs, si esset qualis erat, dum eum adolescenti mihi donauit Dionysius ille, tui ordinis sacrarum professor, egregius, literarum & undique uir insignis, indul[illegible]entissimus pater meus, sed ego cum & natura forsitan, & ætate tunc uagus, quòd mihi perlucundus, & materia, & auctore, & paruitate sua pugillaris esset, atq; ad ferendum habilis, sæpè per omnem fermè Italiam, Germaniãq; circumtuli: ita aut iam propè manus mea, & liber unum esse uiderentur, sic inseparabiles usu perpetuo facti erant, dicam rem mirabilem, ut sileam lapsus fluminum ac terrarum, semel mecum ad Niceam Vari sub fluctibus maris fuit, actumq; erat, haud dubiè, nisi utrũq; præsenti periculo CHRISTVS eripuisset. Sic eundo, & redeundo mecũ, senuit: ita ut iam senex à sene, sine ingenti difficultate legi nequeat, & nũc tandem, ab Augustini domo digressus, ad eandem redit, nunc quoq; tecũ peregrinaturus, ut reor. Accipe eũ qualis est, & boni consule, atq; incipe meis in rebus, iure tuo uti ac præfationibus superuacuis abstinere, & quidquid tibi placuerit, non postulare, sed sumere. Vale fœlix, & pro me quotiens ad mensam eius accesseris CHRISTVM ora. Arquade VII, Idus Ianuarias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO, S. Epist. VIII.

Excusat se de silentio.

POtes mirari, utinam non etiam indignari, quod si aliud tibi scribere uel non poteram, uel nolebam, aliquid saltem, tuas ad literas non respondi, ego uerò, quod sæpè accidit, occupatis maximè, dum multa cogito nihil efficio. Equidem amice, si occupationum mearum, quamuis inanium historiam ingrediar, ipsa mihi occupatio occupationem & pariet, & augebit. Ad summam, quod sæpe cōcœperam explicare, nūquam potui, at ne quid fortasse aliud suspiceris, quod hoc uetus, olimq; notissimum tibi sit, addo uiolentiorem, aliam recentiorem, quę silentij causam, quàm libentiùs tacuissem, ne aures atq; animum tuum, inuisi rumoris cuspide pungerem, nisi quod hoc ipsum te, ab alijs audiuisse, uel auditurum esse non dubito. Tecum igitur à me salus abijt, nunquam postea sanus fui, nunquam ut auguror sanus ero, ita morbum, ætas sanitatem, nihil adiuuat, nisi fortè me putas aut Medicos consulere, aut plus illis fidei habere, quàm soleo: ego uerò indies magis, magisq; monstrū illud horreo, arceoq; ut hostes à limine, nisi quos, interdum non medicinæ, sed amicitiæ ius admitti iubet, ea lege ut omnium, quæ dixerit nihil faciam, aut patiar. Nunc tandem anno altero, nil eorum, quæ decreueram, sed hoc unum scribo Apologeticum tuum, quod ira nobili dictante, in censores meos effudisti, ualde mihi placuit, & affectu tuo & stylo, & sententijs delectatus sum, & scio illos hæc, & grauiora promeritos, noli tamē generosum ingeniū, pro illorū meritis inardescere, nec tuo iuditio, nec tua iracundia digni sunt. Sine illos suis moribus, tuos tu ne deseras, neq; acrius te illorū pugnat amētia, q̄ me, qui ea principaliter contingor, quāuis sine te tangi nequeam, aut offendi. Proinde tibi persuade, quod primum in literis tuis erat, dixisse Laurentium nescio quem, uirum ut tu ais doctū, sed profectò naturæ, mearumq; rerum penitus inscium, me, audita illorum sententia, quam de me tulerant subitò in furorem uersum calamum arripuisse, ac respondisse: pace sit dictum sua, procul à uero esse forsitan sic audiuit, sed qui primus hoc dixit, aut errauit medius fidius, aut fefellit. Non in furorem sed in risum egit me meorum iudicum sententia, utcumq; enim uera illa, iudices ipsi erant ineptissimi, neque uerò statim, sed anno plenè elapso calamum responsurus cepi, cum in Padi alueo ascendens, & tædio affectus, quid aliud tunc agerem, non haberem, neque id ipsum unquam facturus, aut cogitaturus, nisi me Donati nostri perpes indignatio, & iuges querimoniæ acuissent, obdurui dilecte, contra inuidiæ tales morsus, ab adolescentia, quod aliquando non credidi, pestibus his obsessus, hoc esse uerissimum & contrarium falsum scito. Reliquum est, ut tibi cum clanculum digresso, mœstus & querulus, mecumq; ipse litigans, fortassis & lachrymās successui saluo gratuler ac reuerso. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AD DONATVM APENNIGENAM GRAMMATICVM, S. Epist. IX.

Nihil in amicitia expetendum.

QVotiens monui, quotiens oraui, quotiens blandiens, quotiens subirascens, nunc lingua, nunc calamo litigaui tecum, ne tua liberalitas, suspitione me cupiditatis aspergeret, tu perstas & dum famæ tuæ studes, meam non cernis infamiam. Quando ego hoc merui de te. Quæso ut me uel cupidum adeò uideri facias, uel superbum, ne amicitia mea sine magno ac perpetuo pretio queri possit: Ita non frequentas modo hanc tuam munificentiam, sed ultimis his tuis in literis, an unam atq; perpetuam polliceris, quod nihil est aliud, quàm quod ego nunquam fieri uelim, nunquam desiturum imitari. Quod uerbum ipso facto iniuriosius, importuniusq; propè dixerim, atqui non uiuit in terris credo, cuius amicitia facilior sit quæsitu, modò conueniant mores, nunquam ab amico, nisi illud sine quo amicitia nulla est, amari nolui. Quis hic muneribus locus est? Amoris fortè fœminei sit ista consuetudo, eiusq; non ingenui, sed uenalis. Ego non tua munera, sed cor tuū uolo, illud habeo, satis est rei, eum ad perfectionē suā uenerit, quidquid superaddit̄ ad deformitatē uergit. Quid iuuat illa cōquirere, & mihi ingerere, quib. nec ego egeo, nec tu abūdas, si nolo, miror cur hoc facis, sin uolo miror cur uel meus, uel cuiusquā amicus esse uelis, qui ex te aliud, q̄ te quęrat, nisi magnę forsitan necessitatis, in tēpore, quoniā nulli rei parci, sed omnia esse cōmunia, fidelis amicitiæ lex iubet, propriū nihil. Illa quidem, quæ summis regum quoq; uerticibus clauos figit adamantinos, ut Flacci uerbo utar, utrumque nostrum premere potens est, sed nunc tamen, tibi proximior est, quàm mihi, sum enim ut scis periturus, opibus te ditior, mihi nulla præsens necessitas. Abundè mihi sufficit Donatus meus, Donatus inquā, & non emptus, cur tu igitur emas me, cui nō te uendidisti, sed donasti?

sasti? Non est hæc æqualis amicitia, ubi unus donatur, alter emitur, imò quidem amicitia nulla est, ubi nō undiq; cuncta gratuita sunt. Quid est hoc igitur quod facis? Nulla tuarum literarum incomitata, nullus tuorum nunciorum uacuus ad me uenit, dum paro uel literas legere, uel nuncios audire, tua è transuerso munera erumpunt. At quid quæso, nisi fortè Terentianum illud, semper sequi uis usitatum fateor, sed iniquum, ut semper qui minus habēt addant ditioribus. Noli obsecro, ut sis bonus & liberalis, me malum & amarum facere. Sæpe licet uerbo, facto interdum diffamantur homines, ego promissionem tuam de futuro respuo de præterito autem queror, & ut morem mutes oro. Si contrarium feceris turbabis me, & coges ad id quod hactenus non feci, ne turbarem te, ut inurbanus potius, quàm auarus eligam uideri, quidquid miseris remittam, sic ulciscar, & quod nequerunt preces, contumelia forsitan impetrabit, ut desinas largitate mihi molestus fieri, est in rebus omnibus modus quidam, quem transgredi in offensa uirtute non ualeas. Non sic Crassi partiti sumus hereditatem, ut mihi auaritia uiri illius cesserit, opes tibi denique, non sum unus è Parthorum regibus, quos non licet sine munere salutare. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PETRO RHETORI BONONIENSI, S. Epist. X.

Contemnenda mortis alia esse.

INgens mihi solatium attulit, tua quædam breuis epistola, cum enim nihil usquam mihi humanis in rebus charius amicitijs sit, unam uirtutem Ciceroniano consilio, si qua mihi esset uirtus exciperem, cum nihil de amicis gratius audio, quàm ut tales sint, qualem esse me cupio, contemptores omnium quæ uulgus aut miratur, aut metuit. E[illegible] e pestis hæc sine exemplo omnium seculorum, quæ quinque iam lustris non nostrum modò, sed omnem orbem alternis insultibus atterit, urbem illam iucundissimam, unde tibi origo, ubi nunc mora est, quæ olim me adolescente, omnis honestæ lætitię templum erat, annuo furore repetijt. Quid te igitur, tantis in moribus agere arbitror, nisi quod & tu dicis, & si taceas s[illegible], multi diffugiunt, timent omnes, tu neutrum præclare magnifice. Quid enim stultius timere, quid nec euadere ullo queas ingenio, & timendo aggraues? Quid uanius, quàm fugere, quod quocunq; fugeris, sis obuium habiturus? Fugiant pauidi, transmontes & maria, calle è forsitan, nisi homines & transmontes. & transmaria morerentur. Dicis te habere animum qualem ex me didicisti, tuus amor, tua charitas loquitur non tu. Ex me enim nil didicere[illegible]sti, ego autem ex te multa, nisi uel ingenium, uel sedulitas defuisset. Scribis esse tibi [illegible] infestum, mecum diutius non fuisse, nec faciem aut uerba mea, tuis ad literam utor[illegible]bis collegisse quæ recreatione tibi, ac fructum conferre sint solita. Vellem herclè sic esset, [illegible] non magis amicorum laudibus attollor, quàm conuitijs deijcior æmulorum, mearum rerum ipse mihi sum conscius. Quidquid in re sit, tibi sic uideri gaudeo, non me tamen ideò doctiorem, sed te meliorem sentio. Et ego quidem absentiam tàm longæuam odi, & præsentiam tuam opto, hos præsertim inter colles Euganeos, ubi tot inter mundi mala sunt, mihi meisq; curæ alacres, aërq; ut uidetur saluberrimus, quamuis insidiosum, & instabile elementum. Tu uerò mihi semper animo præsens es, erisq; dum uixero, non sum tibi nunc a[illegible]d scripturus, nisi quam me laudare sententiam, atq; hortari, ut tui similis forti animo con[illegible]s, fugamq; molientibus, horremq; timentibus meis uerbis dicas, illos frustrà torqueri. Nam neq; mortalem deponi posse conditionem, ipsa nisi deponatur humanitas, neq; aliam illam fugam mortis esse, quàm mori. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA BENEVENVTO IMMOLENSI RHETORI SVO, S. Epist. XI.

De Poëtis.

AD respondendum literis tuis, nec corporis ualetudo, neć spatium temporis suppetit, quæ multorum ergo uerborum erant, si potero paucis expediam, quæ si latisfecerint gaudebo. Alioquin paratior sim semp. audire, quàm dicere, & discere quàm docere, quæ res, nec im meritò, ars hæc, quam quidam nobis imbuunt, & quam fateor a tenera ætate dilexeram, an liberalium una sit? Dico inter liberales minimè numeratā, sed super omnes liberales esse, omnesq; cōplexā, quod & si multimodè probari possit, sufficit tamen ad probationē, Fœlix Capella, de omnibus septem poëticè agens sicut nostri. Nec te moueat, quod in numero liberalium non sit, inter quos neq; theologiā, neq; philosophiā nouimus, magnum est inter magnā esse, sed interdum maius excipi, sicut è numero magnorum ciuium, principes excipitur, liberales quidem habitum scientiæ, humano inchoant in animo, innominatæ inter eas, aliæ inchoatum perficiunt & exornant. De reliquo non muto sententiam, quam in inuectiuis posui. Quicquid contra poëtas iustè dicitur, scænicos notat.

Nam quòd dicis Boëtium contra poëtas, qui citatur testis, scænicum nõ fuisse, & ego fateor, & fatendum esse uiri cogit auctoritas, quid ergo, non scribentem, sed stylum philosophica notat increpatio. Erat enim stylus Elegiacus, scænicis rebus & amatoris aptior, hic quasi inscium, quid intenderet, philosophiam fingitur mouisse, ut in uerba illa prorũperet, quæ li omne poëticum, sine exceptione damnasset, nequaquam ille non doctus modò, sed sanctus uir usque in finem operis, cœptum stylum, & scænicarum meretricularum consortium tenuisset, multa enim per totum poëtice dicta sunt. Neq; rursus id mirari conuenit, magnos nonnunquam uiros, non ridiculo tantùm, sed obscœno etiam usos stylo, qualia sunt in Saturnalibus illa Platonica, quę mallem tantus philosophus tacuisset, fert interdum error, quidam interdum feruor animi, quò non decet, & quanquam res malę sint, stylus tamen est bonus, & ars irrepræhensibilis, si ad fœliciorem materiam conuertatur. Ad hunc ergo modum accipio, quicquid usquam contra poëtas dicitur, & contra scænicos dictum sit, non à sanctis modò, sed ab ipso etiam Cicerone, quo nemo alius, nõ poëta, plura pro poëtis dixit, nec tamen inficior, etiam alios inepta quędam, imò multa dixisse, de quibus accipi possit. Quod ais, scripsisse Hieronymum, quod scilicet dæmonum cibus est sermo poëticus, homines enim erant subiacentes erroribus, & non solùm homines, sed pagani: alioquin si simpliciter accipimus, multum hoc cibo pastus est ipse Hieronymus, sic in omnibus scriptis suis poëticum sapit stylum, quod ipsemet intelligens, de hoc ipso non ociosè alicubi sese excusat. Sępè quidem me fatente, poëtarum sermo malus est, quid ni autem, cum & uita sit pessima? Quid hic igitur dicam? & quid putas? nisi quòd sentio, & quod credo. Poëtis id non poëticè tribuendũ, nam & rebus optimis, pessimè uti, aliquos constat, & famosos theologos, hæreticos magnos audiuimus, & morales philosophos, pessimis moribus, non hæ certium, sed artibus malè utentium culpa est. Audebo dicere, si poësis in bonum, piumq; ingenium inciderit, usque ad CHRISTI laudem, ueræq; religionis ornatum trahi potest. Si hoc probas, benè habet, at si minus & ego studium, hoc à tergo liqui, & si quid rectiùs audiero, non in tuam modò, sed cuiuscunque docti hominis sententiam libens ibo. Vale Pataui, in ægritudinis meæ strato. V. Idus Febr.

FRAN. PETRARCHA VAGO CVIDAM, S. Epist. XIIII.

GRatulor tibi, quod post tantos fluctus ac procellas animi, bonum in portum peruenisti, fortunæ tuæ, imò Deo tuo charior es, quàm tibi, tu te iactas, & pro nihilo te fatigas, ille tibi requiem, uel nolenti ingerit, tu difficili calle uis errare, ille te manu dirigit in uiam pacis. Es ecce nunc, eius ductu, cum uiro optimo, & mihi tàm charo, ut uix sciam, an aliquid charius habeã in terris, cum quo qui uiuere nescit, cum quo qui uiuere sciat, ego nescio. Nosce cum consulo, & disce iam tandem aliquando consistere, non est sani sæpe thoro circumuolui, non est pudicæ sæpè nubere, disce homo conuersationem humanam, disce homo homines pati posse, quos nõ pati tantùm, sed diligere iussus es, neu fastidias, à quibus ne fastidiaris optandum est. Noli omnes homines fugere, quocunq; uenies, homines inuenies, aut cum hominibus uiuas, aut cum belluis oportet. Laudarẽ solitudinem, ni te noscem, nec solitudinem, nec frequentiam posse pati. Animi morbus etiam, isq; grauissimus, neq; aliter quàm uirtute animi comprimendus. Quædam sunt, in quibus & causæ simul, & remedia sit morborum, animus te agitat, ille te sistat, si hoc non fecerit, admonitiones meæ omnes, iam per annos frustrà in uentos abierint. Gratulor quoque, quod urbem Romã uideris, ex omnibus erroribus tuis, orbem totum licet ambias, simile nil uidebis. Vidisti mundi caput, squalidum fateor, & impexum, quod ne hostes quidem negent, qui se nunc etiam Romanos Imperatores, Romanosq; Pontifices dici optant, & his titulis gloriantur, cum omnia sint potius, quàm Romani. Hoc ergo per teipsum cogita, & sic habe, non te Romam uidisse, sed montes ubi Roma fuit.

FRAN. PETRARCHA CASPARO VERONENSI, S. Epist. XV.

LItetulam tuam charissime libens uidi, sicut & tua omnia, de quæsitis tuis nihil certi, quod rescribã habeo, nihil enim incertius mihi est, quàm huius caduci corporis status, quod unũ possum dicam, non inuitus modò, sed coactus, rure abij uiua cogente necessitate, illa me pepulit, illa me detinet, quantum tamen augurio assequor, ante pascha rediero, sæpe enim mihi Horatianum illud ad aurem cordis sonat,

——ô rus quando ego te aspiciam!

Et si autem sciam, non nunc nouiter conspectum, atq; conuictum meum tibi semper exoptatum fuisse, quod non mei fateor meriti, sed indulgentiæ tuæ est, non audeo tamen te aduenien-

uueniendum exhortari, occupationum conscius tuarum: at si uenire decreueris, ad amici, imò ad tuam propriã uenies domũ: rute autem puto me inuenies, quantuuis properes, ubi n[illegible] so[illegible] oculi mei ac meorũ, sed parietes ipsi, suo modo lætissimè te uidebũt, aduentu tàm chari [illegible]tis exultantes. Amicum uestrum cum uenerit salutabo, suo enim nunc in rure habitat [illegible] æ simul, ac philosophiæ [illegible]editus, uir undiq; bonus, ac fidelis, & nostri amans.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PHILIPPO SABINENSI EPISCOPO, ET CARDINALI, S. Epist. XVI.

De statu suo.

ET mirari potes, & turbari, nisi & ad [illegible]nem perspicacis ingenij altitudo cuncta prospiciens, & turbationem animi man[illegible]tudo iræ nescia, compressisset, alioquin quem non moueat, quod totiens & à tali tàm suauibus literis euocatus, quę deberẽt è durissimis montibus saxa conuellere, nondum loco moueor. Ad quid autem, & [illegible] uocor, quæso, & uocabar pridem, tunc nempe, ad tria mihi ex omnibus, quæ sub cœlo sunt [illegible]ngulariter exoptata, ad urbem Romam, quam nunquam totiens uidi, quin semper a[illegible]or [illegible] uidendi ipsa efficiat uisione ad Romanum illum Pontificem, qui uocando fatigatus, tibi [illegible]ibenter subituro, cuius uox mihi familiariùs nota est, hoc uocandi onus im[illegible]fue[illegible] quem ne oculis nunquam uisum uidisse, uel semel terrenæ mihi fœlicitatis ingens portio fu[illegible]a erat, nõ quia tantus dominus, sed quia uir talis. Ad te deniq; uerendamq; mihi, & ante [illegible]lia[illegible], semper amabilem faciem tuam, quam profectò quantum uidere cupiam, CHRISTVS nouit, & ego, tuq; ut reor certo animi sentis augurio, cui à iuuẽtute predulciter assue[illegible]s, & a qua postea per tam longum æuum fortuna mea sęuiente distractus, quid mirum [illegible]rqueor, & ingenti premor desiderio? Reliquos quidem charos eos dico, quos mihi iam [illegible]iquos mors fecit, sępè per hos annos, uidi, te, à sæculis non uidisse mihi uideor. Quid ces[illegible]r tam diu? Putas dicam, quia optabilia illa tria ad unũ rediere, nam & tu Roma abij[illegible] [illegible]apa rebus abijt humanis, non hoc dico tui solius desiderium satis est. Quid ergo? E[illegible] [illegible] excusatio uera quidem, sed difficilis, mearũ nempe rerum status, incredibilis prorsus [illegible]rantibus, scientibus atq; cernentibus monstruosus est, dicam tamen quod res habet, & [illegible]em [illegible]uam fortasse non mereor, ueritas ipsa merebitur. Ego itaq;, sæpè dum sanus uideor, [illegible]do, & febribus repentinis arripior, ita ut subitò exanimis appaream, omnesq; in d[illegible] [illegible]nem cogam uitæ meæ præter paucos, qui me altiùs norunt. Die autem uno uix ex[illegible]acto, [illegible]ito etiam præter omnium spem, ceu resuscitatus assurgo, & quasi ego ille non fuerim, reuertor ad calamum, & ad libros, & ago res meas, ut prius hoc non semel aut bis, sed [illegible]us quàm decies, hoc biennio passus sum, ita ut medicos quoque, quorum nonnullos [illegible] amicos habeo, sæpe uicissitudo hæc mea, & uarietas ista fefellerit, qui an sæpiùs fallant, an fallantur in dubio est. Cùm enim me nocte media moriturũ publicè dixerint, manè proxi[illegible] redeuntes, credo ut ad tumulum comitentur, inueniunt me scribentem. Stupent igi[illegible] [illegible] quid dicant habent, aliud nisi me hominem esse mirabilem, ut sim ego in hoc, inq; a[illegible] [illegible]tasse mirabilis. Quanto ipsi mirabiliores. Qui cùm medici dicantur, & sint homines literati le[illegible]unt omnia, Aristotelem, Tullium, Senecam, Virgilium, quin & Dialecticæ inhi[illegible] & Rhetoricæ, & Poëticæ, & Astrologiæ, quodq; est peius Alchimiæ, solam negligunt [illegible]nam. Mirum dictu, cùm tàm multa scire studeant, id unum maximè quod profiten[illegible] ignorant. Sed hæc mihi cum illis uetus est quæstio, uetus lis, decreuerã ad te, maioremq; [illegible], qui me uocat primo uere iter carpere, & quoad possem, per aquam proficisci, reliquũ [illegible] terram lento gradu, dicam quod mireris nullum hic uer fuit, asperrimamq; hyemẽ æstas [illegible]de[illegible]tissima, sine medio consecuta est, hærebam cœptis tamen, & iam sarciniculas cõponebam. [illegible]um ecce mensis huius die septimo iam uergẽte ad occasum sole, me familiaris mea febris [illegible]ualit, uulgata fama, totiens in me licet elusi, medici conueniunt. Quorũ unus magno [illegible]phiæ titulo insignis (ô nomen olim uenerabile, nunc uanitati, & inscitiæ prostitutum) [illegible] asseruit me lucem proximã non uisurum: uidi tamen Deo gratias, & illam, & exin[illegible] [illegible]t alias, & si oculi, colorque hominis uerũ spõdẽt, possum multò quãuis antiquior, [illegible]unc etiam uidere, quam ille uitæ hominũ necator ineptissimus, ita enim sibi cõsue[illegible] [illegible]ecit omne ægrũ nocte proxima periturũ dicere, sic in promissione salutis in[illegible] [illegible]etuit, ut [illegible]minatione cõtrarij assiduè mentiatur. Cæterùm & ego iam ætate fa[illegible] [illegible]lle tabe [illegible]nfectus, haud dubiè nisi fallor, æui breuis ambo erimus, de mea quidẽ [illegible]lius a[illegible]tem morte, ut quibusdam fortè uidebitur philosophiæ damnum ingens [illegible] uerò securus iurauerim, nescire illũ penitùs, non modò quæ philosophi sunt, sed [illegible]sophiæ ipsius uerum nomen importet. Et de hoc quidem hactenus, cuius sciens

nomen

nomen occului, soleo enim eorum, contra quos loquar nominibus abstinere, ne uel famæ, uel infamiæ illis sim, hic iam ad me redeo. Non ergo sicut illi qui solius Physici nominis fiducia, uitæ mortalium, mortisque inuentiū fines locat, nec attendit, quā mortuo ipse similior quā uiuenti, sed sicut illi placuit, qui annos, & mēses, & dies meos, omnes sub oculis numeratos habet: conualui, & surrexi sanus ut uidetur, sed tàm fragilis, ut in præsens de profectione nō cogitem, quamuis in posterum, propositum non mutari, casus modò similis, non occurrat, alioquin surrexisse quid prodent, si illicò recidendū est? Nescio quidem, unde hæc mihi uitæ tanta ludibria, peccata mea fatear, & hæc, & multò etiam grauiora promeruerunt, utque aliud meæ modus, & sobrietas, nisi fallor, aliud merebat. Quod si pro peccatis meis hæc patior, gaudeo & Deo gratias ago, modò meis in rationibus ponantur hæc omnia, & sit sub hæc mihi creator meus ad ueniam promptior atque facilior. De aduentu autem meo nil nūc aliud ... bo, te enim meis promissionibus, sæpius falli noli, multa tamen hic cogito, inque his cogitationibus acquiesco, non quidem inscius cogitationes hominum uanas esse, neque mortalitatis, & fragilitatis immemor mearum, uelle solum meū est, reliqua omnia in manibus Dei sunt. Spero & nitor equidem, te uidere antequàm moriar: profectò autem sine te uideam, siue nō uideam, semper te uideo, & uidebo uidentem omnia Deum testor. Ad hæc unum quod cogitare te cogito, siluisse noluerim, est enim utrique nostrum, imò omnibus apprimè necessarium. Tu quidem reor in silentio ex me quæris, & ego tibi in epistolæ huius calce respondeo, quid uel ego in hoc statu, & inter uitæ huius angustias, inter has tàm crebras conflictationes corporis ac morborum agam. Quid consilij ipse mihi capiam, tibique suadeam, quid nunc tuis quoque iactaris incommodis. Idem enim tibi uolo, quid mihi idem cōsulo, audi ergo, remedij externi penitùs nihil est, nisi fortè nunc primum Medicis fidem damus, ut senibus, & infirmis opem ferant, quam iuuenibus, & robustis nunquam ferre potuerint. Scis ut Medici nostri semper fuerint, Deus & natura alij, aut nulli fuerint nobis, aut nihil egerint, aut ualdè nocuerint. De his ergo consilium irretractabile mihi stat, credo idem tibi, utrumque enim experientia una atque eadem docuit magistra, unūatque idem dogma percepimus, quòd tandem medicus noster uersus suprà in cœlo, & intùs in anima nostra est? Hinc auxilium expetendum, hinc sperandum nobis, interea totis uiribus enitendum, diuina ope nostro nisu in tutum euadamus. Certè si grandiusculam fossam saltu unico uelles amplecti, lōgè cursum arriperes, ut ad locum saltus, cum illa uirtute, integer atque agilis peruenires, nunc fo... ucam montis horribilem, nullique prorsus euitabilem transituri, quam periculosissimam omnium uel scimus esse, ut credimus, nunquid ad eam improuidi uenimus? Absit à mentibus nostris, per omnem uitam mihi crede, uel si hoc pestifera dilatione neglectū est, hac saltem ætatis parte præparandus est animus, erigenda mens, colligendæ uires, abijcienda quæ premunt, arripienda quæ prosunt, quibus fulciti, horām illam expediti, & intrepidi uideamus, foueamque illam irremeabilem transeamus, cuius primo saltu, si fortassis erratū sit, nulla unquam ex integro sallendi spes relinquitur, nihil tamē ex omnibus prouidendum, curandumúe æquè est, quàm ut Dei dextram, ubique miseris, sed illic præsertim, & necessariam, & paratam, fideliter atque humiliter apprehendamus, quæ morte superata, ad immortalitatem potest sola perducere. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PHILIPPO SABINENSI EPISCOPO, ET CARDINALI, S. Epist. XVII.

Versiculos petitos mittit amico.

Rogas & rogando iubes (apud me enim inter preces, iussusque tuos nihil interest, nempe cum & inter iussus ac silentiū nil intersit, modo mihi de tua uoluntate constaret, rogas (inquam) ut uersiculos aliquot, quos olim in spelunca illa deuotissima dictaui, ubi ut fertur, fœlix illa peccatrix Maria Magdalena, triginta uel eò amplius annis pœnitentiam suam egit, tibi per hunc nuncium tuum mittam. Mihi quidem ita contigit, ut cum illo fortunæ multo maioris, quam prudentiæ uerò illuc pergerē, diù obluctans, ad extremum nō tàm suis, quàm piæ memoriæ Ioannis de Columna Cardinalis, cui nil negassem precibus uictus, atque cōnuulsus. In illo igitur sacro, sed horrendo specu, tres dies & tondem noctes, sine intermissione habitās, & sæpe per syluas uagus, & comitatu, cum quo eram non admodum delectatus, ad usitatum solatium me conuerti, quod pellendis aptum tædijs ipse mihi conflaui, fingendi scilicet animo, præsentiam absentium amicorum, & aut ... præsentibus cogitatu, cum absentibus colloquendi hæc paranti, tu mihi primus affueras, cum quo mihi eo tempore familiaritas recens erat paruo tūc episcopo, magno semper, & præclaro uiro. Cum ergo specus in parte consedissemus, uisus es hortari ut breue ... diceren,

[illegible] s [illegible] imæ mulieris, ad gl[illegible]am, par[illegible]ibi, eoq; promptius, quo ut sunt men[illegible] m[illegible], ad omn[illegible]m deuoti[illegible]nem [illegible]onæ, [illegible] ad aliquam proniores. Iam te il[illegible] [illegible] sanct[illegible]s, ut Martinum inter san[illegible]os tibi prælegi[illegible] [illegible]erpenderam, feci autē raptim, [illegible] [illegible]ui nulla penitus [illegible] re moras pati p[illegible]em, feruidus, audaxq; iuuenta: [illegible] it. N[illegible] es fortasis oblitus, l[illegible] enter enim obliuiscimur tædiorum, curarumq; [illegible] dum [illegible]tus & trigesimus [illegible]nus est, ex quo acta sunt hæc, unde si interim possumus [illegible] decennio, quàm in rure tuo positus Solitariæ tibi uitæ libros inscriberem. [illegible] euersus, hos tibi uersiculos incorrectos l[illegible], qui tuo & meo nomine scripti [illegible]s te imaginario teste atq; horta[illegible]ore di[illegible]auer[illegible]m, dehinc eos inter scripturarum [illegible]ulos abieci, nec eorum amplius recordatus sum, tu nunc illos petis, quos dif[illegible] [illegible] necr alia scripta, difficiliùs in mea mem[illegible]ria reperire. Ibi nemp[illegible] peri[illegible]erant, nec pe[illegible] [illegible]bat tale aliquid me fecisse, tandem per iuditia temporum, quibus in talibus uti [illegible] labore & puluere reinuenti semilaceri ut erant, & squalentes ad te ueniunt, neq; [illegible] a[illegible]qui[illegible]d muto, multa cùm possim, quo [illegible]licet non quid sum, sed quid erā [illegible]deas, [illegible]ptate quadam adolescentiæ nostræ rudimenta memineris:

Du[illegible]cis amica Dei, lachrymis inflectere nostris,
A[illegible] humiles attende preces, nostræq; saluti
Con[illegible]ule, namq; potes, nec enim tibi tan[illegible]re frustra
Permissum, gemituq; pedes perfundere sacros.
[illegible]t nitidis siccare comis, ferre oscula plantis.
Inq; caput domini, pretiosos spargere odores.
N[illegible] tibi congressus primos, à morte resurgens,
Et [illegible]oces audire suas, & membra uidere.
Immortale decus, lumenq; habitura per æuum
Nequicquam dedit ætherei, rex CHRISTVS Olympi.
Viderat ille cruci hærentem nec dira pauentem.
Iudaicæ tormenta manus turbæq; furentis
Iurgia, & in ultus & æquantes uerbera linguas.
Sed mœstam intrepidamq; simul, digitisq; cruentos
Tractantem clauos, implentem uulnera fletu.
Pectora tundentem, uiolentis candida pugnis.
Vellentem flauos manibus sine more capillos,
Viderat h[illegible]ec, nunquam dum pectora fida suorum.
Diffu[illegible]erent pellente metu, memor ergo reuisit
Te prima ante alios tibi se prius obtulit uni.
Te quoq; digressus terris & ad astra reuersus
Bis tria lustra tibi, nunquam mortalia agentem,
Rupe sub hac aliud tàm longo in tempore, solis,
Diuinis contenta epulis & rore salubri.
Hæc de[illegible]nus antra tib[illegible] stillantibus humida saxis.
H[illegible]a, tenebrosa situ, tecta aurea regum,
D[illegible]itiasq; omnes, & ditia uicerat arua.
Hic inclusa libens, longis uestita capillis.
Veste carens alia, ter denos passa Decembres:
Diceris, hic non fracta gelu, nec uicta pauore
Namq[illegible] famem & frigus, dura quoq; saxa cubile
Du[illegible] cia f[illegible]it amor, spesq; alto pector[illegible] xa
Hic hominum non uisa oculis, st[illegible]pata cater[illegible]
An[illegible]licis, septem [illegible] die subuecta per ho[illegible]
[illegible]œle[illegible]s audire choros, alterna canente[illegible]
[illegible]rmina cor[illegible]reo de carcere digna fuisti.

Tu u[illegible]ue & uale nostri memor.

FRAN-

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER XV.

FRAN. PETRARCHA LVCAE DE PENNA, S. Epist. I.

De libris Ciceronis.

DABIS ueniam insignis Vir stylo, ut quibusdam fortasse uidebitur, irreuerenti, sed Deum testor minimè insolenti: stylo enim alio uti nescio, singulariter te alloquor, cum sis unus, & in hoc naturā sequor, ac malorum morem, non blanditias modernorum, miror[illegible] quid tu talis Vir, me aliter alloqueris, eum & ego unus [illegible]m, utinam [illegible] integer, nec in multa uitiorum frusta discerptus. Denique sic R[illegible]num imperatorem, regesque alios, sic Romanos [illegible]que Po[illegible]ces alloqui soleo, si aliter facerem, uiderer mihi me[illegible]ri. Quid ni autem, eum IESVM CHRISTVM ipsum regem regum, & dominum dominantiū, ut minores ali[illegible] longè, licet maximos sileam, non aliter alloquamur, utque iam hic, quod olim eum anti[illegible]qu[illegible] f[illegible]ci, nou[illegible] glorier cum amic[illegible] styli huius, per Italiam nō au[illegible]or quidem, sed instaurator [illegible] mihi uideor, quo cum uti inciperē, adolescens à coëtaneis irridebar, qui in hoc ipso [illegible]ta in me postea sunt secuti, nunc incipio. Multos dies in itinere posuit epist[illegible]la tua hæc nouissima, siquidem III. Nonas Februarias, ad leuam Rhodani ripam data, X. Cal. Ap[illegible] serò admodum prima face peruenit, in hos colles Euganeos, ubi nūc secus intimum sinum maris Adriatici, senex & infirmus, à iuuentute dilectam Solitariam uitam dego, amat[illegible]r ruris, osor urb[illegible]ium. Petieras ex me, ut de libris Ciceronis, [illegible] quos inusitatos, & extraneo[illegible]rem, tibi quoque cuidam nuper cœpto operi subuenirem, tua scilicet impensa, quo iustio[illegible]ti[illegible]io tua esset, sperans cred[illegible]ec immeritò, me facie [illegible]cet incognitū, honestis precibus haud di[illegible]lem fore, seu propter respectū famæ tuæ, longè etiam te dolentis, seu uel maximè [illegible] pte[illegible]s reuer[illegible]am, cuius iu[illegible]u opus illud al[illegible]ropseras, dom[illegible] nostr[illegible] Summi Ponti[illegible] qu[illegible]e dig[illegible]atione exi[illegible]ni[illegible] & [illegible]ijs uerbis, ac literis suum fecit. Q[illegible]an[illegible]uā omnes qui CH[illegible] [illegible] uersali debi[illegible], petitioni tamen tuæ respo[illegible]nc non quod u[illegible] sed q[illegible]d p[illegible]. Ci[illegible]nis libros, non me alios habere, quàm qui co[illegible]iter habe[illegible], & q[illegible]os [illegible]dem d[illegible] m[illegible]er habet, u[illegible]l ut puto etiam pauci[illegible], un[illegible]m ad[illegible], quod & [illegible]erum [illegible] h[illegible]b[illegible]e me al[illegible]os, & amisisse. Cuius rei longa esset historia, quam tamen pro tempore breuem fec[illegible] [illegible]as literas ad te non peruenisse ais, & petis ut rep[illegible]icem, quod [illegible] ipsi, sim[illegible] [illegible]oris, [illegible]mul ut literis meis delecteris, quòd ut speres tua charitas, & n[illegible]is te cogit o[illegible] [illegible]arebi[illegible] & quanquam senectu[illegible] occupatæ præsertim & inualidæ, non labor tantum, ut tu [illegible]is, s[illegible]d sup[illegible]cium sit scribere, scribam tamen, de delectatione tu uideris, de fatigatione pr[illegible]nuncio. Certè [illegible] motum animi me [illegible]ar, ego te hodie fatigabo [illegible]ita [illegible]itur se res habet. S[illegible] [illegible]em ab ipsa pueritia, quando cæte[illegible] omnes, aut p[illegible]spero inhiant, aut Aesopo, ego [illegible] [illegible]ceronis incubu[illegible], seu nat[illegible] [illegible] seu parentis hortatu, qui auctoris [illegible]lius uene[illegible]tor, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]patio rei [illegible]ami[illegible]aris, nob[illegible]e distraxisset in[illegible] [illegible]rum [illegible] [illegible]ris al[illegible] intendere coe[illegible]et. [illegible] illa qui[illegible] [illegible]tate, [illegible] [illegible]m du[illegible]ce[illegible] qu[illegible]dam, & [illegible]otitas d[illegible] [illegible]rem [illegible] [illegible]cum mihi lon[illegible] d[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]quod [illegible] [illegible] illud [illegible]rum [illegible], quod tanto p[illegible] quid licet m[illegible] [illegible]o, cre[illegible] um meum & patris ad[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] cum uix te[illegible]a [illegible] [illegible]em d[illegible]arem ni[illegible] [illegible] gent[illegible]us [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ceronis li[illegible]os und[illegible] [illegible] ullis externis egens stimulis, procedebam, donec uictrix ind[illegible] [illegible]lis, ad

[illegible] ad studium me detrusit, ut si dijs placet addiscerem, quid iuris de commodato, & mutuo, de [illegible]menti[illegible] & codicillis, de prædijs rusticis & urbanis, & obliuiscerer Ciceronem uitæ leges [illegible]uberrimas describentem, in eo studio septenniũ totum perdidi, dicam uerius quàm [illegible]. V[illegible]q; rem penè ridiculam, flebilemq; audias, factum est aliquando, ut nescio, quo, sed [illegible] me generoso cõsilio, omnes quos habere poteram Ciceronis, & simul aliquot Poëtarũ lib[illegible] lucratiuo uelut studio aduersi, latibulis ubi ego, quòd mox accidit metuens, illos abdi[illegible]am, me spectante eruti, quasi hæresum libri flammis exurentur, quo spectaculo non ali[illegible]ngemui, quam si ipse ijsdem flammis inijcerer. Proinde pater, nam memini, me tàm mœ[illegible]m contemplatus subitò duos libros, penè iam incendio adustos eripuit, & Virgiliũ dex[illegible] tenens, læua Rhetoricam Ciceronis, utrunq; flenti mihi subridens ipse porrexit. Et habe [illegible]c (inquit) pro solatio quodam raro animi. Hũc pro adminiculo ciuilis studij, his tàm paucis sed tàm magnis comitibus, animum solatus, lachrymas pressi, dehinc circa primos annos adolescentiæ, mei iuris effectus, libris legalibus abdicatis, ad solita remeaui, eò feruen tior [illegible] interrupta delectatio acrior redit. Post non multum tempus, circa uigesimum se[illegible] m æt[illegible]tis annum, dominorum Columnensium nobilissimæ, sed heu nimium caducæ fam[illegible]æ, quæ mihi uenerabilis, semper & flenda erit, familiaritatem domesticam nactus e[illegible]ram, [illegible] qua penè totum adolescentiæ meæ tempus, & uirides annos egi, cuius mihi autor [illegible]mparabilis, Iacobus de Columna, tunc Lomberiensis episcopus, cuius mihi re[illegible] dulcis, pariter & amara est. Non fuit mundus eo dignus, CHRISTVS illum sibi uo[illegible] c[illegible]ò terris ablatum cœlo reddidit. Et quoniam senex senem fatigauit, ut scriberet, se[illegible] senex refatigabit ut legat. Ille igitur me diù ante metas pueritiæ, uix egressum Bono[illegible]derat, & ut ipse pòst dicebat, meo delectatus erat aspectu, ignatus adhuc quis aut un[illegible]m, n[illegible] quod scholarem scholaris, ex habitu cognouerat. In eo enim studio, quod e[illegible]o deserui, u[illegible] audisti ipse perseuerauit, donec honorificum ad terminum, mox ad Episcopium non annis debitum, sed meritis est prouectus. Quam ob causam, cum ad eam, quæ Romana [illegible]r curiam profectus, ibi me infausto illi carceri, ab origine destinatùm, reuidisset, iam mal[illegible]rima lanugine uestientem, conditionibus meis [illegible]ctius exploratis, ad suam tandem [illegible]m euocauit, qua ut puto nulla unquam dul[illegible] nulla suauior, nullus illo uiro grauior, [illegible]us alacrior, nullus sapientior, nullus me[illegible]ius aut in prosperis modestior, [illegible]tior in aduersis atque constantior. Non audita [illegible], sed uisa oculis loquor, iam in e[illegible]lo[illegible]tia nullus par, corda hominum habebat in manibus, siue ad clerũ, siue ad populum [illegible] esset, quocunque sibi libuisset, animos audientium rapiebat. Iam & in epistolis, & in quotidiano colloquio, tàm clarus, ut cum eum uel legeres, uel audires, cor eius introspice[illegible]res, neq; ullo opus esset interprete, sic uerba conceptibus respondebat. Inerat & in suos sine exemplo charitas, in amicos liberalitas indefessa, inexhausta pietas in pauperes, affabilitas i[illegible]mnes. Hic uir tantus fit, ut Fla[illegible]ci uerbo utar, ad unguem factus homo, caq; oris ac mo[illegible]rum maiestate, ut inter mille uisu solo principem iudicares, cum me semel atq; iterum uidis[illegible] me c[illegible]nuersationis & eloquentiæ suæ laqueis cœpit, ut suprema solus in mei animi ar[illegible]ce [illegible]ideret, unde nec discessit unquam, postea nec discedet. Et erat tunc fortè ad Episco[illegible]m suum in Vasconiam iturus, ac nescius, reor adhuc, quod in me iuris haberet, quo iu[illegible]terat orauit ut sibi in eo itinere comes esse uellem, seu fide, quã tamẽ nosse nondum [illegible]t, sed in fronte eam lynceus uir legebat, seu ingenio, seu uulgari delectatus stylo meo, [illegible]o tunc iuuenililer multus eram, parui, atq; iui. O tempus rabidum, fugax uita, quartus [illegible]adragesimu[illegible] annus est, nunquam puto lætior æstas fuit, reuersus inde, me in familiari[illegible] perduxit Reuerendissimi fratris sui Ioannis, supra morem Cardinalium, uiri opti[illegible] innocentissimi, fratrumq; omnium, ad extremum magnanimi senis patris Stepha[illegible]uo ut de Carthagine ait Crispus: Silere meliùs puto, quàm parum dicere. Quin hoc [illegible] parce obsecro, si me solũ cogitas, dum mihi obsequor tædio tibi sum, dulcis enim mi[illegible] amaritudo, Iacobum Columnensem primum Dominum meum, summũ adolescen[illegible] decus in memoriam meam fando reducere, unde, ut dixi, nunquã certè digreditur, [illegible] nimium citò, me & non dico patris ac fratrũ, qui me, omnes penè simul penère, se[illegible] m omnium spem deseruit. Cuius à morte, directè ut de Africano apud Tullium ait [illegible]ertius hic & trigesimus annus est, sed si uel stylus meus aliquid uirium haberet, uel fa[illegible]inum merita sequerentur, dicere con[illegible]denter, quòd ibidem ait idem: Memoriam il[illegible]mnes excipient anni sequẽtes. Sed iam satis uulnera mea, doloresq; refricui. Nunc [illegible]em redeo. Itaque iam aliquali fama ingenij, fa[illegible]sa licet, sed multò maximè fauore [illegible]um dominorum, uarias amicitias, per diuersa contraxeram, quòd essem in lo[illegible] fieret ex omni regione concursus. Abeuntibus demum amicis, & ut fit peten-

tibus,

tibus, nunquid è patria sua uellem, respõdebam nihil præter libros Ciceronis, ante alios dabam memorialia, scriptoq; & uerbis instabã. Et quotiens putas preces, quotiens pecuniam misi, non per Italiam modò, ubi eram notior, sed per Gallias atq; Germaniam, & usq; ad Hispanias atq; Britanniam, dicam quòd mireris, & in Græciam misi, & unde Ciceronem expectabam, habui Homerũ, quiq; Græcus ad me uenit, mea ope & impensa factus est Latinus, & nunc inter Latinos uolens mecum habitat. Et quid tibi uis,

Labor omnia uincit improbus: inquit Maro.

Multo studio, multaq; cura, multa undiq; parua uolumina recollegi, sed sæpè multiplicata, eorum uerò, quæ maximè optabam raro aliquid, ita ut quòd humanis in rebus crebrò accidit, multa mihi deforent, multa superfluerent. Nondum sanè sanctorum libros attigeram, & errore cæcus & typo tumidus ætatis. Nil mihi ferè, nisi unus Cicero sapiebat, præcipuê ex quo Quintiliani institutiones Oratorias legi, quarum quodam loco, hæc plane sentẽtia sua est, nam & liber abest, & uerba non teneo. Benè de se speret, quisquis erit, cui ualdè Cicero placebit: & hoc in eo libro dicit, in quo de eloquentia, deq; Oratoribus agens libero iuditio, summi uiri Annei Senecæ, tunc placentem omnibus, stylum damnat, quo dicto magis, ac magis in sententia, tanto à stipulatore firmatus, si quando uisendi desiderio, quod tunc sæpè faciebam, in longinqua proficiscerer, uisis fortè eminus Monasterijs ueteribus, diuertebam illicò. Et quid scimus, inquam, an hic aliquid eorum sit quæ cupio. Circa quintum & uigesimum uitæ annum, inter Belgas, Heluetiosq; festinans, cum Leodium peruenissem, audito quod esset ibi bona copia librorum, substiti, comitesq; detinui, donec unam Ciceronis orationem manu amici, alteram mea manu scripsi, quam postea per Italiam effudi, & ut rideas, in tàm bona ciuitate barbarica, atramenti aliquid, & id croco simillimũ reperire magnus labor fuit. Et de libris quidem Reip. iam desperans, librum de Consolatione quæsiui anxiè, nec inueni, quæsiui & librum de laude Philosophiæ, quod & ipse libri titulus excitabat, & in libris Augustini, quos iam legere cœperam, librum illum ad uitæ mutationem, & ad studium ueri, multum sibi profuisse compereram, sic undiq; dignus uidebatur, qui diligentissimè quæreretur. Enimu[illegible] negotij nihil esse credidi, statim enim affuit, non liber, sed falsa libri ipsius inscript[illegible]ciens narro, ne quando tibi, quòd impossibile arbitror, idem qui mihi illusit erro[illegible], legebam, neq; aliquid de eo, quòd titulus pollicebatur inueniebam, stupebam[illegible]ditati meę alienum errorem imputabã. Demum cum legendo cuius insatiabilem me [illegible]ra facit, in libros Augustini de Trinitate diuinum opus incidissem, inueni allegatum ib[illegible]brum, non quidem quem habebam, sed quem habere credebam, & aliquid ibi de eo libro positum, quo nihil est dulcius, dirigui, & oblationem ratus, experienrię die quodam feruidus, librum legi totum intentissimè, eius certè quòd apud Augustinum erat, penitùs nihil inueni: puduit errasse tàm diù, & remansi certus, librum illum non esse de Laude Philosophiæ, sed quis'nam esset incertus, esse autem Ciceronis stylus iuditio erat. Fuit enim cœlestis uiri illius eloquentia, imitabilis nulli. Post hæc uerò cum ultimo Neapoli uenissem, Barbatus meus Sulmonensis amicus optimus, & tibi forsan saltem nomine cognitus, uoti mei conscius, paruum Ciceronis librum, mihi donauit, cuius in fine principium solum erat, libri Academicorum: quod ego perlegens, conferensq; cum illis, quæ inscribuntur de Laude Philosophiæ, luce clarius, deprehendi illos esse duos, tot enim sunt, tertium & quartum, uel secundum & tertium Academicorũ, subtile opus magis, quam necessarium, aut utile. Sic longæuo errore liberatus sum. Obtulerat casus mihi iam antea uenerabilem quendam senem cuius nomen, ut reor adhuc in curia notum est Raymundum Superantium, ad quem, ante hos XL. annos, scripta iuuenilis mea quædam nunc etiam extat epistola, ille copiosissimus librorum fuit, & ut Iurisconsultus, in qua facultate pollebat, a[illegible]ia quidem cuncta despiciens, præter unum T. Liuium, quo mirũ in modum delectabatur, sed histôriæ insuetum, magnum licet ingenium hærebat. In eo studio me sibi utilem, ut dicebat expertus, tanto amore complexus est, ut patrem potiùs crederes, quam amicum. Ille mihi & cõmodando libros, & donãdo supra cõmunẽ modũ facilis fuit, Liber Ciceronis de Gloria, ab hoc habui & Varronis, & Ciceronis aliqua. Cuius unũ uolumẽ de cõmunibus fuit, sed inter ipsa cõmunia, libri de Oratôre, ac de Legibus imperfecti, ut semper inueniũtur, & præterea singulares libri duo, de Glôria: quibus uisis, me ditissimũ extimaui, longũ est exequi, quos & qualiter, & unde quæsierim, præter unum uolumen elegantissimũ, cui par aliud inuenire difficile, paternas inter res inuentũ, quòd in del[illegible]ijs pâter habuerat, quodq; non ideò euasit, quia illud mihi executores testamentarij salu[illegible]lent, sed quia ci[illegible]ca præda[illegible] p[illegible]sioris, ut putabant patrimonij occupati, ceu uile neglexerant. In his [illegible]bu[illegible] dixi præter illos de Gloria libros duos, & aliquot orationes aut epistolas. Sed ego ne [illegible]

quæ frustrà obniterer, ut uiator sitiens, inopi riuulo, quibus poteram communibus me solabar. At non'ne ego sat mirus sum, mirandiq́ materiam tibi do, qui rogatus historiam unam narro alteram. Postulas ut qualiter libros amiserim, dicam, ego qualiter quæsierim dico, ut cognito quantus fuerit quærendi labor, quantus fuit perdendi dolor intelligas. Nunc quòd pens expediam. Fuit mihi penè ab infantia magister, qui me primas literas doceret, sub hoc postea Grammaticam & Rhetoricam audiui, utriusq́ enim professor ac præceptor fuit, cui parem ego non noui, quo ad Theoricam loquor, quòd ad Practicam attinet, non ita prorsus Oratianæ cotis in morem, quæ ferrum nouit acuere, non secare. Hic sexaginta totos (ut fama erat) annos scholas rexit, & quot scholares, tanto in tempore uir famosus habuerit, cogitari faciliùs, quàm dici potest. In quibus magni uiri multi, & scientia, & statu, & legum scilicet professores, & sacrarum magistri literarum, & præterea Episcopi, & Abbates, ad ultimum Cardinalis unus, cui ego puer patris intuitu charus fui, non uir statu maior ac fortuna, cùm esset Hostiensis Episcopus, quam prudentia & literis. Et præceptor ille quidem meus, incredibile dictù, inter tot magnos, me minimum omnium prædilexit, hoc notum erat omnibus. Nec ipse dissimulabat, unde almæ memoriæ Ioannes de Columna, cuius supra memini, Cardinalis, quotiens iocari secum uolebat, seniculi enim simplicissimi, & Grammatici optimi delectabatur alloquio, ad se uenientem ita percõctari solebat. Dic magister, tot inter discipulos tuos magnos, quos ut scio diligis, est'ne aliquis Francisco nostro locus? Ille c[illegible] in lachrymis obortis aut tacebat, aut interdum abscedebat, aut si loqui posset, persancte iurabat, nullum se tantum ex omnibus dilexisse: hunc talem homunculum, Pater meus dum uixit liberaliter satis, adiuuit, inuaserat enim eum pauperies ac senectus, comites importunæ ac difficiles, post obitum patris, omnem in me spem posuerat. Ego autem impar licet, me illi tamẽ & fide, & obsequio obligatũ sentiẽs, ad erã omni ope, qua poterã, ut deficiẽte pecunia, quod crebrũ erat, egestatẽ suã apud amicos, nũc fideiussione, nũc precibus, apud fœneratorem uerò pignoribus. Millies in hunc usum libros, & res alias asportauit, & retulit, donec fidem expulit paupertas. Grauiore siquidem pressus inopia, duo illa Ciceronis uolumina, unum patris, alterum amici, librosq́ alios me tradente, abstulit, pretendens necessarios sibi in opere suo quodam, quotidie enim libros inchoabat, mirabilium inscriptionum, & procemio consumato, quod in libro primum, in inuentione ultimum esse solet, ad opus aliud phantasiam instabilem transferebat. Quid te ad uesperam uerbis traho? Cùm inciperet suspecta esset dilatio, quod non egestati, sed studio concessi libri erant, cœpi altiùs exquirere, quid de eis actum esset, & ut oppigneratos comperi, penes quem essent indicari mihi petij, ut facultas fieret luendi eos. Ille & pudoris plenus, & lachrymarum, negauit se id esse facturum, quod turpè nimis esset sibi, sed quod ipse deberet alter faceret, expectarem paululum, quod suum erat citò se facturum: obtuli in hanc rem pecuniæ quantum uellet, & hoc respuit, orans ne sibi hanc infamiam inurerem. Ego etsi nihil dicto fiderẽ, nolens tamen, quem amabam contristare subticui. Ipse interim paupertate pulsus, in Tusciam iuit, unde sibi erat origo, me tunc ad fontem Sorgiæ, mea transalpina in solitudine latitante, ut solebam, nec prius eum abijsse, quàm obijsse cognoui. Oratus à ciuibus suis, qui ad sepulturam illum serò quidem laureatum tulerant, ut memoriæ eius honorificum aliquod epigramma componerem. Nec deinceps alia unquam diligentia, uel minimum amisi Ciceronis iuditium, nam de alijs non curassem, inuenire quiui. Ita simul & libros perdidi, & magistrum, habes en historiam quam petisti, longiusculam fateor, sed dulce mihi fuit, & ueterum recordari, & nouo cum amico diu colloqui, quem i[illegible] nòtum, & suijpsius epistolæ commendant, & testimonium uiri illius, cui omnia crederem. [illegible]entio autem nunc, quàm honestum esset, propter additiones, & lituras hanc rescribere, sed occupationi, ac fatigationi meæ tua parcat urbanitas, & quæcunque oculos lædunt, ceu totidem signa familiaritatis aspiciat. Vale Arquade V. Cal. Maias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO SENENSI PHYSICO, S. Epist. II.

Amicitiam spondet.

EPistola quædam repens atq́ inexpectata, & pijs affectibus tuis, & meis tàm ueris, utinam quàm amicis plena laudibus, me itineri accinctum, & mane moturum serò reperit. Non fit ab assuetis passio, ut uos dicere soletis, non est mihi nouum ire, sed familiare nimis, & penè in naturam uersum, presens autem rerũ status, iter ambiguum, [illegible]q́ sollicitum facit. Ibo tamen charitate inde tractus, hinc debito meo pulsus. Inter hæc quamuis mihi silentium suaderet occupatio, uicit tamen tuus ille tàm feruidus nostræ amicitiæ appetitus, extorsitq́ ut hoc tibi potius tumultuarium, ac breue rescriberem, quam nihil respon-

nihil responsurus fortasse latius si se aliquis,quod uix spero nunc ociosus dies dederit. Vellem amice is esse,quẽ me facis,sed non sum,quisquis aũt sim,quando ita uis,tuus esse nõ abnuo,hoc in præsens dixerim,ne præteritum te querare. Vale Patavi XI.Cal.Aprilis.

FRAN. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO SENENSI PHYSICO, S. Epist. III.

De libro vitæ solitariæ.

EPistola quædam tua,nuper ad me ueniens, quamuis ab illo rerum omnium,præterquàm mearum extimatore,rectissimo iure optimo laudata,& laudatoris sui testimonium secum ferens, sine ulla tamen forsitan responsione mansisset,nisi ut Ciceronis utar uerbo,consignatis mecum ageres tabellis,inserta epistola quadam breui, quam ante multos annos,tibi respondens scripsi, hanc tu in iuditio, uelut obligatoriam, profers, quasi quod semel fecerim,semper facere sit necesse,quód quàm sit iustum iudica. Ego quidem hinc occupationibus innumeris, uiresq; meas excedentibus, hinc ætate iam deuexa, quam per seipsam morbus à quibusdam dicitur, & aliorum grauium morborum circumuentus exercitu,si quietem silentij delegissem, forsitan excusabilis fuissem, sed epistola illa mea,in ipso tuæ epistolæ corde conspecta,nisi mecum artificiosam,amicabilemq; uafriciem, & dixi tacitus:Non est fugæ locus,scribere oportet,quoniam scripsi. Sic arte mirabili extorques,ut scribam,non scribendi modò iam fessus,sed uiuendi equidem, ut multa prætereream, quadringentas,& eò amplius epistolas,magna ex parte non exiguas, sed ingentes mihi elapsas, diuersis temporibus, ad diuersos plerunq;, etiam ad ignotos,qualis es tu,duobus fae magnis uoluminibus comprehendi,mille alijs reiectis, nullã aliam ob causam, quàm quod eas locus ipse non caperet. An non,quæso,si nil aliud unquam delirassem,satis,superq; satis, hoc uno deliratum uideretur? Dum omnibus respondeo, quosdam ultrò uerbis aggredior, magnam uitæ breuis partem,hoc in negotio consumpsi,cum tot interim utiliora distulerim & nunc iam senex facio,quod utinam iunior fecissem. Sed contrarium aliquando decreueram,& scripseram,quamuis enim nullas studiosi ferias laboris usq; in finem sperem,huic tamen epistolari exercitio,finem pono,ne melioribus studijs semper officiat: Video enim infiniti operis esse,omnib.ad me scribentibus,respondere,& cupio,si quo modo possim, nugis meis ualedicere, antequam ille mihi, iamq; in fine sum, postquam non modò si uenisset ea epistola, sed si Romanus imperator mihi scriberet, quód sæpè fecit, non aliter, quàm quotidiano sermone rescriberem, ante finem uerò, quanquam sub extremum ueniens,non modò responsionem ipsam, sed reponi eam inter alias meruit, simulq; illam alteram,qui iampridem mihi perierat,meliùs à tua diligentia,quàm à mea negligentia reseruatam, & mihi gratum,tibiq; forsitan non ingratum erit, ut meis in reculis, inter maxima nomina, saltem bis tuum nomen appareat. Nunc tandem ad epistolam ipsam tuam uenio, Scribis te quibusdam opusculis meis,nominatim libro Vitæ solitariæ, usq; etiam pias ad lachrymas delectatum,ea præsertim in parte,ubi triplicem solitudinem,beato illi,cuius nomen ambo gerimus Francisco tribui. Ad quod quidem te non styli uim,sed amorem nominis induxisse,certum habeo,utrumq; tamen gaudeo. Nam cum omnes ferè homines, suarum rerum iudices mali sint,quòd amore iuditium obliquante, sua illis omnia placeant, ego unum omnium, quos nouerim cõtrario malus sum, mea mihi omnia displicent, tàm bona illa esse cupio, ut qualiacunque sint non perueniant,quò uolebam. Quæ si quando cuiuspiam intelligentis uiri iuditio,probata cognouero,incipio & ipse mecũ opus diligere,ac probare. Quod haud quaquàm euenire mihi posse miraberis, cum Augustino tali uiro, memineris euenisse, ut magis flagraret,si libri sui de Pulchro,& Apto, Hierio probarẽtur Romano oratori,ad quẽ eos scripserat,si autem improbarentur,fauciaretur cor ipsius. Lege Confessionũ eis librum quartũ,haud procul à fine ibi hæc inuenies. Certè liber ille meus, de quo loqueris, et ad quẽ scriptus erat,uiro acris ingenij,tàm probatus fuit,ut rarò unquam clarius agnouerim, quód dici solet,amantum cæca esse iuditia,usq; adeò, ut etiam postquàm fuit ad Romanum Cardinem promotus, cum sibi ad mensam, magnis uiris præsentibus legi faceret, ubi nihil nisi de scripturis sanctis legi solitum. Tibi amice si inscriptus licet alteri probatur,nõ minori mihi est gaudio,imò quidem eò maiori,quò minus est aduentitiæ causæ ut probetur, aut placeat. Mouent profectò animum scribentis aliena iuditia,quibus maximè,neq; adulationis, neq; odij sit adiuncta suspitio, ideoq; ueri Poëtæ, ut ait Cicero,suum quisq; opus,à uulgo considerari uoluit,ut siquid reprehensum sit à pluribus corrigatur. Addo ergo si quid laudatum à scientibus in pretio habeatur,dicit idem. Et pictores facere solitos, & sculptores, quod specialiter de Apelle pictorum principe scriptum est. Circa hunc sanè tibi placitum libellum,quæris aliqua,quę mihi non usquequaq; fateor clara sunt. Respondebo tamen ut

potero,

potero, dicis quidem Vitam solitariam à me ibi ueris, & multis exemplis, ac rationibus adornatam, quod an ita tibi uideatur, nescio. Qualiter tamen ad hanc uitam natura aduersante, uel fortuna, facilitetur ascensus, tuis utor uerbis, interrogas. Quid hîc dicam, Nisi ut qui uitam hanc non amat, quod obstaculum est naturæ, amare eam incipiat, & optare. Id uerò qualiter fieri possit, iterum ex me queres? Dicam breuiter quod sentio: Nullo meliùs modo quàm diligenter ac grauiter uitæ huius oblectationes, & cōtrariæ miserias extimādo, quod fareor non potest, nisi qui utramque sit expertus, de quibus & à me ibi aliqua dicta sunt, & multò plura à doctioribus dici possunt. Si fortuna autem bonæ se obiecerit uoluntati, hæc nempè ni fallor pars, tuæ dubietatis est altera, quid hic rursus dicā, nisi quod omnibus notū est. Quacunque in te inter uoluntatem & actum, aliqua se obijciant impedimenta, abijcienda esse uiriliter, ut amotis obicibus, facilè ad optata peruenias & si non sim nescius, esse genus impedimentorum, quæ abijci nullo queant modo. Qualis est uxor in primis, de qua & tu mētionem facis his in literis tuis, & ego in libro illo, quid sentirem, satis nisi me frustratur memoria palàm dixi. Et de his quidem plura possem, sed quid dicam aliud non habeo, unum antequàm hîc abeam præmissus adijciam. Siquidem quod meus ille liber, tuas uenerit ad manus, gratum habeo, cuperem ut secum mea omnia peruenissent, haberes reprehendendi copiam uberem, atq; perpetuam, at quod librum scripseris, non placet, ut cur dicam. Venit Venetias nuper, prior magnus Camaldulensis, uir claræ religionis, & lætissimæ senectutis, & iampridem amicus mihi, per literas, is penes amicum quendam meum fidelissimū, librum illum repetit, & erat fortè, quem primum scribi feceràm, atq; ideò, ut fit, omnes undique margines additionibus pleni erant, quas cum senex legeret, & nunc hos, nunc illos, primæ scripturę additos uideret, amicabiliter subirascēs. Quid (inquit) autor nostri ordinis Rōualdus, tantus amator solitudinis meruit, hinc excludi? Ad hęc amicus ille: Causam (inquit) nullam scio, nisi quod te scribenti forsitā erat incognitus. Prior inde iam ante me uidendi auidus, in hos montes uenit, & quæsiuit idem, & responsum idem ex me habuit, nempè uerum aliud non erat, hinc digressus, Romualdi uitā multis cum precibus, ad me misit, ex qua ego, quod ad solitudinem pertinere uisum fuit elicui, capitulumq; unum libro addidi. Illud quoq; deuotioni meæ additum, ut sanctissimum illum uirum, semper uenerabilem habeam inter alios confessores diem eius festum colam, dum uixero XIII. Cal. Iulias. Huius rei fama excitus amicus alter, quæri cœpit, quid Ioannem quēdam auctorem ordinis uallis Vmbrosæ compatriotam meum, post terga relinquerem, huic quoq; respondi, non id negligentia, uel contemptu, sed rei ignorantia contigisse, & nunc maximè uitam eius expecto, in qua si quid erit ad solitudinem spectans, & hunc inseram. Non enim sanctitas sola suffecerit. Alioquin res in longū iret, si stylo sanctos omnes amplecterer, idq; me interdum prædicatoribus respondisse memini, quærentibus in eo libro Franciscum esse, non Dominicum, meq; hac in parte suspectum asserentibus. Dixi enim, & sic est, hic de solitarijs agitur, & Dominicum quidem sanctum lego, solitarium non lego. Quia igitur & Romualdus hic, & ille forsitan Ioannes, de quo adhuc dubius sum, addendi erāt, si uidebitur mallem scribere distulisses, sed studiosi animus frenum nescit. Est autem haud dubiè magna fames, rusticos & ineptos cibos cogit esurire. Quæris ex ordine: An'ne omnes Medicos æquè odio habeam, atq; contemptui: sentio, mouit te uerbum unū, in fine literæ breuis illius, quā nuper ad amicum tuum, dominumq; meum Stephanum de Columna, undiq; nobilem uirum scripsi, ubi iocans dixi: Nec credidisse unquàm, nec crediturum esse me Medicis. Est autem haud indigna studioso cura scire uelle, quid de sua facultate quisq; sentiat, quamuis multorum in iudicio, aut nihil, aut modicum sit momenti. Ad finem epistolæ tuæ, optas ut diligam Medicinam, & est æquum, utiq; ut qui te diligo, & tua omnia diligam, nisi fortè tuū aliquid, damnosum ubi esse cognoscerem. Ego uerò non sum amicus, siquid fingo, uerè itaq; Medicinam diligo cuius ut homo semper egens sui, nunc ut senex egentissimus sum. Mendacia uerò Medicorum, sed eorum, qui falsò Medici dici uolunt odi fateor. Legisti ut dicis Inuectiuas meas, quas contra loquacissimam illam picam effudi, Papæ medicum, qui cum paucis Aphorismis, ruditer intellectis, habere cœlum sibi sub pedibus uidebatur, atq; inde naturæ abdita contemplari. Id tamen nihil ad me, ultrò sibi suam superbiam & ignorantiam relinquebam, nisi ipse me primus acri conuitio lacessisset, impertinenter id quidem, nihil ego sibi scripseram, sed Rom. Pont. tunc Clementem VI. ægrotantem, bona fide monueram, ut caueret à Medicis, non quidem ab omnibus, sed à multis, exemplo illius qui sepulchro suo moriens iussit inscribi. Turba Medicorum perij: eligeretq;, ut alteri perconctationi tuæ satisfaciam sufficienter, non duos quidem medicos, sed unum tantùm, non eloquentia, sed scientia, & fide pollentem. Audiui autem pòst à Medicis, esse hoc ipsum consilium Medicorum, quod

an ita sit, quis melius quàm tu nouit? Hæc sanè cum Pontifici suus nūcius iuuenis quidem bonus inscius literarum, confusiùs retulisset, remisit cum illicò ad me, iubens, ut quod sibi uerbo mandauerant, scripto certiùs remandarem: parui, ut debui, & Epistolam illam scripsi quæ fons odiorum fuit omnium. Ego autem iurgijs ignoti hominis è transuerso ictus exarsi, fateor, eram enim multo tunc iunior, ardentiorq;, quàm sim hodie, tamē naturaliter uerecundus, & fugitans iurgiorum, tacere consultiùs ducebam, & profectò tacuissem, nisi unus è principibus Ecclesiæ, cui familiarissimus fui, silentium dissuasisset, dicens, illud per homines insolentes, non modestiæ, sed ignorantiæ tribuendum. Ille mihi calamum in manu posuit, quo arrepto, temperare non potui, quò minus ostenderem maledicum illum sibi. Sed quid opus est pluribus? Si ut dicis illud opusculum legisti, attendisti credo, me nihil contra Medicinam, sed contrà falsos Medicos, quorum ille dux erat omnia locutum. Medicinam quis odisset, nisi amator ægritudinum? Venerabilis atq; amabilis illa quidem, non solū quia creauit eam altissimus, ut tu scribis, & multum hoc uerbo tibi placent omnes Medici, cum id omnium scientiarum, atq; artium sit commune, quarum nulla est, quam altissimus non creàrit. Principium libri illius, ubi uerbum illud est relege, ita ibi scriptum aspicies: Omnis sapientia à Domino Deo est. Procede hinc ad septimum libri capitulum, inuenies nominatim. Rusticationem, hoc est, agriculturam ab altissimo creatam, & ad summā quicquid utile homini futurum erat, creauit altissimus, sed propterea illam amo, quia humanæ uitæ utilis erat, nisi facta esset inutilis. Illud amo igitur, & hoc odi, illos maximè qui huic malo materiam præbuère, parcat illis De[illegible]mò non parcat, qui temeritate pestifera tàm necessarium, tamq; honestum præsidium na[illegible] fragilis euertentes, mutum ut Virgilius uocat hoc est, reale artificium, uerbale præcipitiū effecere, moxq; ut murice uestiti, atq; auro insigniti sunt, uitæ, necisq; omnium se credunt imperium assecutos, atq; utinam suo proprio, nō communi periculo fallerentur, ut causas rerum profundiùs scrutarentur, nec tàm prompti essent, ad funesta remedia, quæ peregrinis nominibus adumbrata delitescant, & Latinam mortem Græco uelamine obuolutam credulis inuehant. Odi ego, fateor, in omni genere hominum mendacium, est enim Deo aduersum, qui est ueritas, sed nullum magis odi, cùm sit periculum in nullo mendacio maius, ut Plinius ait, unum excipio, quod circa religionem fallit, est enim ut illud corpori, ita hoc animę mortiferum. An uerò dicat aliquis, & tu dicis: Huic Medicorum infamiæ nullum excipis: uellem hercle, nescio enim quomodo è nullo genere, tot amici mihi semper fuerint, sintq; usque hodie. Sed ne quid dissimulem, aut occultem, ne quicquàm hactenus quos excipiam quæro, doctos quidem uiros, & eloquentes inuenio, non Medicos, ego autem uerba ab Oratoribus, aut Poëtis: at à Medicis sanitatem solam, & ut dicam breuiter non Medicinæ, sed salutis professores quæro. Quos si inuenіam, non diligam modò, & colam, sed paulò minus adorabo, diuini muneris largitores. Itaq; ut ipse fateris, principibus Medicorum, quos tu memoras, non detraxi, nec detraherem quidem unquam, nondum sic insanio, modò illos fama concelebrans uera sit, & credo uerā esse, quàmuis domesticum testimonium suspitione non careat, his tantum detraho, qui salutem polliciti, nos inferciunt syllogismis. Sed iam satis multa de Medicis, de quibus multò plura, cum eisdem, quàm cum alijs loqui soleo, quæ ut plurimum in iocos desinunt. Est mihi inter alios unus hic, nisi eū Medicina detinuisset iturus ad sidera, tàm excelsi, tamq; capacis est ingenij: mihi uerò tàm amicus, ut uix ipse sim amicior, hic me anno retrò tertio, febrientē cum iustis exeat sit adire non posset, literis uisitauit, monuitq;, quid in eo statu mihi esset agendū. Ego cuius feruor annis tepuit non refrixit, sciens quid mihi scripturus esset, quippè qui Medicorum consilijs plenus sum, antequàm literas legerem calamum cœpi, quibus lectis iugiter æstuans respondi, & longa fuit altercatio, sed amica, nempe primis congressibus, non contenti, magnis iterum epistolis literali disputatione conflximus, tandem ipse pertinaciam meam sentiens subticuit. Suadebat autem inter multa, ut fructibus arboreis, aquæ potu, & ieiunio abstinerem, cum ego tamen, ut naturam meam noui, sine aquæ potu triduo nō uiuerem. Non sum, nisi fallor, adeò ignarus rerum, ut meipso melius Græculus quispiam, aut Arabiculus me cognoscat, quem nunquam uiderit, mille annis sepultus, antequàm nascerer. Est apud Ciceronem in Officijs locus quidam, ad hæc spectans. Valetudo (inquit) sustentatur notitia sui corporis & obseruatione, quæ res aut prodesse, aut obesse soleant, & continentia in uictu, omniq; cultu corporis tuendi causa prætermittendæ uoluptatis. Addit tamen unum, quod his aduersum uideatur. Præterea (inquit) arte eorum quorum ad scientiam hæc pertinent. Vbi [illegible], ut te tantisper à litibus ad risum uocem, [illegible] in margine manu mea sicubi sunt quæso? Et erant tunc fortasse aliqui, & fortasse hodie sunt, quamuis eos ipse fortè non uiderim, uel si uidi, certè non nouerim. Sed ad amicum meum illum redeo,

cum quo longa concertatione habita, ipse in sua, ego in mea opinione substitimus, nec ille me in suam, nec ego illum trahere in sententiam meam possum. Ille me diutiùs fuisse uicturum dicit, si Medicis paruissem, ego uerò maturiùs moriturum. Nam & esse me delicatissimæ complexionis, quæ in morbos citò incidens uix emergat, & experimento admonitum, tutiùs mihi naturæ meæ credere, quàm horum consilijs, qui uocantur Medici. Etiam tamen satis diù uixisse, & quantulum restet incertum esse. Hæ sunt inter nos quotidianæ dissensiones, sed modestia eius constantiæ meæ cedit, & iam sensim, ut amicus, non ut Medicus ad me uenit, idq; persæpè, nam & confabulationibus meis, & qualibuscunque scriptis incredibiliter delectatur. Cum hoc tamen, & cum alijs conuersando, ita mihi accidit, ut Medicorum consilia multa didicerim, nihil credam, quia efficax, nihil experior. Hoc est illud, quód à me dictum breuiter, rem in longam traxit admirationem. Sic est tamen, non uerbis credo, sed effectibus, qui non fallunt, antequàm meum limen intret Medicus, scio ex parte quid consilij afferat. Ede pullos, uix dum natos, bibe aquam coctam, tepētemq; utere fœdo illo remedio, quod ab aue littorea Medici didicerunt & similia. Ego autem meo uno Dei consilio usque ad hunc diem uixi, eodemq; usque in finem uiuam, cumq; naturæ debitum persoluero, Deo perstante esse sanus incipiam ac securus, hæc tàm multa de communibus; de te amice quid diffiniam non habeo. Ingeniosum uirum ac discretum uideo, qualem Medicum certe nō uideo, possem uidere si uicinior fores, ualdè enim nunc præcipuè sano Medico æger indigeo. Quando autem hoc iter ingressus es, si quid mihi credis enitere, ut unus sis illorum si qui sunt, non qui syllogizant, sed qui curant. Et quamuis multa dixerimus, unum tamen, quod in parte erat epistolæ tuæ prætereundum non existimo. Optare te annos uitæ tuæ mecum, si licet, partiri, ut quod tuæ subtraheretur meæ accederet ætati, eius abditi uoti tui Deum testem facis. Nouæ quidem amicitiæ ingens liberalitas, sed animosa fiducia, de die dubium, annos uelle largiri, etiam si à puero quolibet Nestori esset oblatum, seu ipsi quoque uiuacissimo hominum Mathusalem. Omnes enim morimur, nec ullus est certus uitæ modus, aut ordo moriendi, quotidie senectutem ultimam iuuenes antecedunt. Te tamen loqui talia, pius amor cogit. Credo igitur & gratias ago, meq; uel hinc maximè tibi charum sentio antequàm cognitum. Proinde anni tui amice sint, læti utinam ac fœlices, mei autem ut ualdè multi essent, unquam optaui, iam optare incipio, ut pauci sint. Vt enim cum Patriarcha Iacob loquar, dies peregrinationis meæ parui sunt, & mali, & dum respicio ad ætatis nostræ mores, nihil melius in futurum spero, sicut ait Satyricus:

omne in præcipiti uitium stetit. Vale Arcade Cal. Maij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PHILIPPO SABINENSI EPISCOPO, ET CARDINALI, S. Epist. IIII.

Absentia amicorum æquo animo ferenda.

SPerabam quod optabam, ferè enim spes, desideriumq; cohabitant, sperabam hac anni parte tecum esse, ut & tibi sæpe roganti satisfacerem, & mihi semper optāti, de hoc & tibi spem dederam, & mihi, quæ ut uides utrumq; fefellit, uide oro, nunquam ego te fefelli, non incipiam nunc, uide inquam, tentaui omnia, nil successit. Experiri uolui, an mille saltem passus equitare possem, nunquam potui, tantusq; erat ardor animi, ut si id potuissem, de reliquo benè mihi ipse promitterem. Spoliauit me igitur mors amicis, quód illa non fecit, supplet absentia. Fer pater æquo animo, inter amicos numerari, quàmuis enim & uirtutis, & status imparitas, ab hoc te numero segregare, uideatur, & sis profectò mihi plus aliquid, quam amicus si qui amat tamen, & amatur est amicus, dum sit amor hic amati causa, non alia, amicus es haud dubiè, neque enim minus mihi de animo tuo constat, quam de meo. Neque uerò te grauiter laturum scio quòd amicus tuus dicar, cum audieris Augustum Cæsarem, non solum ferre, sed optare, & hortari, ut Horat. Flaccus non humilis modò, sed libertinæ originis amicus suus, dici uelit, quin & insolentias Cardinaliū alto animo reiectutum, qui exiguo rubenti panno, mortalitatis obliuione capiuntur, non mortales tantùm modò illi quidem, sed quodammodo moribundi, tu nisi tanto tempore mecum es, & non cognoui te, non solum hoc panniculo non superbis. Sed ne qualibet purpura, seu corona, imò & funditùs te noui, factus humilior nulla te re alia, quam solis auctum curis sentis. Et quotidie ex hac tua magnitudine mediocritatem pristinam, & trāquillas solitudines, atq; ocia nostra suspiras, dum soli in syluis totos dies, ageremus, & famuli ad horam prandij nos quærentes, uix ad uesperam inuenirent, & oblitos cibi, & mirantes diem tàm uelociter transiuisse. Sileo quanta, quamq; honesta nobis esset ex alterno sermone delectatio, dum nil

nisi de nostra salute, uel de literis atque rerũ illustrium memoria loqueremur, terras que omnes, & omnia sæcula, simul ante oculos haberemus, supra quam credi posset, nostra forte contenti, & rerum labentium contemptores, præcipuis laudibus efferentes, inter quos Iacobum de Columna, qui ætate tunc iuuenis, sed morum grauitate & mortis uicinitate iam senex, cum ab omni ambitione remotissimus, ad Episcopatum Papa iubente, inscius, ne dicam inuitus peruenisset, atque inde ad Patriarchatũ Aquileiensem, summo nobilium ac totius populi consensu, ac studio peteretur, ab urbe Roma, ubi tunc erat fratri scripsit, & fidis suis, inter alios, mihi iurans, ascendisse altiùs quàm uellet, neque unquam amplius ascensurum: nec ita multò post tamen ad cœlestem dignitatem CHRISTO uocante conscendit. Hæc (inquam) & quę sunt id genus sileo, ad id mihi te sponde, uel tacitus, quantò tunc dulcius auibus tuis insonuit Sorgię murmur, & uolucrum cantus, quàm nunc clamor litigantium, qui in nostris cõsistorijs tartareo reboat mugitu, huc te tamen extulit sors tua, & summa illius sancti patris prouidentia, qui te prædecessoribus suis incognitum, & libentissimè latitantem nosci dedit, Ecclesiæ consulens, non tibi, nisi quod magnus & pius labor, inter tot præsertim impios, pręmio nõ carebit, hæc præfatus, nec de tua æquanimitate, lõgeque licet imparis, amicitię nomine, ulla dubius ex parte ad institutã progredior. Ita me igitur ille amet, q amãdo fœlicitat, ut uix ulla mihi sit tanta iucunditas, quantam ex tui ante alios, amicorumque fidelium commemoratione percipio, uellem ex conuersatione posse dicere, sed ea rarior occasio est. Ita enim fato asperiore disiungimur, ut legendus sæpius, quàm audiendus, spectandusúe sim uobis, utendum sorte, nec acerbanda querelis absentia, nec desiderium impatiẽtia irritandum, dictum est sæpè, & dicendum sæpius, si nihil nisi quod oculis cernimus amaremus. Nemo Deum, nemo animam suam, nemo seipsum, nisi per speculum amaret, ego uerò. Et in amicis, & in me magis amo, quòd non uideo. Inque ipso, quo mirum in modum recreor, conuictu non tàm uultus, atque ora præsentium, quàm internam pulchritudinem, animæ faciem ac lineamenta conspicio, & quod in quolibet uidetur oculis primum occurrit, non amicum, sed amici habitaculum esse scio. Animus enim cuiusque is est, quisque non ea forma quę digito demirari potest, ut eleganter ait Cicero. Quòd cogitans Anaxarchus in supplicio positus, ad carnificem suum ait: follem Anaxarchi feri: follem nempe feriebat, ubi latebat, atque unde spirabat Anaxarchus. Philosophum enim ipsum in arce rationis extantem, & patientia armatum ferire nõ poterat. Ea cogitatio mihi præstat, ut distantibus licet habitaculis, sem per habeam uos potentes, cum animus meus sit uobiscum semper, & uestros mecum esse confidam. Neque tantum eos qui procul absunt, sed eos quoque, qui penitùs abierunt, iamque exiguum in cinerem uersi sunt, uos adestis, uiuunt illi. Sic totum absentiæ, mortisque dispendium amorlenit, & ego omnes, tam mortuos quàm absentes, teque in primis uideo, & cùm ad te uenire non possim, tecum sum aduersante licet & repugnante fortuna, & si non sum nescius, nimis ipsis in uocibus, inque fulgoribus oculorum, quibus amicus intus habitans, utcunque quibusdam ueluti bipatentibus fenestris aspicitur, summam inesse dulcedinem, atque inextimabilem uoluptatem. Sæpè forsan hoc nomine usus uideor, sed quamuis infame nomen, uulgo indice sit uoluptas, ad utrumlibet tamen doctiorum iudicio trahi potest, cuius rei præclarissimos auctores, Ciceronem & Senecam habemus, qui & uoluptatem illam Epicuream damnent, & honestæ delectationi, nonnunquam idem ipsum uoluptatis nomen attribuunt, & Maronem ubi, & uniuersali omne genus orationem complectens ait:

Trahit quemque sua uoluptas:

Et regem patrem, cuius amore, ut nullus maior inter homines, sic nullus honestior filio loquentem facit,

Dum te chare puer mea sera & sola uoluptas
Complexu teneo.

Quod si tantorum trium testium auctoritas, uocabuli unius infamiam non abstergit, omni exceptione maior, quartus accedat, quo non solùm uoluptas, sed ebrietas etiam sobria & sancta sit. Non'ne enim æthereus citharista Dauid, Deo gratissimũ, carmen canens cum dixisset: Filij hominum in tegmine alarum tuarum sperabunt. Confestim addidit: Inebriabuntur ab ubertate domus tuæ, & torrente uoluptatis tuæ potabis eos: puto iam ad excusationem infamati nominis, nihil amplius requiri. Tu autem uale, & sic habe, post Deum ac uirtutem, de quibus adhuc non tàm gaudeo, quàm gaudere cupio, proximam mihi esse fidis atque honestis in amicitijs uoluptatem. Arquade. III. Nonas Maias.

FRAN.

FRAN. PETRARCHA CAROLO IIII. IMP. ROM. S. Epist. V.

De falsitate priuilegij, Austriam ab imperio eximentis.

C Laudum usquequaque mendacium est, facile deprehenditur, acris ac ueloceis ingenij iudicium ægrè fugit, producitur en mane Ch[illegible]graphum ampullosum, ueri [illegible]o, per nescio quem, sed proculdubiò non mag[illegible]um, iratiunc hominem, sed scholasticum, rudemq; literatorem, utiq; mentiendi auidum, sed fingendi menda[illegible]um non habentem. quòd si habuisset, nunquam certè tam insulsas ineptias effudisset. [illegible]t enim huiusmodi artifices, uerisimilitudine aliqua, falsum condire, ut quod nunquam fuerit, quia tamen his quæ fuerunt simile est, & idipsum fuisse credi possit, hic si fortè ius Romanũ & imperij maiestatẽ armis ac legibus, & uirtute fundatam, atq; uallatã, nugis [illegible]euerti posse crediderat, quod extremę erat insaniæ, debuit saltem artificiosas nugas, & co[illegible] proferre mendaciũ, quod nõ statim oculis etiam lippientibus appareret, de quo quidem [illegible]mento Cæsar, dubius non sum, quin tibi illicò, tuisq; proceribus sapientissimis uiris, at[illegible] doctissimis, & in primis Cancellario tuo oculeo prorsus ac lynceo, tota funditùs illius [illegible]ris scæna patuerit, quia tamen me, hic quoque, quod sentio loqui iubes. Pareo & lo[illegible]uod ex tẽpore in animũ uenit occupatũ, longeq; alijs pressum & obsessum curis, non hoc [illegible]imũ tuæ Clemẽtię pignus habẽs, quod me tanti secreti cõsciũ, atq; participe uoluisti, [illegible]q; his fraudibus detegendis idoneũ censuisti. Omitto autẽ, quòd par in parem nõ ha[illegible] imperiũ, neq; aliud Iulius Cæsar statuit, aut Nero, cuius tu contrarium statuere, tuo iure ualeas. Quod non uidit ille trifurcifer, dum indu[illegible]ę libertatis, duos illos finxit au[illegible], calliditate ridicula, quasi qđ optimus fecisset, & p[illegible]simus confirmasset, rescindi pos[illegible] nemine: hanc tamẽ lingij particulam, Iurisconsultis tuis linquo, seu potius tibi, cuius in [illegible] pectoris, ut puer in scholis ciuilibus audiebam, iura sunt omnia, ad id quod expe[illegible]rnio. Nos (inquit) Iulius Cæsar Imperator, nos Cæsar, & cultor deorum, nos supremus [illegible]mperialis Augustus & reliqua. Quis tàm hebes, rerumq; inscius usquàm est, qui non hinc apertis oculis uideat, tondẽ propè mendacia esse, quot uerba. Licet enim (ut Lu[illegible] ait) omnes uoces, per quas iam tempore longo, mentimur dominis, ętas primũ illa re[illegible], non tamen illas uoces reperent, per quas nobis domini mentiuntur, quamuis ergo [illegible]re sui, plurali numero, quod ante eũ nulli alij factum erat, alloq; cæpissent, magnitudinis eius [illegible]dulãtes, qui mos postea ab Imperatoribus in populum fluxit, ipse tamen de se nunquã cum militibus etiã suis, nisi singulariter loqui solitus inuenit. Hoc ille bos ignorabat, quòd [illegible]sciisset cautiùs mugisset. Sunt pènes me, ipsius de quo agitur Iulij Cæsaris aliquot familiares epistolæ, nam eiusdem orationes, apud Lucanum atq; alios multæ, apud Salustium una, dici possent, non illius, sed scribentium arbitrio dictatæ. Epistolas autem idèm ipse dictauit, [illegible]bus exẽpli gratia paula decerpsi, Cæsar Oppio, Cornelioq; Salutem. Gaudeo me her[illegible]s significare literis, quam ualdè probetis, quæ apud Corfinium gesta sunt, consilio ue[illegible]libenter, & hoc libentiùs, quòd mea sponte facere institueram, ut quam lenissimum [illegible]præberem. Item Cæsar Oppio, Cornelioq; salutem. Ad VII. Idus Mart. Brundusium ue[illegible]murum castra posui: Pompeius est Brundusij, misit ad me Cn. Magium de pace, quæ [illegible] sunt respondi, hoc uos statim scire uolui. Cum in spem uenero, de compositione aliquid [illegible]e orficere, statim uos certiores faciam. Idem Ciceroni scribens. Et si te (inquit) nihil time[illegible] nihil imprudenter facturum iudicarem, tamen permotus hominum fama scribendum ad[illegible] existimaui, & reliqua. Extat eiusdem epistola, seu priuilegium de rę magna, non ad singu[illegible] familiares, sed ad gentem Sidoniorum talis. Cn. Iul. Cęsar Imperator & põtifex, & dicta[illegible] II. Magistratibus Sidoniorum & Cinthiæ, & populo salutem: Si sani estis bene est, & e[illegible] sanus sum, cum meo exercitu. Exemplum facti decreti, ad Hircanum filium Alexandri [illegible]cipem sacerdotum, & rectorem gentis Iudæorum uobis destinaui, in publicis uestris an[illegible]s reponatur. Volo uero Græcæ & Latinæ in ærea tabula scriptum hoc proponere, & statim post cum deliberata sententia decreui, & infrà propter has causas Hircanum Alexandri, filiosq; eius rectores gentis Iudæorum esse, & principatum Sacerdotij gentis Iudaicæ [illegible] habere, secundum patrios mores præcipio, ipsum quoq;, filiosq; eius, inter eos qui [illegible]ntur nobis, & inter uiros nobis amicissimos esse censendos, quantacunque sacer[illegible]ia iura sunt, eum & filios possidere decerno: & reliqua. Hanc quidem epistolam a[illegible] Iosephum certissimum auctorem historiarũ libro tertio, si quæris inuenies, possem cu[illegible]riosiùs insistere, stylum uides. Nam quòd se Cæsar hic Iulius, Augustum uocet non falsum modò, sed ridiculum quis non uidet? Siquidem nomen hoc, ab illius successore principiũ habuisse, putabam pueris, qui uel scholę limen attigissent omnibus, notum esse, lege Annei,

Flori, lege Suetonij Tranquilli, lege Orosij, lege Eutropij, lege deniq; omniũ historias. Nullus hoc ignorauit, præter hunc asellum importunissimè nunc rudentem. Iam quod sequitur nescio, quis auunculus manufactus, mirum penitùs, quid ita Iulij Cæsaris auunculus, in illis tantum literulis notus sit, nusquam omninò alibi lectus, uel auditus, præsertim cũ ipsius pater Cæsaris, uel nulli uel paucissimis cognitus habeat: quod mirarer, nisi quia cogitare soleo, fuisse tantam illius uiri gloriam, cumq; nominis splendorẽ, ut non aliter, quàm sol stellas, ille circa se positas obscuraret. Vnde autem auunculus iste nunc redeat, aut ubi nam tot sæculis latuerit, siue quam ob noxam in extrema terrarum deportetur, nescio, ubi præcipuè illud miror, quod testis innominatus ad iuditium uenit, & tanta de re fidẽs quæritur per eum, cui non solũ fidei, sed nominis sit defectus: quo magis, magisq; detegitur rei nullitas priuilegio, sine illius nomine, cui concessum dicitur prolato, cum priuilegia, ut puer, ut iæ recolo, stricti iuris sint. Multa sunt ibi, quæ illud debilitant, & infringũt, & hanc quoq; particulam Iurisconsulti tui uideant. Nisi fortè magis sensũ orientalis plagæ nomen dicas, quæ uulgo Austria dicitur, cum tamen Auster & Oriens sint diuersa, uerum ea nomina pro situ finitimarum regionum uariè imposita, dixerim, uerè autẽ siue omnem terræ ambitũ, siue urbem Romã, unde hæ literæ, quibus est ea pars imperio eximeretur, manasse finguntur spectes, neque australis est regio, sed Arctoa. Quid quod data literarum apertissime falsa est? Vbi nec dies certus, ne Cos. ascribitur. Quis enim nisi amens dicat, datum Romæ die Veneris, regni nostri anno primo & nõ adijciat, cuius mensis quota sit dies, quis pastor, seu quis arator ita scriberet, ne dum ille, qui præter cætera ingenij opera, quo non iunior, quàm imperio fuit, anni totius exactissimam rationem noscitur, inuenisse. Nam quod ait regni nostri, sic à ueritate semotũ est, ut non risum modò, sed bilem excitet, stomachumq; concutiat; Cæsar enim ut audisti Imperator & Pontifex, & Dictator dici uoluit. Rex nunquam, Reges Romæ septem legimus, prima urbis ætate, si qui post illos regnare noluerunt, uel gladio cæsi, uel de saxo Capitolij præcipites acti sunt: fateor quidẽ Cæsari affectati regni suspitionem pro summo probro, non ab alijs, quàm ab hostibus obiectũ suis. Ergo ille uir tàm gloriæ cupidus, tãq; consilij abundans, quod sibi ad infamiã datur, inter titulos numeraret? Nõ magis certè se regẽ diceret, aut dici uellet, quàm scurrã, quàm adulterũ, quàm lenonem, imò uel multò etiã minus, illa enim turpia & obscœna, regium uerò cognomen odiosum nimis, & periculosum, & importabile Romæ fuit, uis hoc clarum fieri. Cum Hispaniæ populi, Scipioni Africano maximas ibi & gloriosissimas res agenti, regnum uirtutis admiratione detulissent, uide quid responderit. Ipsa enim T. Liuij uerba subscribo. Silentio per præconem facto, sibi maximum nomẽ Imperatoris esse dixit, quo se milites sui appellassent, regium nomen alibi magnum, Romæ intollerabile. Quamobrem quod Lucanus ait:

Omnis Cæsar erat,

Ita dictum accipe, quia in se unum omnes dignitates, honoresq; congesti sunt, qui tunc Romæ essent, ubi regnum proculdubiò non erat. Absit ut regni faceret mentionem, quam factã ab æmulis execraretur, penitusq; reijceret. Hæc ad Iulij Cæsaris fabulam, rudi illi & inepto mendaciorum fabulatori dicta sint. Quorum bona pars Neronianæ conuenit fabellæ, cuius finis est, datum die Martis, illius magni Dei. O' impudens & insanum caput, quid si quis contrarium proferat? Cuius data sit Lunæ dies, aut Mercurij, quem primum, quemue ultimum dicemus? Quis hanc mentiendi licentiam, quis amentiam istam ferat? Tibi uerò ridendum Cæsar & gaudendum est, quòd rebelles tui, plura cupiãt quàm possint, atq; imperium tuum detractare, seq; mendacio in libertatem asserere uelint, potiùs quàm sciant. Nam si scirent, iste mentiri nunquam sic cœpisset. Nos Nero amicus Deorum, quem contemptorem deorum omnium legisset. Sic enim de hoc loquens Suetonius Tranquillus ait libro Cæsarum sexto. Religionum usquequaq; contemptor, præter unius Deæ Syriæ, hanc mox ita spreuit, ut urina contaminaret. Hæc sunt Imperator Auguste, quæ in præsens sine magno se obtulerant studio, præter utriusq; stylum epistolæ, qua à principio ad exitum, totus rudis ac nouus est, ut sicut est, sic uerè illic unde uenit nudiustertius textus à scabro textore aliquo uideatur, & si affectata pueriliter antiquitatis opinio, in singulis uerbis emineat, sed in eius locum quæsita notitia falsitatis, quæ literæ deformis in morem, penè oculis cerni queat. Ita totus ab eo, quod uideri uult, ab antiquitate scilicet ac Cæsareo remotus est stylo, quo fortassis anus credula, seu montanus agricola, at non certè uir intelligens falli possit. Tua autem epistola quam illorum odio dictatam, ad me misisti, magnum te mihi approbat, oratorem, gaudeo, nempè Cæsaris propria ut bellorum, & iustitiæ, sic linguæ & ingenij laus est. Tu uale Cæsar nostri memor, & imperij, & sic uiue, ut mentiri tibi tui nolint, hostes metuant, Mediolani XII. Calendas Aprilis. properè.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PONINO GRAMMATICO PLACENTINO, S. Epist. VI.

NOn possum tibi remedium præstare fidelius, quàm quod ipse pari in ægritudine efficax sum expertus. Fuit ergo mihi adolescentiam ingresso senex quidam, conterraneus meus, uir & ueneranda canitie, & morum grauitate notabilis, adhæc & scientia literarum, supra communem modum, quamuis ex illorum grege esset, qui scriptores Papæ nuncupantur, quos laboriosos magis, quàm ingeniosos agnouimus. Id officium supra quinquaginta annos, fide multa gessit & industria. Iamq; & ætas, & integritas, superq; omnia mitissima quædam conuersatio, ac prædulcis eloquentia, plurimum sibi beneuolentiæ atque auctoritatis addiderant, Ioannes uiro nomen, nam cognomen sola sibi patria dederat de Florentia dicebatur: hinc amoris credo prima radix, nihil enim, quòd quidem diam in me erat adhuc aliud, quòd amaret bonos (inter bonos autem amor communicatiuæ, potens ualde est, sicut inter malos odium) cæterum ille magnus, exigui ingenij mei admirator, & amator, & hortator factus erat. Retribueilli CHRISTE IESV, multum enim sibi debeo, neq; uerò ad eam ætatis meæ partem uenit, in qua sibi rebus ipsis gratus esse potuerim, nunquam totiens me uidit, quin ardentes laten stimulos incuteret, & paterna pietate iuuenilem spiritum excitaret ad uirtutem, ad scientiam, atq; in primis ad amorem Dei, sine quo nihil bene agi posse, imò prorsus nihil esse hominem diceret, quantalibet scientia, potentiaq; suffultum. Hunc igitur talem uirum solum, & honestis de more studijs iterum, die quodam solus, & cogitabundus aggredior, exhilaratus est aduentu meo, uir ille mitissimus. Et quid inquit, causæ est, quod te curis solito grauiorem uideo? Fallor an noui aliquid accidit? Tunc ego: Nec tu pater optime fallens, nec quicquam noui accidit, sed ueteribus angor, ac crucior. Nosti etenim labores, nosti animi mei curas, nosti, quanto studio semper conatus erim, ut me uulgò altius ipse subueherē, & ut loquar cum Virgilio, Enniog, tentata est uia, qua me quoq; possem tollere humo, uictorq; uirum uolitare per ora. Nec cura, nec industria mihi unquam defuit, nec ingenium deesse uidebatur, cui & si cūcta cessarent, non ne testimonium tuum abunde suffecerat? Quotiens tu multis audientibus, eximiam mihi laudem præclari ingenij præbuisti? Vt iam penè omnibus persuasisses ita esse, ut ex illius ore auditum, qui nil facilè mentiretur: quotiens abductum submissa uoce monuisti, ut intellectum talem, bonis artibus exercerem, neq; per ignauiam paterer, tantum Dei ac naturæ munus hebescere. Ego tanto teste securius enitebar, & nil iam mihi difficilè uidebatur, instabā tamen, horasq; omnes literarum in studijs terebam, ut ociosa mihi nulla diffflueret, nec contentus inuentis, nouum àliquid assiduè moliebar, inter blandiens labori meo, non frustrà futurum quicquid agerem, sed grandia mihi, & speciosa omnia pollicebar. Ecce autem studio nunquam intermisso, dum summā crederē, apprehendisse paulatim, ad infima me relapsum sentio, & penè fontem solitum ingenij aruisse, unde hæc inopina pestis ignoro, quæ tunc facilia uidebantur, inextricabilia nunc uidentur, ubi nusquam hæsitans currebam, iam per singulos passus subsistens, deq; omnib. dubitans uix incedo. Sic ex ingenioso hebes, inops ex diuite, ex animoso pauidus, discipulus ex magistro, desperationi proximus, ad te uenio, qui me in has angustias impegisti. Nil me scire profiteor, & an cœpta destituam, nouum ue iter arripiam, an quid aliud agam, non ab alio, quam à te consilium posco? Hæc & his similia, non sine lachrymis iuueniliter uociferantem, non diutiùs passus. Noli (inquit) fili, noli obsecro, gratiarum actionibus, debitum tempus in querelas effundere, meliùs enim se res habet, quàm putas, tam diù nihil sciebas, quamdiu multa scire tibi uidebaris, quo die tuam ignorantiam deprehendisti, mihi crede inæstimabiliter profecisti, nunc demum scire aliquid incipis, cum nihil scire te credis: patescunt enim latebræ, quas magnificè de te olim sentiens, non uidebas nimirùm. Nam & qui scandit in montem, multa incipit uidere, quæ in imo positus, nec uiderit quidem, nec curanda crediderit, & qui pedibus fretum intrat, quò magis processerit, eò magis altitudinem maris intelligit, & ad eundum longius opus esse nauigio, proinde tu, qui me hortante ut tu ais, & ego nō inficior, hanc ingressus es semitam, me ipso non hortante modum, sed urgente cœpta prosequere. Deus aderit, ne dubita, quibus è cœlo uelut oraculo audiris, lætiorq; propositi, & melioris spei plenus abscessi. Et hęc ille quidem mihi, quæ tu tibi dicta credito, hoc adiecto, quoniam propriam nescire miseriam, ea demum miseria summa est, & sunt quædam ægritudines, quas nec torpore pressus æger sentit, & cum expergisci ac sentire cœperit, spes atque initium est salutis. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IANINO GRAMMATICO PLACENTINO, S. Epist. VII.

Esse adhuc uirtutis aliquos miratores.

NOli amice, noli obsecro in arrepto hoc præcipuè tam specioso calle lentescere, eam quam prætendis ob causam, quòd uirtus scilicet, honestęq; artes, nostra ætate esse quidem sine honore uideantur. Contemptricem boni, omnis hanc ætatem dicimus, fateor, nec mentimur. Satis nempe contemnitur, cui quærendo studij nihil impenditur. An tu autem putas uirtutem, ut honorata sit, celebritate hominũ, & uulgi plausibus indigere? Crede mihi, si omnes homines tacuerint, si obierint, si oderint, ipsa sibi uirtus suus est honor, sed nec tacent, nec oderũt, & quamuis eam nemo assequi studeat, aut admodum rari, sunt tamen adhuc, qui eam in alio mirarentur, esset modò aliqua, quam mirari possent, tolle miraculum ipsum, substuleris miratorẽ, an existimas apud maiores tãtum nostros, in pretio fuisse uirtutem? Fuit illa quidem, usq; adeò, ut prono animo uitam darẽt, pro qua uix est hodie, qui pauxillũ pecuniæ permutaret, esset nunc etiã tamẽ eò mirabilior, gratiorq; quò rarior pro re magna atq; in æternũ memorabili, scribit Hieronymus se legisse, ad T. Liuium uenisse quosdam nobiles, de extremis Hispaniæ, Galliarũq; finibus, alij aũt parũ causæ erat, cur adesse uisendũ, audiendumq; non nobiles quidam tantum, sed mundus ipse conflueret? Omitto enim illum quem lacteũ sibi Hieronymus, Pompeio suo, Valerius beatum eloquentiæ fontem donat, quanti demum erat, unũ hominẽ uidere, qui & si nihil aliud egisset in uita, nihil amplius aut agere posset, aut eloqui. Diuino tamen stylo, summaq; diligentia, quãuis C. Caligulæ aliter uisum sit, opus illud immensum, totius ab origine Romanæ Historię centũ quadraginta duobus uoluminib. explicasset, miraculo proximũ, ad quod ne dicam imitandũ, sed uel transcribendũ uix unius hominis uita sufficiat, spectare caput, quod tam multa tractasset, digitos qui talia taliter exarassent. Credo equidẽ, si T. Liuius ipse, nunc uiueret, nõ quosdã ad eum, sed plurimos profecturos. Certè ego, ut est animus, foret modo quæ nuper erat ualetudo, prosperior, & securum iter, ne dum usq; Romã, sed usq; ad Indos, eum quærere non grauarer, ex hac ipsa urbe Patauii, unde illi origo fuerat, ubi mihi multos iam per annos est mora. Inuitus referam, sed neq; uicinius, neq; recentius exemplũ habeo, neq; multis amicorũ notius, quamuis tibi per ætatem, nisi illorũ relatibus notum esse nequiuerit. In quo & si forte gloriabundus uideri possim, his qui omnia pessimam semper in partem trahunt, ego tamen, meo quodam iure, mihi licitum reor, & superior, in epistola te trepidum paterno consilio cohortari, sic nunc tecum paterna fiducia gloriari, si gloria dici potest, quæ nullis omninò meritis parta est, præsertim cum ad tuam exhortationem, & diffidentis animi firmamentum, pariter utrumq; pertineat, cuius mihi semper ut filij cura fuit. Nonne igitur audiuisti, ut ego ipse, qui si non dicam, cum antiquis, sed cum coëtaneis meis conferar nihil sim, dum in Gallijs agerem, admodum adolescens, nobiles quosdam, & ingeniosos uiros, tàm de ulteriore Gallia, quàm de Italia uenientes, ad me uidi admirans, nullo alio negócio tractos, quàm ut me uiderent, mecumq; colloquerentur, quorũ unus fuit honorificè nóminandus, Petrus Pictauiensis, religione & literis uir insignis, atq; ad admirationis augmẽtum, fuêre aliqui, qui præmissis magnificis muneribus, sequerẽtur, quasi liberalitate iter sternerent, & ianuas aperirent. Non est Auinio Rhodani ubi tunc eram, Romæ comparabilis ulla in re, sed & Romanus Pontifex, & multa Romanę ciuitatis insignia, illic erãt, suntq; hodie frustrà, nuper per Vrbanum V. parumper auecta, erant quæ locũ toto facerent orbe famosum, & tamen non se aliud, quam me unum quærere, & uerbo, & rèbus ipsis fatebantur, usq; adeò, ut si abessem, fortè confestim ad fontẽ Sorgiæ, ubi maximè æstatem agère solebã, omnibus neglectis accederent. Si horum tu uel inscius esses, uel incredulus, tui certè ipsius oblitus esse non potes, qui me diù postea in Italiam iam reuersum, nõ quidem tanto, magno tamen uiæ tractu, nunquã antea mihi uisus, aut cognitus adijsti, unde hæc amicitia orta est, quæ nisi durasset, imò & creuisset in tempore, nequaquam tàm familiariter tibi ista nũc scriberem. Quot deinde usque huc, ad me ex illa præsertim studiorũ amicissima uenerunt Parthenope, iuuenes maximè, qui me sibi temporibus summi regis uidisse nõ poterant, propter nostram familiaritatem, tibi esse nequit occultum. Sicut nec ille, Perusini uatis aduentus, ita dico, si literarum amor ingẽs, & ardentissimus spiritus uatem facit, qui senex cæcus ad Pontremulum oppidum scholas Grammaticæ regebat. Audito autem, quòd ad ipsum de quo loquor regem Neapolim perrexissem, ut qui iuuenili fastu tumidus, cuiuscunq; examen, alterius eo tempore dedignarer, qui nunc nullum recusarem, unici filij adolescentis humero innixus, & ipse mox Neapolim, magno mei desiderio tractus uenit, cognitaq; uiæ causa, quam ipse publicè prædicabat, Rex eum uidere uoluit, erat enim monstri instar, uiri facies,

feruorq;

feruorq; illa gelida in ætate, contemplatus aliquandiu uultum hominis, æreæ statuæ simillimum, audiensq; quid peteret. Si uis (inquit) quem quæris in Italia reperire festina, alioquin quærendus tibi erit in Gallia, sic ab eo, nuper hinc digrediente, cognouimus. Ego uerò (inquit) homuncio: Nisi me uita destituat, ipsum si oporteat, apud Indos quæram. Miratus rex & miseratus, sibi uiaticum dari iussit, inde summo cum labore, sua relegēs uestigia, ne quicquam Romæ prius me quæsito, Pontremulum rediit, ibi audiēs, quod adhuc Parmæ essem, hyeme etiam nunc aduersa, niuosum transit Apenninum, & præmissis ad me, haud ineptis aliquot uersiculis, ipse mox affuit:

ô qualis facies, ô quali digna tabella.

Is enim de quo id scribitur, unū oculum habebat, hic nullum, ille elephanti tergo, hic suis pedibus ferebatur, ille Romę, & quòd illam sequebatur orbis imperium, hic unum homunculum, non nisi fama sibi cognitum quærebat. Et quotiens putas, sed quid loquor, præsens rebus intereras, quotiens filij, & discipuli alterius, quo pro filio, & quibus ambobus pro uehiculo utebatur, manibus sublatis, meū caput osculatus est, quo illa cogitassem, quotiens hāc dexteram, qua illa scripsissem, quibus se diceret uehementissimè delectatum, & quam pauca tunc scripseram, cum uel hodie pauca sint, transeo, longa est historia, semper ad hunc modum, triduo mecū fuit, & totam ciuitatem miraculo sui impleuit, cognito quis esset, & quid ageret? Illud non silebo, quòd cum die quodam in excessu mentis, multa diceret inter cætera. Vide (ait) ne tædio tibi sim, si cupidiùs te fruor, ad quem uidendū tanto cum labore peregrinus aduenio. Ad quod uerbum cum risum astantibus excitasset, & risum, & ridendi causam intellexit, excitatorq; subiunxit in me uersus: Te non alium testem uolo, quod ego exoculatus melius, certiusq; te uideo, quàm quisquam horum oculos habentium, quo dicto cunctos in silentium ac stuporem uertit, plus non dico, nisi quòd urbis illius dominus, mei amantissimus, quo nescio an sua ætate ullus in terris liberalior uixerit, cæci sermone atq; animo delectatus, abeuntem multo honore ac magnificentia prosecutus est. Mihi autem hęc speciosa, tunc magis uisu fuerant, quàm nunc relatu gloriosa sunt, sed ideò in hanc narrationem incidi, ut tibi noto exemplo, torporem siquis esset excuterem, tibiq; ostenderem. Esse adhuc aliquos, qui uirtutem colerent, modò aliqua esset uirtus. Pro te enim ipse responde, quid re ad tantum laborem, tàm aduerso tempore subeundum, nisi aliqua fortè mearum rerum fama commouerit, quę si falsa tantùm potuit, quid uera non posset? Qui eum ergo tàm cupidè petierunt, in quo nihil præter indolem laudabile promittebat ætas, quo impetu, quo feruore Ciceronem aut Virgilium, aut ipsum de quo nobis sermo erat T. Liuium petijssent. Stude ergo uiriliter, neu diffidas, uel ingenium tibi defuturum, modò adsit mentio, uel honorem scientiæ, ac uirtuti. Vale Pataui IIII. Idus Maias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI PRIORI MAGNAE CARTHVSIAE, S. Epist. VIII.

Vt pro se Deum oret.

ITa ego te stupens & uenerabundus alloquor religiosissime uir, quasi alloquar in te CHRISTVM, qui hospes beatificus tuum proculdubio pectus inhabitat: anima enim iusti sedes est Dei. Illius est donū, quòd inter homines peccatores quibus orbis abundat, angeli uitam, & angelicam famam habēs, per densissimas tenebras sæculi nostri. Nouū mundo sydus effulgens, & è Carthusiæ sublimi specula, uelut ex orientalis iugi uertice, lucifer maturinus irradias. Quid autem prius dicam, quàm quod prius occurrit? Me miserum te fœlicem. Ego enim, ut Virgilij uerbo utar:

multum terris iactatus & alto:

Quotidie grauibus humanorum fluctuum procellis exerceor, tu quod ait Terentius, iam in portu nauigas, ego inter spinas, & auia uitæ huius anxius, & iam fessus oberro, tu tranquillus in limine cœli sedes, & in uestibulo paradisi, mihi semper ante oculos timor Mortis, tibi autem uitæ spes, & infallibilis arrha uersatur. Quid denique primum precer, nisi quod primum cupio, & quo magis indigeo, ut pro me misero apud CHRISTVM Dominū intercedas, apud quem te plurimum posse confido? Si fortè qui nūc errans in solitudine inaquosa, uiam non inuenio, esuriens & sitiens, in me deficiente anima, ad dominum clamans, de necessitatibus meis eripiar, & meritis tuis adiutus, CHRISTO duce deducar in uiam rectam, ac supernis ciuibus asscriptus, ciuitatem habitationis ingrediar, uel si fortè primam illam tentationem ignorantiæ supergressus sum, reliquas tres euadam, quas ex ordine Psalmi textus exequitur, sedensq; in tenebris, & umbra mortis, uinctus in mendicitate & ferro, humiliatus in laboribus & infirmatus, iterum ad dominū clamans, ex tenebris atq; ipsius umbra mortis educat, contritisq; portis æreis, & uectibus ferreis confractis, de uia iniquitatis

meæ suscipiat, & de uinculis peccatorũ. Omnem pręterea escam abominata est anima mea, & inedia spirituali, usq; ad portas mortis appropinquans, clamansq; rursus ad dominũ, misso uerbo eius de interitionibus erepta, de necessitatibus proprijs liberetur. Postremò descendens in mare nauibus, faciensq; operationẽ in aquis multis, uidensq; opera domini, & mirabilia eius in profundo, ascendensq; uicissim usq; ad cœlos, & descendens usq; ad abyssos, & propterea in malis tabescens, turbata & mota in morem ebrij, omni eius sapientia deuorata atq; consumpta, & quod unicum est, & uerum, primumq; & ultimum auxilium, in his pœnis, denuò ad Dominũ clamãs, de necessitatibus iudem educatur, statuatq; illi dominus procellam in auram, & sileant fluctus maris, atq; ita in portum uoluptatis suæ, læta tandem & secura perueniat. Hæ sunt quatuor illę tentationes, quas propheta regius afflatus Spiritu sancto uidit, profundiusq; conspexit. Quarum prima (ut ait Augustinus) Est tentatio erroris atq; inopiæ: ueritatis, & famis uerbi. Secunda difficultas benè operandi, & uincendarũ cõcupiscentiarum. Tertia primæ aduersa, tædij scilicet atq; fastidij. Quarta tempestatis atq; periculorũ in gubernandis ecclesijs, & sunt primæ tres communes omnium. Vltima uerò propria præsidentium, quamuis & gubernator sine uectorũ periculo non tentetur, nec minus, non dico negotium, sed pelagi discrimen adeat, qui ad exiguæ gubernaculum puppis sedet, quam qui ingens nauigium moderatur. In his tentationum cõtrarijs uentis ac fluctibus, uitæq; tempestatibus, tuarum mihi precor orationũ largire præsidium, cõmunem dominum, dum ad mensam eius conuiuia sacer accesseris precare, adsit mihi erranti, fatigatoq; ne corruam. Inserat in anima sterili lachrymis riganda, & fœcundanda salubribus sui amorẽ, sæculi contemptum, odium uoluptatũ, studium uirtutũ, ueram pietatẽ, sanctam religionẽ, indubitatam fidem, lætam spem, charitatẽ feruidam, solidam castitatem, dignum cultum sui nominis, opera autem carnis, susurros dæmonum, infœlicis animæ consensum, prætentarũ reliquias passionum, & pessimam consuetudinem, qua iunctus ad mortem rapior radicitùs extirpet. Faciat peregrinationem meam sibi placitam, gressusq; uagos dirigat, in uiam salutis æternæ, dignetur mihi indigno in die exitus mei, & in illa suprema hora mortis assistere, neq; reminiscatur iniquitatum mearum, sed egredientem ex hoc corpusculo spiritũ, placatus excipiat. Non intret in iuditium cum seruo suo, cõtumacissimo licet atq; miserrimo, misericordiarum fons misericorditer mecum agat, causæ meæ faueat, & ad deformitates meas conregat, in die nouissimo deniq; ne patiatur hanc animam, opus manuũ suarum, ad superbum sui, & nostri hostis imperium peruenire, aut prædam fieri spiritibus immundis, & famelicis canibus esse ludibrio. Ecce peritæ orationis formam tibi præscripsi, uariare illam tamen non prohibeo. Quid enim animæ meæ expediat, tibi notius arbitror, quam mihi, sed hæc sunt ferè quę in dies singulos precari soleo, inualidas autem preces meas, & criminibus meis pressas, tuis ut precibus iuues precor. Crudelitas est negare opem supplici, quam sine cuiuscunq; iniuria, & sine tua possis difficultate præstare. Hæc profectò sunt munera, multũ gemmis & auro cariora, quæ egenus & pauper ego, ex te in CHRISTO ditissime ac fœlicissime uir expecto. Et unde tibi ista fiducia dicat aliquis, fortasse de homine unquã uiso? Spes hæc fateor, non de meritis meis uenit, sed de amore dulcissimo, quo te pastor optime, innocuumq; gregẽ tuũ prosequor in CHRISTO IESV, si tamen non magni meriti pius est amor, uenit & deuotissima sanctitatis tuæ fama, quæ te mihi facilem aditu, atq; exorabilẽ pollicet. Neq; piæ spei obstat, te his oculis non uidisse, amantur sæpe uehementius, quæ nõ uidentur, neq; enim sine causa scriptũ est. Nolite diligere, quæ uidentur, sed quæ non uidentur. Quæ enim uidentur temporalia sunt, quæ aũt non uidentur æterna. Video ego te, quantuscunq; peccator, & quantumlibet dissimilis tibi, & uideo te in illo, qui utrunq; nostrũ uidet intrinsecus, in quo & omnia eodẽ ipso largiente uidebimus, & multos etiã nũc uidemus, qui mille annis antequam nasceremur obierant, uideo te in feruore spiritus, qui gelidus licet, ad reliqua in tui nominis memoria recalescit, & quanquã melioribus oculis ac certiore luce te uideam, opto tamen te his etiam mortalibus oculis intueri, atq; his auribus audire, quãuis & exẽplis tuis, & ex ore multorũ sæpe te audiam, ut qui famæ publicæ, de te multa crediderim, opto congressum, cõplexumq; tuum, quamuis te assiduè, animæ meæ brachijs, desiderioq; complectar, opto inutili, & peccatrice manu, hac si detur aliquando contingere sacratissimam illam, dicatamq; Deo dexterã, tanti uiri, quãuis eam iugi teneã affectu, & magna mentis intentione constringã. Nempe notior est mihi quam putas, in alio enim stas, lateq; conspiceris, multis quos ipse nõ noscis, te notissimũ uirtus facit. Accedit pretiosum mihi quidẽ, & prædulce pignus tuæ creditũ custodiæ, pignus, inquã germani mei unici, CHRISTO sub te, tuisq; ut ita dixerim auspicijs militantis. Illum ego cui secundũ nec habeo, nec spero, illũ quo mihi è cunctis naturæ, fortunæq; muneribus nihil est charius, tibi quoq; familiariter ac

filiari-

filiariter charum scio, quem mihi ablatum CHRISTI, tuusq; fieret, æquanimiter fero, & solitudinem meam, fraternæ salutis spe & meditatione consolor, imò uerò & gaudeo, & glorior, talem mihi contigisse Germanum, quem mihi, mundoq; subtractum, ultrò tu in filium tibi in seruum, sibi CHRISTVS assumeret. Ista sunt igitur, quæ mihi apud humanitatē tuam plurimum fiduciæ, subministrant: proinde quo erga te, ac commilitones tuos sacræ militiæ CHRISTI seruos animo sim, ex priore Mediolanensis Carthusiæ cognosces, qui tibi manu sua, meas literas, lingua autem meum spiritum præsentabit. Vale ex ipsa Mediolanensi Carthusia, ubi nunc habito VII. Cal. Maias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI PRIORI MAGNAE CARTHVSIAE, S. Epist. IX.

Excusatio quod uiuentem laudauerit.

LAuisti mihi caput egregiè ut uulgò dicitur, nec defuit saponis acrimonia, ut uerbo utar Ambrosij, CHRISTVM testor, quem fallere non est, nec tibi me blanditum esse, nec alteri, atq; utinam non mihi plus indignantis timor, feruorq; animi, & contemptus, quã adulatio nocuisset crebræ contentiones in opusculis meis, quòd quo eram animo, nunquam ab initio diuinassem, crebræ quoq; facetiæ, & aliquando mordaces, blanditiæ nusquã sunt. Veras enim laudes inter blandimenta non numero, quæ multis ad studiũ uirtutis, ac perseuerantiã profuerũt. Turpe est (inquis) uiuentē, & eum ipsum quē alloqueris laudare. Scio nihil agendũ esse, quòd noceat, quid si prosit, quid si laudanti, quid si ipsi etiam expediat laudato, leuis est, quē leuis aura præcipitat, uentos non metuit, qui radicē habet in solido, fundamentũ in petra, constantiã in habitu, cor in cœlo. Præclara illa quidē ingenia, ut ait Cicero, quæ gloria inuitantur. Sic est, degeneres in uiam rectam iurgia & minę, generosos animos blandũ gloriæ calcar impellit, & asellũ fustibus, plausu sonipedē excitamus. Mens bona suis laudibus nō inflatur, sed erigitur, laudataq; uirtus crescit, ut eleganter ait Naso: Tale nescio quid expertus loquor. Sanctitatis laudē, nec habui profectò, nec merui, si qua tamen linguæ, uel ingenij laus fuit, quę quanta sit nescio, illud scio, quòd si uera esse magna esse non potest, sentio quos mihi stimulos incusserit. Laudasti, ais, me uiuum, & me mihi intelligo quid reprehendas, scriptum est: Ne laudaueris hominē in uita sua. Quem locum dum tractat Ambrosius. Lauda (inquit) post uitã, magnifica pòst consumationem. Et rursum: Lauda post periculum, prædica securũ. Quid aũt scio an superuicturus tibi sim? At me tunc saltem alijs laudato, quid si hoc faciens, nō illud omiserim? Sed deijcies me laudando si hoc crederem, non laudarem, noli grauiter ferre si laudaueris, serue bone & fidelis, non tua, sed domini laus est, laudare CHRISTVM operibus suis uetas? Certè ne dum ab alio laudari uerum, & gloriari licet, sed in domino. Quotiens Augustinus Hieronymũ laudat, quotiens Hieronymus Augustinũ? Et sanctissimũ ac beatissimũ Papam uocat, atqui nō alterũ, non defunctũ, mutuo siquidem colloquũtur. Exclamabis aũt. Non sum Hieronymus nec Augustinus ego. Non sum Augustinus, nec ego Hieronymus, quid si mihi maior es quàm Augustinus Hieronymo, uel Hieronymus Augustino? Nescis quia magnitudo, & paruitas, relationem inuicem quandam habent, & parua etiam magna sunt minimis comparata, & magna collata maximis, parua sunt. Nescis Ambrosius ipse, qui laudari uiuum prohibet, quantis uiuum laudibus efferat, loquens sibi. Legi illius homeliam, quam de beatæ Mariæ uirginis purificatione dictauit, & attende, quã reuerenter Augustinũ, de intellectu uerborũ Simeonis interrogat, quas sanctitatis, ingeniiq; laudes interserit, putabis non dicam patrem filio, aut discipulo magistrum, pietatis, fideiq; ducem militi suo, quem dum in uiam ueritatis induceret, & puluerem uetustatis abstergeret suis manibus sacro lauisset in fonte, imò uerò non doctorem doctori, non Episcopum Episcopo, non amicum amico. Deniq; non hominem homini, sed hominē Deo loqui, non humanũ eloquiũ, sed cœleste oraculũ expectante. Possem hoc loco Philosophicis, uel Poeticis exemplis affluere, ni ueterer, ne cũcta per facilitatem (ut aiunt) flexo leuiter umbone discuteres, ad sanctorũ igitur exēpla me refero. Quãtis, oro te, laudib. Ioannes Chrisostomus, & quanto uerborũ honore Demetriũ alloqui, quanto brauio cōpellat Isidorũ? Quanto Augustinũ Hylarius Arelatēsis & Prosper? Sed occurres & sanctos saltem ab his fuisse laudatos dices: at quid Paulo dicis Apostolo, qui uas electionis, doctor gentium, Senecam inter scriptores, licet sacros, à Hieronymo relatum, tamē haud dubiè paganum hominē, laudat, ad eum missis epistolis, cur mihi nō liceat laudare nō modo Christianum hominem, sed CHRISTI seruũ & Christianæ militiæ professorem? Lege Ambrosij epistolas, Valentinio ac Theodosio principib. inscriptas, uidebis seueritatē illam sanctissimi, apud homines profanos, propter aliquã uirtutis effigiem sæpè honorificentius usam uerbis. Quod si forsan dicas: Quære sanctũ quem dignis laudib. prosequare,

homo

homo enim peccator ego sum, & reliqua, quæ in ore tui similium esse solent, quid sacro dicis Ambrosio, quid alijs multis, quos sciens sileo, ne sim prolixior quàm oportet. Quid præterea ad illud Dauidicum respondebis? Quia defecit sanctus: quia diminutæ sunt ueritates à filijs hominū, quia non est qui faciat bonum: sicubi ergo uel tenuem tantis in tenebris scintillam ueritatis aspexero? Nouū solis iubar aspexisse mihi uideor, & illuc cupidus feror, laudās nō tàm lucem ipsam, quàm lucis auctorē. Id nec mihi noxæ, nec tibi ut arbitror debet esse fastidio, & sanè si multiplici testimonio probari potest, licere nonnunquā, se sine arrogantia laudare, quanto magis, & laudare alium, & ab alio laudari, licet laudantē alium audire. Cesset modò dolus, insolentia, & inconsulta credulitas, & adulatio uenenosa. A quibus profectò suspitionibus & te uitæ ac professionis austentas, & me, si professio ac uita nō liberant, liberet saltem ætas, ab omni iam adolescentiæ leuitate remotior, blanditiæ tenerioris ætatis sunt, & sexus infirmioris, uirilem canitiem non decent. Quæ cùm ita sint, tametsi certus & infallibilis tibi consulor, assiduè intus ad aurem cordis sonet, ego tamē potentia tua fretus loquar, & dicam, quid hic mihi consilij sit. Adulantium uoces ut uenenū melle illitum respue, adulantemq́ ne redeat frontis atq; uerborum auctoritate propellito. Cæterorum laudes, sic admitte, ut si ueræ sint imbecillitatis tibi conscius humanæ, & maiorē in modum te humilians, nihil in laudibus, nisi unum bonorum tuorum glorifices largitorem, sin falsæ, quantum tibi desit intelligas, satagensq; te defectu, ac laudatorem tuum mendacio liberare, talis fieri studeas, qualem ille te prædicat, ita utrobiq; sentias, tibi calcar adhibitum, ad gratitudinem, ad uirtutem, ut uel de perceptis lætus, Deo gratias agas, uel pro defectu mœstus, tuum in profectum alienum uertas errorem. Ego quantuscunq; peccator, nō uenio ut oleo meo tuum caput impinguem, absit ab anima mea, ut quòd nulli unquam me fecisse memini, in te pater incipiam: sed ut te alloquens me excitem, si possim, & dum tibi non noceam prosim mihi, si forsitan te laudando ad imitandū pectus hoc gelidum inardescat, nam quis imitari studeat, nisi quòd aliqua singulari laude dignum putet? Sine igitur te laudari, quo & tu melior fieri possis, & ego te cupiam imitari. Facis autem non inficior magnificè, qui hominum laudes spernis, eorum maximè, quibus si reddere uicem uelis, sine graui mendacio non possis, & eueniet tibi, quod de Marco scribitur Catone, qui quò minus gloriam quærebat, eò magis illam assequebatur. Si penitùs quidem iubes laudare, te desinam nō mirari, quanquam nō te laudauerim, nec te mirer. Illum in te laudo, illum miror, & ueneror, qui hominē per se miserū animal, & caducum sæpe, laudabilem, mirabilem, & uenerabilem gratis facit, illud nūquam efficies, ut tuarum precum auxilium desinam flagitare. Quod nō facerē, si uel meas tibi, uel tuas preces CHRISTO contemptibiles arbitrarer, ab illo equidem procul, & heu magno nimis absum interuallo, & concretione terrestrium raucus sum, tu proximior, tibi uox clarior, tu me audies spero, ille te pro me rogantem audiet, exaudietq; utinam, in eo maximè, quòd ut petas nominatim precor, ut talis scilicet sim dum uiuo, qualis uellem fuisse dum moriar. Reliquum est, ut petitionibus, & quæstionibus tuis, utcunq; satisfaciā, quibus si te sequi uellem, nunquid ego quoq; non sat dignè subirascerer? Tantum nempe mihi preconiū ingenij tribuis, quantum ego nec posco, nec mercor, & quanquā multū exprimam, plus tantum incomparabiliter est quod taces, tacitusq; pronūcias, ubi me rogas, ut de Dignitate conditionis humanæ, librum ab Innocētio III. promissum ut dicis, nec ab illo æditū, ipse ædam, promissumq; impleam alterius, qui propriū implere nondum potui, quasi promptū sit, mihi de re quàlibet copiosè, suauitèrq; differere. Nec aduertis uirū illum, quē uirtus & ingeniū, ante tēpus ad Romani pontificatus apicem euexerunt. De miseria humanæ conditionis ingressum scribere, uix implesse propositū, de contrario aūt, se scripturū promisisse, tantūmodo nō adhibitis sponsoribus quos se digresso, delusa posteritas conueniret. Illius fidem ut absoluā, tu nunc iubes, & experiar, quòd illum uel noluisse, uel timuisse, uel nequiuisse compertū est. Sed quis ego sum, aut quæ est in me facultas? Vt apud Ciceronē ait Lælius. Ergo ego, quòd ille uir exhorruit, securus aggrediar? Qui etiam si Pontificatu seposito, per seipsum extimet, cautus habetur omnium iuditio, ut doctissimis asseribatur, in Pōtificatu autem, talis fuit, ut haud dubiè sicut sæpe dicere magnos Ecclesiæ cardines audiui, peregrinæ nationis atq; inuisæ, qui hoc non spontè sua, sed cogente ueritate fatebantur, post illum Petri sedem, æquè nullus honestauerit cum hoc tali uiro, tantæ auctoritatis, tàm potentis ingenij, me adeò nō ex æquo partiri iubes hanc sarcinā, ut eum de Miseria humanæ cōditionis ille tacuerit, mihi de contrario sit agendū, atq; ita, quòd nemo dubitat, quæ illi prona fuit, & facilis, mihi difficilis, & maligna materia sit. Amplissima est enim humana miseria, breuis & perangusta fœlicitas, uerum quia & si non faciē tamen, ut mihi uideor animū tuum noui, & scio nō aliunde procedere, ut hoc mihi onus iniūxeris, nisi ab ingēti quadā, & insigni fiducia, q̄ de rebus meis,

meis, & ingenio concepisti, suggerẽte charitate illa, quam in CHRISTO me diligis libentissimè parerem. Quid enim melius possem, quam implere quod præcipis? Sed obstant aceruũ mearũ occupationũ, quæ tàm multę sunt, ut si eas noueris, aut miseraris, aut rideas quas, mihi fateor non ambitio, cupiditasq; conflarunt, sed operosum [illegible]cium, & literarũ sitis inexplebilis, nec unquã ut auguror, nisi supremo cum spiritu deponenda, meisq; undiq; obsideor curis, nec ulli magis conuenire dixeris illud Virgilianũ, uel reginæ amantis, uel amentis, incertisq; pastoris pendẽt opera interrupta, & semiputata mihi frondosa uitis in ulmo est. Itaq; sicut nihil tibi negatum uelim, sic uiribus meis maiora promittere nõ ausim. Tentabo tamẽ, si quas fortè mihi horas intercipere, furariq; possim, dedicandas tibi, & id faci[am], non tam ingenio meo, quàm orationibus tuis fisus. Et dicam tibi, quorsum processerim dictu mirũ, cum adhuc nihil inceperim. Est mihi liber in manibus, de Remedijs ad utranq; Fortunam, in quo pro uiribus nitor, & meas, & legentium passiones animi mollire, uel si datum fuerit extirpare, fortè autem ita accidit, ut dum de tristitia, miseriaq; tractatus uenissem, ad calamũ, essemq; in eo occupatus, ut eiusmodi tristitia, nullis certis ex causis ortam, quam ægritudinem animi Philosophi appellant, obiectu contrarij cõsolarer, quod nullo m[e]lius modo fit, quàm causas lætitiæ conquirendo. Id uerò nihil est aliud, quàm humanę conditionis [e]xquirere dignitatẽ, eo ipso die, tua superuenit epistola, hoc ipsum uehementer expostulans, quasi qui [me] tunc agerem sciens, ultrò currenti stimulum tuæ exhortationis adijceres. Feci igitur & diligentiùs institi, non aliter quàm si scribenti assiduè, immineres, & tibi in silentio respondebam. Facio ecce quod iubes, hic rerum & arbitror summa est, qua si ornare, diligentiusq; distinguere, uel uitæ breuitas, uel uerum impedimenta uetuerint, hoc tibi saltem nullus eripiet, hæc hactenus. De quæsitis autem tuis, ne nimis te hodie prægrauarem, ei de cuius ma[nu] hanc accipies explicui, uiro utiq; doctissimo, tuiq;, & propter te mei quoq; amantissimo, cuius mihi ualde deuotio & aspectatus, & propositum placuère. Vale fœliciter in CHRISTO IESV per quem te obsecro, & adiuro, ut quotiẽs eius fueris alloquio, mei habeas memoriam, neu de profundis ad Dominum & ad te clamantem, ex altissima tuæ contemplationis arce despicias.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. EPISTOLARVM DE REBVS SENILIBVS,

LIBER XVI.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO, S. Epist. I.

Ei cui uirtus, de opibus nihil conquærendum.

AD literas tuas nihil respondere decreueram, continebant enim utiles licet, amabicabilesq; sententias uehementer tamen à meis sensibus abhorrentes, incidit mihi interim uoluntas, de re alia, nõ paruam tibi epistolam scribendi, quam cum lituris obsitam rescribere pararem, amicus quidam penè iugiter ægrotantem, miseratus, hunc mihi abstulit laborem, illo autem scribente, cogitare cœpi: Quid nunc dicturus est Ioannes meus? Homo isti dictat superuacua, & ad necessaria non respondet, tunc impetu magis, quàm iuditio, abiectum calamũ reassumpsi, & scripsi epistolam tibi alteram eiusdem penę magnitudinis, [i]n qua tuæ respondeo. Ambas autem propè duos menses, ex quo scriptæ erant nuncio non occurrente, dictaui. Nunc tandem, cum hac parua magnæ illæ duæ ueniunt, apertè illi quidem, quo scilicet aperiendi laboribus passuum remittatur, legant qui uolent, modò integras restituant. Scient nihil nos bellis agere, utinam non plus alij, esset enim pax nobiscum, quæ nunc [ex]ulat, illam ego alteram manu mea scriptam priùs leges, illam alienæ manus postea, hunc eis ordinem dedi. Cùm ad finem ueneris, fessus dices. Est ne hic amicus meus, æger ille senex, occupatus? An nescio, quis alius eiusdem nominis, sanus, iuuenis, ociosus? Ego ipse me, fateor, & peruicatiam meam miror. Vale.

FRAN.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCATIO, S. Epist. II.

De non interrumpendo per ætatem studio.

EPistola status tui nuncia ad me uenit, eaq; in parte animum meum, magno quidem, non insolito mœrore compleuit, his olim rumoribus plenus sum. Inique fateor, tecum agi, in his quæ fortunæ bona uulgus uocat, Philosophi autem ueri, nec bonorũ appellatione, nec pretio digna dicunt, & si leuia quidem, uitæ mortalis adminicula non negentur. Doleo equidem, & indignor, dicerem fortunæ, si quid illam esse crederem, nunc irasci non audeo, si quæ lætos, mœstosq; nos faciunt, non temerè ut communis habet assertio, sed maioris arbitrio eueniunt, qui cum tibi plus multò quam cæteris mortalibus daret, prælatum penè omnibus coæuis tuis, multis æquauit, compensatione iusta forsitan, sed molesta, ut nostri temporis Lactantius esses, aut Plautus, cui plurimum esset ingenij, atque eloquij, nec minùs inopiæ. Si autem quo es iuditio, acriter tecum ipse rem discutis, & quid tibi datum, quid negatum extimas, puto fatebere, omnibus ad libram deductus, quamuis amariusculè non infœliciter te humanis habitum in rebus. Quod ut clarè uideas, intende animum, & cogita, neu te fallas, quot sunt in toto hominum conuentu, cum quibus non dico pecuniam, non ualetudinem, non agellos, sed res tuas omnes simul permutasse uelles, & si paucissimos, aut si nullos inuenis, cõquiescere ac solare animum, illi gratias agens, qui dat omnibus affluenter, nec improperat, sed cum tibi omnia largiri nollet, meliora largitus est. In hoc enim fallimur, quòd dum uirum uirtutibus ac literis insignem, cæterarum rerum cernimus indigentẽ, miramur, irascimur, indignamur, idq; sibi iniustè quærimur accidere, quæ maioribus dignum remur, quod tunc rectè diceret, quando ea, quibus ornatus est, à seipso, uel ab alio sibi essent non ab illo, qui non omnia uni dat, sed hoc tibi, illud alteri, sicut [illegible] est, diuidens singulis prout uult. Satis sit igitur accepisse chariora, quamuis negata sint [illegible] Illi autem quisquis erit, caducis opibus glorianti, tu Philosophico, Pierioq; locuples thesauro, dic fidenter illud Flacci:

Te greges, centum Siculaq; circum
Mugiunt uaccæ, tibi colit hinnitum
Apta quadrigis equa, te bis Afro *Murice tinctæ* ——
Vestiunt lanæ, mihi parua rura &
Spiritum Graiæ tenuem Camœnæ
Parca non mendax dedit & malignum *Spernere Vulgus.*

Sæpe quidem hunc sermonem, cum amicis habui, & quid dicere soleam nunc scribo. Si uirtutum diues, aliquis fortè cuiuspiam principis ad obsequium deuenisset, & ille eum duriter atq; auarè tractaret, ac diceret, sufficiãt tibi uirtutes tuæ, de alijs sine me boni huius inopiam patientibus subuenire, posset hic talis iure optimo respondere. Si quid est uirtutis, nõ à te illud accepi, tu ergo, si iustitia uti uis, debes nudum in me meritum intueri, & qualem inuenis extimare, aut par præmium sit uirtuti, neq; mihi insolutum dare, quod non tui, sed cœlestis est muneris, meq; non exprobratione, sed beneuolentia indignum facis. Hoc omnium domino dici nequit, qui uirtutes, corpusq;, & animam ipsam, dedit, ille quidem ampliùs petenti, iure suo potest dicere. Sile forte tua contentus, ac desine cuncta concupiscere. Suasq; dotes quantaslibet allegantí Apostolicum illud obijcere. Quid habes quòd non accepisti: simulq; quòd sequitur: Si autem accepisti quid gloriaris, quasi non acceperis? Et hęc quidem hactenus pauca de multis, quæ tibi ita nota sunt omnia, ut uix ulli hominum notoria, è quibus omnibus unum illud efficio. Non posse istum uirtuosum uirum, de inopia temporalium rerum queri. Venio hinc ad alteram epistolæ tuæ partem, quæ de me erat, dixi equidem, olim sæpè, & totiens inculcare unã eandemq; rem piget: at si ut literæ tuæ sonãt, læta mihi & opulẽta sors esset, nunquã profectò tã tenuis tua esset, hoc uelim tibi in animũ demittas. Nihil est uerius, muta igitur epitheta pro opulenta, mediocrẽ, pro læta nõ anxiã, si dixeris, uero propiùs accesseris, qualiscunq; sit, tamẽ hoc totiens dictũ, nec iam amplius repetendũ scito, quòd si unicus mihi esset panis, æquis portionib. diuidẽdus ueniet inter nos, qui si Paulo, & Antonio famosissimis olim æremicolis, satis fuit, cur nõ nobis etiam satis sit? Non sumus panis meriti. Panis tamẽ ille, cõditus mutua charitate, & quãuis nõ corui rostro, ab eodẽ tamẽ domino missus erit. Si præterea lectulus unicus, nostro esset in thalamo, largiter sic unanimes duos exciperet, somni, curarũq; fidus arbiter nostrarũ. Sed & panes, & lectuli plures erũt, nilq; omninò nobis deerit, una modò nõ sit æquanimitas. Nũc ad id trãseo, cuius partẽ me noueris implesse miraculo, scribis te ægritudines meas multiplices ægrè ferre. Scio neq; hoc miror. Neuter nostrũ, ægrotante altero, planè sanus esse potest, addis credere te, id mihi

ætatis

… peruenire, quòd ut Comico placet, senectus ipsa morbus est. Neque hic … mirer neque sententiam hanc respu… modo illi additum sit. … orbum corporis animi sanitatem, quò … an peruerti forsan ista … ut cum sanitate corporis animus ægrotado. … uocab anima mea, ut in corpore homine … & ga… eo illam partem in primis benè ualere, quæ nobilior … annos meos, qu… d non potes, nisi ego illos tibi dinumerassem Obijcis (in… um uelut a… ones, & benefacis. Vtile est enim excitare memoriam … quæ libenter effluunt, quales sunt omnes amar… quos h… rei … em crede mihi, memini, & per singulos dies ipse me … quidem de ætate mea, in qua senes, addendo … senes … uarijs … sanitate mentiri solitos scimus, tibi ante aliquot annos … uerum scri… mearum rerum te lateret. Scripsi & per idem tempus … communiter ad amicos, … de … m senectutis epistolam. Etsi enim dicat Anneus, quosdam multos se… cant…s, & alia ad quæ uotis peruenitur, idq; ego non quibusdam, sed pe… re consentiam, non tamen hanc ætatem plusquam cæteras erubesco. … senuisse me pudeat, quàm uixisse. Cùm alterum sine altero diu esse non … tarem planè, ut daretur non iunior quidem esse, se… intec actus … ac … grauius quicquam fero, quàm tanto in tempore, nondum q… odebuc… sic. de… ad… uc nitor, si quomodo forsan ad uesperam, diurnam desidiam repa… mihi per an… recurrat sententia Cæsaris illi sapientissimi princi… … cle… ter fieri, quicquid fiat satis benè. Seu illud Philosophicum doctissimi … cui etiam in senectute contigerit, ut sapientiam, uerasq; opiniones asse… seu denique Catholicum illud sacratissimi patris Ambrosij. Beatus … hanc … sute surrexit ab errore, beatus qui uel sub ictu mortis, animum auertit a … ijs. … similibus expergiscor, ut fauente Deo emendem, fere licet in me non solum, … defuerit, sed etiam quod scripturæ, quam ab initio neglexisse uideri poteram … silium … quid nisi senilis torpor & ignauia … deretur … Qua in parte con… … tuum est, quod uehementer me mirari ut dixi, & dico. Quis enim ex ore ui… somni … ium & inertiæ non miretur? Relege oro, & examina quod … udex contra c… lium tuum sede, & si audes illud absolue, quo me scilicet, p… senectutis, ad multum senectute qualibet peiorem segnitiem cohortaris, idq; … ersuadeas, magnum nescio quid me conaris efficere, ut qui satis … sicut uiuendo, … do ac discendo processerim, iam subsistam. Mihi uerò meus longè alia … (ut ait … propositum, gressum ingeminare, & nunc maximè uelut amissa parte lu… m solum ad exitum properare. Quid tu autem consulis amico, quòd tibi ipse … Non … mos hic fidelium consultorum, inq; hoc ingenio uteris, atq; arte mi… is enim, me iam scriptis meis latè cognitum, qui utinam benè cognitus ac proba… meæ essem. Addis, quo nisi me multum amares, & nisi penitùs alterum … crederem, & illudi, nunc non me abs te, sed te ab amore falli sentio, qui … os … nos iam fefellit. Dicis autem me, & orienti notum, & occasui. His & mediterranei … littora, & quod ridiculum omne … ascendit, hyperboreos addis & Aethyo… ualdè, si pe… tibi hoc po… tali uiro, mirabilius si persu… deri mihi posse … eo modo … quo in una, eademq; domo, quamuis exigua omnis qua… partes designari possunt. Auster & Boreas, ortus & occidens, uixq; uel si domi … lenum notus esse crediderim, nec scio, an quisquam sit hodie in terris, qui angu… de se … opiniones. Tu amice cur fallere, cur ut dicam propriè, me infatuare … alter te fefellit, ut dixi, qu… d ipsum supra fidem mirer, cùm ul… … cr… putauerim, & tamen omnia opinari malim, quàm de tanta fide … ut longissimè … homunculo, … Marci Tullij ut ait Seuerinus) n… Romanæ … cenderat. Vbi inaduertentiam tanti uiri, solitum fateor me mirari, non de sua e… Scipionis Africani ætate Tullius agebat, ubi hoc ait. Sed esto quocunque libet … tibi fingito, sicut ego doctissimos Patres uidi, de … is quibus, nec … mirab… somniantes. An tu tamen … mei … exitum … cernere … co … sed … & ardentem

Tuuer[illegible] terræ [illegible] s non contentus, me super æth[illegible] [illegible] ac [illegible] quidem [illegible] teneo [illegible] is fons, utinam & dic[illegible] m, [illegible] ec[illegible]o Ad[illegible]c, nostra studia mul[illegible] me [illegible] m excita [illegible] fortasse longiùs halia. S[illegible] m [illegible] apud nos [illegible] m studijs elaborant, at quod hinc [illegible] s non admi[illegible] [illegible] labor [illegible] impetum i[illegible]terrumpam [illegible] tamen [illegible] fo[illegible]bere [illegible] omnia uoluisse uidear. O [illegible] [illegible] e [illegible] oluntas ambarum una sit. Tibi ego omnia, [illegible] [illegible] tus uideor scripsisse. Sed ut multa scripserim, & ut mul[illegible] [illegible] nam me [illegible] [illegible] pos[illegible], sequentium a[illegible] os ad perseuerantiam e[illegible] excit[illegible] [illegible] plaquam [illegible] a. Certe p[illegible] imus dux Camil[illegible] nex, bella [illegible] to ma[illegible] s ad [illegible] irtutem iuuenes accendebat, quàm [illegible] is in acie te[illegible] ed[illegible] dum e[illegible] et, in c[illegible] lum concessisset. Quid autem [illegible] cit suideri [illegible] e me [illegible], scribere a[illegible] cet, tale est, q[illegible] mus me[illegible] lle ridiculus A[illegible] xan[illegible] [illegible], qui timere [illegible] scr[illegible] nc [illegible] omn[illegible] P[illegible] lippus pate[illegible] dis eriperet: inf[illegible] s adolescens, qui nesciret quanta [illegible] nunc etia[illegible] licet O[illegible] ente re[illegible] arent. Nec Papyriũ f[illegible] sitan Curs[illegible] & Martio[illegible] duces nolle[illegible] Se[illegible] me [illegible] Annæus Seneca, q[illegible] ad [illegible] m epist[illegible] M[illegible] ltum [illegible] huc restat operis, mu[illegible] tumque restabit, nec [illegible] nat[illegible] [illegible] mil[illegible] sæcula [illegible] q[illegible] d adhuc adijciendi. Tu am[illegible] e mira rerum pe[illegible] ate hinc me n[illegible] [illegible] pro[illegible] m operum pe [illegible] dis [illegible] speratio[illegible] e, [illegible] [illegible] e ostentati[illegible] ne di[illegible] ert[illegible] [illegible] dixisti [illegible] me scriptis [illegible] [illegible] precon[illegible] [illegible] gi[illegible] æquare ut [illegible] mina n[illegible] mero. Equidem A[illegible] m æquari à nemine p[illegible] quis nunc enim illum æquet, quem æuo illo ing[illegible] tum [illegible] acissimo me iud[illegible] [illegible] æquauerit nimis magnus undique Vir[illegible] ir, [illegible] accessibilis. Q[illegible] d ad O[illegible] net non tam numerare [illegible], qu[illegible] m ext[illegible] mare, me [illegible] teris pau[illegible] [illegible] pros scripsisse maluerim, [illegible] m istos in [illegible] meros, in q[illegible] s magn[illegible] est fama & [illegible] lerabiles sint errores. Vtrunque horum æquare tu mihi dicis im[illegible] fsibile, [illegible] quàm diuersa ratio sit amborum. Contra te i[illegible] sum tame[illegible] qui me ad oc[illegible] stylo [illegible] alt[illegible] [illegible] quid cogitans laborio[illegible] issimos [illegible] lenes pr[illegible] e[illegible] Socrate[illegible] cle[illegible] que, & [illegible] nostris Censorium Catonem, & quot [illegible] posses alios, le[illegible] dici qui[illegible] [illegible] loquitur. [illegible] tamen & consilij tui, & meæ imbecil[illegible] tis excusationem, [illegible] de [illegible] nquires, dicis: Diuersam fortasse t[illegible] orum fuisse, & m[illegible] am esse com[illegible] ex[illegible] Cui quidem haud [illegible] actus a[illegible] [illegible] mus & me [illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] m [illegible] [illegible] qui [illegible] m [illegible] tiam [illegible] ed [illegible] [illegible] Bonas me partes temporum sub obsequio prin[illegible] um perdidi[illegible] e hic ne erres [illegible] uerum [illegible] pe. N[illegible] mine ego cum principibus fui, re a[illegible] m p[illegible] cipes mec[illegible] m fuer[illegible] nt, unq[illegible] m [illegible] lorum co[illegible] lia, & pe[illegible] ra[illegible] o conu[illegible] ia te[illegible] [illegible] mil[illegible] quam con[illegible] quæ sie uel mod[illegible] cum à libertate & a studi[illegible] eis auerteret. Itaque cum palat[illegible] m ego uel nemus petebam, uel inter [illegible] amo [illegible] eligebam. Si dicam nul[illegible] um d[illegible] perdidi, falsum dicam, multos [illegible] erdidi [illegible] m [illegible] el inertia [illegible] dam, [illegible] s [illegible] rporis, uel ang[illegible] tibus anim[illegible] [illegible] e [illegible] nullo c[illegible] in [illegible] en o. Q[illegible] [illegible] rincip[illegible] m perdiderim iam audies. Nam & m[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] enetias missus, pro negotio pacis inter [illegible] m[illegible] lan[illegible] [illegible] hoc mensem i[illegible] tegr[illegible] m exe[illegible] e ad R[illegible] anum P[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] barbarie[illegible] lapsi spes [illegible] pe[illegible] [illegible] deterer[illegible] o Ligu[illegible] ca pace, [illegible] menses. Denique ad g[illegible] tuland[illegible] m Ioann[illegible] Franco [illegible] anni [illegible] tunc [illegible] to. Alios tres [illegible] ernos [illegible] cerem, quia tamen ne[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] q[illegible] am [illegible] s [illegible] am [illegible] ad [illegible] [illegible] i[illegible] [illegible] tem [illegible] i, de mutatione fortun[illegible] [illegible] ero rediens defi[illegible] m [illegible] p[illegible] Ego ecce mens[illegible] tem, sub obsequio, [illegible] [illegible] q[illegible] dicam, [illegible]

ueterum industriam, & excusandam ignauiam modernorum, hoc in scho- ... accepissem, mandaui sibi per unum e discipulis suis, ne id amplius dice- ... ipse indoctior haberetur. A' duobus & ... amplius annorum milibus ... uitæ spacium, nulla mutatio facta est. Sexaginta tres annos uixit Aristote- ... Cicero, ... amplius si impio atque ebrio placuisset Antonio, & quam ... pridem de sua calamitosa ac præcipiti senectute tractauerat, librumque de senectu- ... quo cum amico communiter uteretur. Septuaginta uixit Ennius, octo ... Horatius, quinquaginta duo Virgilius nostra etiam ætate breue tempus. at Pl... uno idque pro monstro habitum fertur, ut propterea quòd perfectissimam explef... quasi qui supra hominem esset sacrificatum ei constet, à Magis, cum passim ho... in urbibus hæc ætatum spatia uideamus, & octogenarij, & nonagenarij occur- ... quisquam, nec sacrificet. Si tu hoc loco mihi uel Varronem obijcias, uel ... alios qui ad centesimum peruenerunt annum, uel Gorgiam Leontium, qui ... spatio supergressus est. Ego illis quos opponam habeo, sed quoniam obs... unum pro multis obijciam Romualdū, Rauennatem ... mum æremitam, ... per inter maximos labores, quos sibi pepererat amor CHRISTI, in uigilijs ac ieiu- ... quibus quod in te est, me nunc tu consilio tuo abstrahis, centum & uiginti ui... Quem articulum idcirco scrupulosius digesserim, ne præter illos primos pa- ... ab exordio terum fuisse memorantur, & quibus existimo nullum penitus commer- ... fuit, maiores alios nostros nobis uiuaciores, aut prædices, plus illis fuit in- ... non plus uitæ, nisi quia uita sine industria non uita, sed segnis & inutilis mora est: ... perplexitatem hanc cautè, paucissimis uerbis euaseris, dicens, ut ætatis nulla ... esse posse complexionis, & forte aëris, aut ciborum, uel his denique, uel alijs ex ... posse me quod potetant illi, & plan... consentio, fateorque sic esse, sed non æquè ... quod hinc infers, ad quod operosis accingeris argumentis. Quæ tamen aliqua ex ... ipsis ad ... uidcantur. Dicis enim & consilis, ut satis mihi sit, ... ad liter... carmine forsan æquasse Virgilium, soluto Tullium stylo. Quod ô si ueritate ... non amore seductus asserercs. Addis me ex S. C. more maiorum splendidissim... & Romanæ Laureæ ... decus adeptum, quæ eò pergunt, ut fœlici studi... auctus, & æquatus maximis & in... laborum præmio honestatus, Deo & homi... importunus esse, iam desinam, parto contentus, & uoti compos egregij, cui plane nil ... modò, quòd tibi persuasit amor, aut uerum, aut saltem omnibus persuasum sit, ul... testimonijs acquiescam, & qui mos est publicus, de me alijs credam, sed dtue... Ante omnes mihi, qui profectò neminem æquasse me arbitror, nisi uulgus, ... semper ignotus esse quàm similis, laurea autem illa mihi immaturo æui, ... animi, immaturis quidem texta frondibus obtigit, quā si fuissem maturior ... amant enim ut enes ut ... iuuenes speciosa, nec respiciunt finem. ... scientiæ, Nil eloquentiæ illa mihi, inuidiæ autem infinitum attulit, & qui... sic inanis gloriæ & iuuenilis audaciæ pœnas dedi, ex illo enim fermè omnes in ... & c... acuere, semper ... erectis in acie standum fuit, semper nunc ad ... nunc ad læuam ... obsistendum, ex amicis, hostes mihi fecit inuidia. ... Ita hic quæ te in admirationem agerent memorare, ad summam, hoc mihi mea ... ut agno cerer ac uexarer, sine qua quod optimum uitæ genus, quidam pu... ere po... & latere. Suprema mihi tuæ ratiocinationis ... possim, uiuere ... udeam, ad gaudium amicorum, tuæque in primis ... animis, me ubi superstitem cupis, heu mihi, hoc & Simonides noster o... nimium efficaci, cum ipse mihi, si quis humanis ordo foret, in reb... esse debuerit. Optas idem & ... frater ... autem meo prorsus aduersum, opto ego uobis saluis mori, & post me relinq... memoria, & in uer... uiuam, quorum precibus adiuuer, à qui... amer ac ... conscientiæ puritatem, nullum reor solamen hoc gratius morienti ... studeas, tua ... facit opinio, qua ... ualde uitæ ... luere diu ... inter deformatos & ... cœno ... tus uanissimo... ... nationem an... ..., qui ... dicantur, & in Italia nati sint, omnia fa-

 ciunt,

c[illegible] Barbari uideantur, essentque unam Barbari, ut meos, & uerorum [illegible] tam turpi [illegible] ac [illegible] liberarent. Deus eos omnipotens uiuos ac mortuos [illegible] bus non e[illegible]s, ma[illegible] ut tures, ac gloriam & belli, pacisque artes omnes, per [illegible] a [illegible]se, ni[illegible] sermonem atque habitum patrium, per amentiam de[illegible]nestent, ut non[illegible]um patres nostros, qui tempestiuè hinc abierunt, sed cæcos quoque fœlices [illegible]dicent, [illegible]a non uident. V[illegible]mum rogas ut tibi ign[illegible]scam, qui mihi consulere, uiuendique modum præscribere aus[illegible]s, ut scilicet intentione animi, uigilijsque, & laboribus consuetis abstineam, & [illegible]tem fessam annis, simul ac studijs pingui ocio ac sopore [illegible]ue[illegible]m. Ego autem non ig[illegible]sco, sed tibi gratias ago, tui conscius amoris, qui te, quod in tu[illegible] non es meis in rebus Medic[illegible]m facit. Tu potius mihi ut parcas quæso, qui tibi non paream, & sic tibi persua[illegible]eas, me & si cupid[illegible]ssimus uitæ essem, quod non sum, tamen si consilio tuo item, aliquanto c[illegible]tiùs periturum, labor [illegible]ugis, & intentio pabulum animi mei sunt, cum quiescere cœpero atque lentescere, mox & uiuere desinam, nosco ipse uires meas, non sum idoneus ad reliquos labores ut sole[illegible] legere hoc meum & scribere, quod laxari iubes leuis est labor, [illegible] d[illegible] est requies, quæ l[illegible]orum grauium parit obli[illegible]nem. Nulla calamo agilior est ar[illegible]a, [illegible]a iucundior, uol[illegible]es aliæ fugiunt, & mulcendo lædunt, calamus & in manus sum[illegible]us mulcet, & deposi[illegible]us delectat, ac prodest non domino suo tantùm, sed alijs multis sæpè etiam abeuntibus, nonnunquam & posteris post annorum millia. Ver[illegible]ssime mihi uide[illegible] d[illegible]cturus, omn[illegible]um terrestrium delectationum, ut nulla literis honestior, sic nulla diu[illegible]r, nulla suauior, nulla fidelior, nulla quæ per omnes casus possessorem suum tàm facili apparatu, tàm nullo fastidio comitetur. Parce igitur Frater, parce, tibi omnia crediturus, hoc [illegible]on credam: Quemcunque me feceris, nihil est enim quod non posit docti, disertique uiri stylus, mihi tamen enitendum est, si sum nihil, ut sim aliquid, si sim aliquid, ut sim plusculum, & si essem magnus, quod utique non sum, ut qua datum esset, fierem maior, ac maximus. An non mihi liceret maximum illius immanis & barbari uerbum usurpare? Cui cum suaderetur, ut iam satis magnus nimio parceret labori. Ego uer[illegible] (inquit) quo maior fuero, eò plus laborabo dignum uerbum, quod non à Barbaro diceretur, hoc mihi igitur fixum est, quamque sim procul ab inertibus, consilijs sequens ad te epistola erit indicio. Non contentus enim cœptis ingentibus, ad quæ breuis hæc uita non sufficit, nec si esset duplicata, suf[illegible]ceret, nouos quotidie, & externos aucupor labores, tantum somnium & languidæ od[illegible] est q[illegible]ietis. An tu uerò forsitan non Ecclesiasticum illud audisti: Cum consumauerit homo, tunc incipiet, & cum quieuerit tunc operabitur. Equidem nunc cœpisse mihi uideor, quicquid [illegible]bi, quicquid alijs uidear, hoc de me iuditium meum est. Si hæc inter uitæ h[illegible]is adueniat qui certè iam longinquus esse non potest, optarem fateor, me quod aiunt uita peracta, iuuentutem [illegible]ueniret, id quia ut sunt res, non spero, opto ut legentem, aut scribentem, uel [illegible] CHRISTO placuerit orantem, uel plorantem mors inueniat. Tu uale mei memor, & uiue fœliciter, ac uiriliter perseuera. Pa.
tauij IIII Calend. Maias
ad uesperam.

FRAN.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ V. C VARIARVM EPISTOLARVM,

LIBER I.

FRANC. PETRARCHA [illegible] DANDVLO VENETORVM Duci. [illegible] Epist. I.

VT aliquid ad te scribam inclyte Dux, hinc mea [illegible], hinc humanitas tua suggerit, illinc rerum præsentium [illegible] status cogit. hæc quidem præstat, ut loqui [illegible] audeam, [illegible] autem ut tacere nequeam. Quis [illegible] ab amante sollicito silentium requirat? Liberius amici [illegible] fienum ne [illegible]. Os licet obstruxerit rationis m[illegible] magnitudini rerum se imparem recognoscens an[illegible] quiescendum, tacendumue denunciet, erumpet tamen anxi[illegible] pe[illegible] uoces, nō peregrinas sententias, [illegible] ut uerba [illegible] quicquid ad manum uenerit, quicquid dolor, metusque suaserint, loquetur, festina, trepida, tumultuaria, & quod natura rerum fert, [illegible] fluctibus exibit oratio. Id si nunquam alias, nunc mihi p[illegible] certim euenire no[illegible] equidē, uir illustris, & ualde permoueor, & si pr[illegible] affectu mei nomen [illegible] frementes in circuitu procellas, & quos undique cernimus rerum motus, [illegible] humani generis lamenta prætercam, Italicus homo, ad Italicam querelam ue[illegible] nunc ad arma duo potentissimi populi, duæ florentissimæ urbes, [illegible] ut dicam [illegible] lumina, quæ ut mihi quidem uidetur, [illegible] cl[illegible] tribuit natura parens, [illegible] uobis ad A[illegible] & a[illegible] ort[illegible] em [illegible] occ[illegible] uersis, uobis [illegible] perum, illis inferum mare frenan[illegible] inclinatumque iam, ne dicam prostratum, prorsus & extinctum Romanū imperium [illegible] re[illegible] Italiam, quadripartitus orbis agnosceret. De qua re, & si qu[illegible] undam [illegible] pe[illegible] in ter[illegible] s, litem factura uideatur in alto, cert[illegible] nullus un[illegible] quam [illegible] mo[illegible] ebit. Cæterum si in uosmetipsis, qu[illegible] nedum [illegible] ria nunc arma conuerti[illegible] is, haud dubiè ue[illegible] s proprijs ma[illegible] propriis manibus spoliati & nomen, & mul[illegible] quæsitum la[illegible] oribu[illegible] imperium [illegible] tamen, ut quod [illegible] aliàs malorum [illegible] lamen hab[illegible] perdamus [illegible] gaudere [illegible] erunt [illegible] ouant. [illegible] us [illegible], aut temer[illegible] is enim intractabiles & con[illegible] a iu[illegible] enū [illegible] [illegible] s inexperta, & cuius impetu magna olim imp[illegible] ia [illegible] upiun[illegible] pol[illegible] ce[illegible] tur, eoque sæpissime falluntur, ut enim uerum e[illegible] [illegible] d L[illegible] ole clarissimus bello[illegible]. Non temere incerta casuum reput[illegible] qu[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible] e[illegible] & quo[illegible] u[illegible] uerum est. Nu[illegible] tam m[illegible] e[illegible] s [illegible] c, q[illegible] in bel[illegible] pro[illegible] du[illegible] ece[illegible] est cos, [illegible] s unirs d[illegible] ax[illegible] t, isque [illegible] tun[illegible] uultus apparuit, [illegible] frons est enim [illegible] liquantoque [illegible] us ui[illegible] [illegible] saudiui te res ambiguas, ad [illegible] nile [illegible] consiliū reiecisse, [illegible] den [illegible] rum grauitas atque ma[illegible] s, te in illa acie [illegible] fecit [illegible] um [illegible] en[illegible] æ ferociam [illegible] enio p[illegible] e[illegible] a[illegible] b[illegible] [illegible] dam Romanæ Reip. mag[illegible], quo[illegible] m [illegible] a [illegible] m [illegible] lo [illegible] udinem paternæ sollicitudini [illegible] b ætat[illegible] erte [illegible] toru[illegible] [illegible] t. [illegible] ua circa iuuenibus [illegible] um mox ætate [illegible] a pue[illegible] o[illegible] perm[illegible] [illegible] m [illegible] tàm p[illegible] de[illegible] c[illegible] Ne[illegible] [illegible] l obseque[illegible] tem, & [illegible] a & [illegible] tia [illegible] m [illegible] encul[illegible], aut[illegible]. A[illegible] derg[illegible] [illegible] atque [illegible] abe[illegible] at [illegible] am [illegible]

 [illegible]

quietem, [illegible] te[illegible]ter [illegible]er Mar[illegible] tubas, plect[illegible] Apolli[illegible] [illegible] triæ negare potes, q[illegible]æ de te f[illegible] in pace merita est, ut eam nec bell[illegible] re deseres, sed re[illegible]o tantisper Helicone, ac fe[illegible]antibus libe[illegible]is [illegible] u[illegible]m & [illegible]atu ci[illegible]s, & b[illegible] u[illegible] & e[illegible]re[illegible] du[illegible]s of[illegible] fe[illegible]us es, ita tamen [illegible] cem cog[illegible], pacem ame[illegible] a per[illegible] h[illegible]as [illegible]os te[illegible]iumphos [illegible] o[illegible]miora pat[illegible]æ spolia referre po[illegible]e, quam [illegible]acem [illegible]ibenter ubi de pace agitu[illegible] uer[illegible] o[illegible]utor q[illegible] licet ex ore bellico[illegible]simi [illegible] ueritas ip[illegible] a uideatur loquenti[illegible], aduer[illegible] st[illegible] d[illegible] ex[illegible]r[illegible]sse, is ergo apud e[illegible]nde[illegible] ait. Melior [illegible] q[illegible]t) certa pax, [illegible]uam sperata ui[illegible]. [illegible]ic ill[illegible] [illegible]ncendi[illegible] [illegible]erio arde[illegible], & qu[illegible] pace[illegible] to[illegible] or[illegible] eturbauerat, quid igitur amicus pacis? Nonne potiu[illegible] dicat, melio[illegible], sanctiorq[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]er ta pax quam certa uictoria [illegible] o[illegible] eia quod illa quietis, claritati[illegible], [illegible] gratiæ, hæc laboris [illegible] m[illegible] & [illegible] ple[illegible]a[illegible]. Quid autem pac[illegible] [illegible]. Quid fœlici[illegible] [illegible]u[illegible]? Q[illegible] h[illegible]c pace, [illegible] minum, n[illegible] p[illegible]ici[illegible]m[illegible] a[illegible]q[illegible] perpetu[illegible]s, ac [illegible] rarum [illegible]mm[illegible] m [illegible]. Quæ [illegible]am [illegible]a uoluptas oro[illegible] sub diuo per[illegible]oct[illegible]re [illegible] c[illegible]somni[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible]cre[illegible]orpus lori[illegible]a, atq; (ut ait Maro) can[illegible]tem galea premere [illegible] p[illegible]u ne[illegible] s a[illegible]at[illegible] [illegible]ò, & quæ ultima ui[illegible]orum [illegible]m [illegible]ra est, [illegible] ab[illegible]dat [illegible] e, [illegible]uat n[illegible] & [illegible] d[illegible] m[illegible]ser[illegible] [illegible]ra[illegible]ere[illegible], [illegible] cium [illegible] re[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible]empus impe[illegible]dere? [illegible] tu[illegible]m est, [illegible]im pe[illegible] [illegible]m ho[illegible]e certare ho[illegible]e[illegible] gemina pariter cum morte luctari. Nemo enim [illegible] [illegible]ar, c[illegible]erri[illegible] a[illegible] [illegible]nuictissima, & quod tu[illegible] d[illegible]o, cum Itali[illegible] [illegible] V[illegible]m [illegible]æ u[illegible]e[illegible]uo[illegible]is essent Damas[illegible] a[illegible]s, u[illegible]am Mem[illegible] [illegible]o [illegible]aur[illegible]m, [illegible]a [illegible]uam l[illegible]ua[illegible]am aduersus Persas aut A[illegible]a[illegible] [illegible]am aduersus [illegible] [illegible] au[illegible] cos pugnaretis. Nunc uerò quid agitis? Si qua La[illegible]ni nominis reuerenti[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible]c mo[illegible]mini, fratres sunt, & heu, non tantum apud Thebas [illegible]æ ac[illegible]s, se[illegible] p[illegible] It[illegible]iam [illegible]ur, amicis fl[illegible]le, lætion h[illegible]st[illegible]bu[illegible] spe[illegible]a[illegible]m. Q[illegible]s autem bell[illegible] V[illegible] u[illegible]es fue[illegible]is, seu uicti? Anceps est enim al[illegible]æ. Necesse est ut alteru[illegible] duobus Italiæ luminibus, extinguatur, obscuretur alter[illegible] [illegible]e tanto en[illegible]m [illegible]ste, in[illegible] [illegible]m spera[illegible] uictori[illegible]m, uide ne non tàm gene[illegible]sæ fiduciæ, quàm [illegible] [illegible]ement[illegible] g[illegible] [illegible]eritis V[illegible] magnanimi, & præpotentes popul[illegible], quod enim uni d[illegible], di[illegible]um am[illegible] [illegible]ateri[illegible]g[illegible] n[illegible] quia, ut ad te potis[illegible]imum hæc scripta perueniant, & deuo[illegible]a familiaritas, q[illegible] mihi cum uirtutibus tuis est, & ipsa locorum uicinitas causam præbuer[illegible]. Vos inquam [illegible]de[illegible]itis quors[illegible]m pergatis animo, [illegible] [illegible]rarũ modus, [illegible] term[illegible]s od[illegible] [illegible] de salute propr[illegible]a, quid [illegible]que, cuius non parua po[illegible]tio pendet ex u[illegible] pu[illegible] co[illegible]te[illegible] mo[illegible] ne [illegible]d ex[illegible]dat, quod n[illegible] gl[illegible]scentis bel[illegible] ardor, fonte al[illegible] [illegible]is extingu[illegible]ur, de uuln[illegible] quæ [illegible]a[illegible]antur, non Numant[illegible]nus, aut Pœnus, sed [illegible] [illegible] fluet. [illegible]e[illegible]rum, [illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Barbaries [illegible]d [illegible] [illegible]ra[illegible] [illegible]es [illegible] [illegible]rimi [illegible] arm[illegible] pro [illegible] n[illegible]m [illegible] m[illegible] [illegible]one [illegible]scip[illegible]r, q[illegible] sim[illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]a [illegible] mort[illegible] atq; h[illegible]us [illegible] nt qu[illegible] [illegible]regentu[illegible], & uo[illegible] peis, & co[illegible]ibus suis regent, qui prof[illegible]os [illegible] Cas[illegible] prosequentu[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] pariter mo[illegible]ientur, [illegible] arite[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]habent. Tales [illegible] [illegible]es pr[illegible] [illegible] s[illegible] iracundiæ [illegible] [illegible] q[illegible]a[illegible]m im[illegible] s euerter[illegible] q[illegible] delectationis habeat, non [illegible]o, n[illegible] [illegible] melius [illegible] orum [illegible]dam animi [illegible]plicio amicorum, & u[illegible], quam [illegible] o[illegible]arum more f[illegible]m[illegible] od[illegible]le[illegible]antur, p[illegible]ò nec ut[illegible]le, nec honest[illegible], de[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]lcisc[illegible] & inim[illegible] u[illegible] p[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]præc p[illegible], [illegible] & [illegible]in grat[illegible]m redient sequ[illegible] Ne[illegible] utrobiq; [illegible] labo[illegible] e[illegible] m[illegible] o hominum est, [illegible] [illegible]es, eac[illegible] no[illegible] sed [illegible]um & [illegible] manus attig[illegible]t. Si [illegible] [illegible]ter c[illegible] re[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]e[illegible] [illegible]x aud[illegible], n[illegible]n mo[illegible] u[illegible] [illegible]es p[illegible] & tena[illegible]im[illegible] complexus in[illegible]am u[illegible] [illegible] maneat, [illegible]ra[illegible] [illegible]d[illegible] a[illegible]eq[illegible] qui[illegible]d er[illegible], [illegible]am, [illegible]en [illegible] [illegible]em [illegible] m[illegible]ces, [illegible]s [illegible] tunæ [illegible]id[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] ci[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]es [illegible] [illegible] s[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible]rat [illegible] cu[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible]am, [illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]

uidem inuidiosas dotes habeant, nos enim non putres quærimus, sed maturos, neq; rursus illos exclude, si qui sunt, qui florentibus annis animi præoccupauerunt senectutem, neque quod in te miror, in alijs sperno, sic ubi præcox indoles affulserit, non sum nescius, quantum Africanus meus adolescens, afflictæ Reipub. non manu solùm, sed consilio profuerit. Aut dum secretum Senatus celat Papyrius prætextatus, quonam ioco matrem deluserit, quid pædagogo suo Portius Cato? Quid seni anxio puer suasit Alcibiades? Sed mihi crede, perrarum genus hominum, quibus tenera ætate contingat sapere, ubi sanè tale aliquid, & prægressum animos adolescentem uideris. Nec enim inficior fieri posse, senum choris ascribito. Tu qui & consilij prima uox, & rerum caput esse meruisti, hoc semper tecum cogita, primas ad te partes, uel gloriæ, uel infamiæ pertinere, ideoq; sopitis omnibus solus uigila, neque enim quod illustribus uiris placet, par Imperatoris & militis labor est, promptior ad actum uenit, quem maior præmij pars impellit, & quanquam multæ, & uariæ sint præmiorum species, ad quas pro uarietate effectum, noo uniformiter inclinamur, haud dubium tamen, quia nobilibus animis, post uirtutem, summum calcar est gloria. Hinc igitur excitatum animum, curis optimis exerce, sunt optimæ curæ de salute patriæ ut ait Cicero. His igitur tibi nunc in cœlum iter facturus assurge, teq; supra teipsum erige, uide, circunspice, contemplare omnia, & fœlices bellorum exitus, cum infœlicibus confer, & damna cum commodis, & gaudium cum mœrore, & quoniam, ut dixi in causa pacis aptissimus testis est Hannibal, diligenter caue, ne ut ait ille tot annorum fœlicitatem, in unius horæ dederis discrimen. Quantis enim putas laboribus, hęc collecta potentia est, quantis gradibus, ad hoc fortunæ fastigium est ascensum? Peruetusta si nescis gentis tuæ fama est, quod pleaque non putant, multisq; ante urbem conditam sæculis, non Venetorum modò, sed quod magis mirabere, Veneti etiam ducis clarum nomen inuenio. Quod diligentius aduertendum est, ne uirtutem casibus, & tot annorum consilio partum decus, fortunæ uastaturos subdas imperio, & quoniam ut sapientibus uisum est, nullo maiori, quàm famæ pretio uirtus constat, optimè & è Repub. te facturum noueris, si ubi res exigat, iactura etiam propriæ laudis, bonum publicum redemeris, frementisq; turbę, tuta magis quàm speciosa consilia, & profutura potius, quàm placitura prębueris. Quod enim eidem duci accidit, & cumulatior gloria, & cum admiratione omnium amor te publicus sequetur. Quę si etiam spes abesset, sentis tamen quid uirtuti, quid glorię debeamus, tantumq; inter eas, quantū inter solidum corpus & inanem umbram interesse, & parte ipsum noueras, & à Philosophis accepisti. Quanto autem cum dolore, ne quid omninò tibi subtraham, audiuisse me putas, recens uobis cum Aragonum rege fœdus initum? Ergo'ne ab Italis ad Italos euertendos, Barbarorum regum poscuntur auxilia? Unde infœlix opem speret Italia, si parum est, quod certatim à filijs mater colenda discerpitur, nisi ad publicum patricidium alienigenæ concitentur? Dicet aliquis. Idem mali genus, prius ab hoste tentatum. Iam dixi, & si unum alloquor, utrunq; redarguo. Quantò dignius fuerat irarum detersa rubigine, à quo non ullius amicitiæ [illegible]ceritas, non fraternus amor, non suprema demum parentis ac natorum pietas prorsus immunis est, Venetos cum Ianuensibus unum fieri, quàm formosum corpus Italiæ lacerari? Vobis occidentalium, illis ut audio dextras orientalium tyrannorum, in partem furoris implorantibus? O' ferales & superuacuas cautelas. O' maliuolentię genus ultimum, quod manu propria non possis, ad id circumspicere quod irrites, & argumentum odij præsente uicinia, uicinos scelerum subrogare. Atqui multarum hinc iniuriarum fluxêre primordia, dum indigno & nescio unde prodeunte fastidio nostrarum rerum, in admirationes rapimur exterorum, & iampridem consuetudine pestifera, Italicam fidem, barbaricæ perfidię posthabemus. Insani qui in uenalibus animis fidem quęrimus, quam in proprijs fratribus desperamus. Quo effectum est, ut iure optimo, in has calamitates inciderimus, quas serò iam, & inefficaciter lamentamur. Postquam Alpes & maria, quibus nos mœnibus natura uallauerat, & interiectas, obseratasq; diuino munere claustrorum ualuas, liuoris auaritiæ, superbiæq; clauibus aperiendas duximus, Cymbris, Hunnis, Pannonijs, Gallis, Teu[illegible] Hispanis. Quotiens illud pastorium Maronis flendo cecinimus.

Barbarus, hæc tàm culta noualia, miles habebit.
Barbarus has segetes? En quo discordia Ciues,
Perduxit miseros?

[illegible] ut ad rem redeam. Quid uos deliberaturi sitis ignoro, illud scio, quod in æmulatione [illegible]ti, sed conditione longè impari, dum euertendi infestissimam Athenarum urbem,

Lacedæmonijs oblata esset occasio, nec de potentia iam, sed de uoluntate sola superesset quæstio, è duobus Græciæ luminibus euersuros se alterum negauerunt. Præclarissimũ sanè responsum, & prisca illa Spartanorum dignissimum disciplina. Quod si ex ore illorum sonuit, quos uictoriarum, principandiq; libidinis notat Plato, quid uobis mitissimis ac modestissimis uiris uisum iri arbitror? Certè ego qui in tantis motibus, non moueri nequeo, ut diuersis affectibus amore, metu, spe, unum pectus urgentibus, secumq; certantibus pace animi careo, iusta me reprehensione curaturum credidi, si cùm hi syluas in classem traherẽt, hi gladios acuerent, ac sagittas, illi muros, ac naualia connumerent, quod unum mihi telorum genus erat, ad calamum confugissem, non belli auctor, sed suasor pacis. Finem facere iamdudum cogito, non ignarus quanto uerborum freno, uti deceat, cum superioribus colloquentem, sed nullus est amore superior, ille te coget ad ueniam, qui ad multiloquium me cogit. Hoc unum in finem, coram duorum populorum ducibus affusus, & lachrymosus obsecro. Infesta manibus arma proijcite, date dextras, miscete oscula, animos animis, signis signa coniungite. Sic nauigantibus oceanus, & Euxini maris ostia patebunt, nullusq; regum aut populorũ nisi uenerabundus occurret. Sic uos Indus, sic Britannus, Aethyopsq; permetuet. Sic Taprobanem, sic Fortunatas insulas, famosamq;, sed incognitam Thylem, & omnem australem atq; Hyperboream plagam, securus uester nauta transiliet, modò inuicem tuti sitis, nil aliunde trepidandum est. Vale ducum, ac uirorum optime. Pataui XV. Cal. Aprilis. M. CCC. LI.

ANDREAS DANDALVS VENETORVM DVX FRAN. Petrarchæ, s. Epist. II.

PRomissam, diuq; optatam epistolam, de manu latoris libenter accepimus, quã degustare tantum, sed & postea legere proponebamus, ex commodo, ni styli sublimitas procedere longius suasisset, qui quàm disertus fuerit, ex hoc, quod tanta dulcedine nos traxit, & renuit, ut illam sine dilatione non tantũ delectati, sed gauisi legerimus, indicatur. Mirabamur in ea uires animi præcellentis, alti profunditatem ingenij, & redolentis facundiæ lenimentũ, & dum hæc concurrere cernimus, uix credere possumus, ut compositio tàm uirilis & sancta, nisi è pectore sacro defluxerit. Decuit namq; uirum syncerum, qui reliquit forum & curiam, ut in ampliora præsenti, uenturæq; profecturus ætati secederet, pacis exordiri dictamina, & eloquentiam à cœlesti numine pręstitam. Magna est enim admiratio copiosè, sapienterq; dicentis, & difficile dictu, quantopere conciliet animos comitas, affabilitasq; sermonis, in salutem proximi exemplo Ciceronis conuertere. Nouimus, equidem, nec possumus diffiteri Vir optime, quàm sit suauis, & dulcis tranquillitatis amœnitas, & quo ad nos attinet humanæ infirmitatis meminimus, & uim fortunæ, ac omnia quæcunq; peragimus, subiecta mille casibus esse, scimus. Sed si philosophica & quod præponi debuit diuina, dirimantur consilia, prosecutio iusti belli, quod gerimus laudari, quàm reprehendi potiùs, & si ulla uis rationis existit, seu quod magis credendum est Deo nostro, quamuis cura mortalium, exitus sperari fœlices meritò debuerunt. Quid enim infœlicius est fœlicitatem peccantium? Quid amentius quàm pati diu, patientiam uirtutem insignem, nõ modò uirtuosos, sed uitiosos, & aduersus penitùs affectus procedere? Sanè maleficos uiuere, seu impunitam laxare perfidiam, diuinis & humanis institutis prohiberi didicimus, secus imperante malitia, nedum præmijs iustus carebit, sed subiectis pedibus calcaretur iniustis. Causæ nostræ iustitiam, & quantis opprobrijs, ac demum acerbis lacessito iniurijs, improba Iani nequitia, inuitos nos, & renitentes ad querelam excusserit, superuacuum explicare credidimus, cùm satis uulgatum, & notum minimè dubitamus. Testis est Deus, qui & secundos dedit, & dabit euentus, quod eos fraterna & syncera dulcedine, non tamen mutua relatione confouimus. Vt enim prætereuntes antiqua, noua sectemur, libertatem pretiosissimum boni genus nobis moliuntur eripere, & dum licita prohibent, cogunt ad arma, ut meritò Cæsarianum illud occurrat:

Arma tenenti omnia dat, qui iusta negat.

Fratres ergo an domesticos hostes istos uocemus, quorum nulla pestis magis efficax ad nocendum? Fuit uirtus hæc in Romana Rep. nec redarguendi sunt tàm uenerabilis imitatores exempli, ut uiri fortes uicinum, pernitiosumq; hostem, acrioribus supplicijs quàm remotum & acerbissimum coërcerent. Quamdiù patientia nostra abusi sunt? Quamdiù nos furor eorum elusit? Nullum ad finem sese effrenata iactauit audacia. O' utinam famam [illegible]licam, quam pereuntem sæpius deplorasse uidemini, non [illegible] tantum temporibus [illegible]

na

[illegible]sent. Sed uetus est querela, quàm obtenebratum sit eorum astutijs, reginę quâm dicitis, diadema. Mare sibi reddiderunt infestum, terrarum orbem exosum, & inimicas singulas nationes, de quorum moribus breuem summam accipio, quod conuenire nequit, cum alijs, qui minimè cum seipso. Negetur fortè, uera sint quæ suprà describimus, conuincemus si negari contigerint, quo cognito, neminem extimamus tàm improbum, tàm perditū, tamq; mentis expertem, qui non iure per nos factum esse fateatur. Plura dicenda forent, sed omittimus, ut finem claudamus epistolæ. Bellum ita suscepimus, ut nihil aliud quàm pacem honorabilem patriæ, quæ uita nostra nobis est charior, quærere uideamur, & quemadmodum superbè ac uiolenter nos agere si spernemur, placatum, cedentemq; hostem, sic nunc cum propè confractum resistentem, ac tergiuersantem traxerimus, nulla uerecundia sumus obstricti, si bella hos contra permittimus, qui pacem pati minimè potuerunt. Vale uirorum peroptime, tibiq; persuade, nobis esse charissimum, sed multò fore chariorem, si nos sæpiùs recreare curaueris simillimia monumentis. Venetijs XXII. Maij. M. CCC. LI.

Ad eundem.

Nil audies noui, nil insolitum leges, sed ea tantummodò recognosces, quibus iam sæpè aures tuas, oculosq; lassaui. Meministi enim credo clarissime Ducum, ante hoc ferme triennium, cùm iam duos præstantissimos populos, ad arma terrifica Mars funestus induceret, prius tamen quàm mare ceruleum sanguine rubuisset, non mihi, sed Italiæ metuens, in qua fateor, mea quoq; temporalis salus includitur, quàm longam, & quanti amoris, quantæq; sollicitudinis atque formidinis plenam epistolam ad te misi. Cuius & si fortè non meminisses, neque enim illam tanti facio, ut tali memoria digna sit, at saltem elegantissimæ, grauissimæq; tuæ responsionis, oblitus esse non potes. Cùm uerò iam bis acie decertatum, iam Hellesponriacum æquor atq; Tyrrhenum, geminis cladibus nostris infectum, & iam simillimum ueri esset, irarum flammas longo cruoris imbre lentescere, ab hoc nuper Italorum maximo, fidelis heu, sed inefficax, tractator pacis, ad te, ciuesq; tuos missus, quibus nec Dux usquam consultior, nec gens ulla tranquillior, quanta præsens in consilio cui præsides, quanta te cum solus in thalamo uerba feci, puto propter uicinitatem adhuc (ut ita dixerim) in auribus tuis sonet. Nequicquam tamen, nam & procerum tuorum, & quòd mirum in modum stupeo, pectus etiam tuum, salubribus monitis, precibusq; iustissimis, belli feruor atq; armorum frangor obstruxerat, reliquiæq; ueterum irarum, & recentis memoria, tumorq; uictoriæ, minimum nouum id quidem. Iracundia enim est (ut ait Cicero) inimica consilio, uictoria autem natura insolens & superba est, accesserat ab aquilone quædam nouarum rerum aura pertenuis, quæ licet aduersus id, quod intendebant flaret, perfeceritq; quod timui (pace sit dictum tua) tantam tamen grauitatem auertere, ac saniora dissipare consilia, nō debebat. Quouiq; enim miseri in iugulos patriæ, & in publicam necem, barbarica circunspiciemus auxilia? quousque qui nos strangulent pretio conducemus? Dicam clara uoce quòd sentio. Inter omnes mortalium errores, quorum nullus est numerus, nihil insanius, quàm quod tanta diligentia, tantoq; dispendio, Italici homines Italicos conducimus uastatores. Quæ tamē ô pietas? ô implacabilis dolor? qualis inter amantium, & colentium manus esset, cùm tot iam sæculis inter uastantium feras manus, multum adhuc cunctis terræ regionibus antecellat? Quid in uerbis moror, præsertim cum tibi notissima sint quæ loquor? Sensi ego tūc mœstus, insidias fortunæ, & quam doctoribus nihil esse [illegible]dideram, non modò aliquid esse didici, sed in omni re dominari cum Salustio, & humanarum cum Cicerone rerum dominam, & omnipotentem, atque ineluctabilem coactus, cum Virgilio confiteri. Itaque multis hinc inde uerbis perditis, quàm spei plenus ad te ueneram, tam mœroris, pudorisq; fauoris plenus abscessi? Sortem enim publicam lugebam, pudebatq; me mei, quòd tanto impar negotio delectatus, nec tamen præclaræ legationis una pars, sed dignatione mittentis, quamuis idipsum sibi obnoxius excusassem, princeps etiam ad loquendum, & fortissimis illis atque doctissimis uiris antepositus, qui me longè [illegible]utibus anteibant, fructum uerò rei optimæ, sed insufficientiæ meæ debitum reportatem, tametsi, quod mihi defuerat militariter, facundissimus ille collega, nisi me amor uiri fa[illegible]t, implesset disceptatione nouissima. Sed aperire aures obseratas, & obstinatos animos [illegible]uere, non nostri, nescio, an Ciceroniani esset eloquij. Magna quippè facundia est, uel po[illegible]s nulla, quæ cogat inuitos, quod ipse permetuens, in ipso quidē sollicitę orationis initio, [illegible]oniano etiam usus uerbo, esse opus animo non repugnante, testatus sum, tàm frustrâ,

tamen ut reliqua. Metuebam sanè quod nunc uideo, ne uestra illa duritíes belli maximi materia, & immensi discriminis causa foret. Quæ si tàm tibi, cæterisq́ principibus Rerum publicarum, quàm mihi homini penitùs ocioso ac solitario displicerent, fœlix Italia, iure suo, cunctis nunc etiam prouincijs imperaret, quæ prope iam serua est. Verum quia magnus amor, multum mihi præbet audaciæ, & quia dulcis spei reliquias inuitus abijcio, iterum atque iterum retentabo omnia, teq́ de tàm longinquo Ducum prudentissimè contestabor, si absens fortè fœlicior quàm præsens, calamoq́ potentior sim quàm lingua, aut si secunda primam uincat epistola. Nosti equidem uir optime, è cunctis rebus mortalium nouissimè spem deponi, nec nisi cum uita, extremoq́ halitu, quamuis ne tum quoq́ deponitur, q in potius ad meliora conuertitur, sed de mortalium rebus loquor. Hoc igitur modò me refouet: in hac una publicis malis fessus, & magnis fortunæ minis exterritus conquiesco, uiuere desinam, si sperare desiero. Quid autem sperem si me roges? Spero quod cupio, sanam mentem, consiliumq́ maturius, & si non forsan à ratione, at saltem ab experientia profecturum. Nosti expertus quid pax, quid bellum secum ferat, uidisti faciem utriamq́ fortunæ, uicti fuistis & uicistis, quamuis ut est mens hominum indomita, uincendiq́ præcupida. Primum fortè negaueris, non contendo, ut uiceritis, semper computa, quæso quid tibi, quid Reipub. uictorijs accesserit? Minus profectò auri, minus est sanguinis, & quod pessimum est, plus scelerum ac malorum. Quæ si uictoribus accidunt, quid sperare debent uicti. Incipe iam precor in hanc rem oculos aperire, quos uigilantissimos ac lynceos habes, in cæteris, si damni quàm lucri plus, si plus mali quàm boni, plus flagitij quàm uirtutis, si boni, si lucri nihil in bello est, si contrariorum infinita congeries, desine oro iam tandem, & tibi etiam, cui ex parte Troianus est sanguis, ab illo Duce Dardanio dictum puta:

Proijce tela manu, sanguis meus.

Non patiaris, ut Duce te, Venetorum ac Ligurum potentissima signa concurrant. Iam enim ut uides, suis in finibus non stat bellum, nempè contagiosa res est, & quæ facilè serpat in proximos, atque ita sensim, uel longinqua complectitur, multa quoq́ quæ primum immunia uidebantur, torrentis in modum odiorum atque discriminum alluuione permiscens. Putabas tibi cum Ianuensibus rem esse, quod ipsum flebile nimis, ac miserum erat, ecce iam cum tota Liguria bellum geris, & quod inter hæc mala non ultimum posuerim, ab hoc etiam tali uiro, tantæq́ pacis amatore dissentis, cuius nescio, an uirtus, an fortuna mirabilior sit, an animus maior, an humanitas. Solet autem excellentibus uiris esse familiaritas quædam, & beneuolentię affectus, licet incognitis, conglutinante pares animos natura. Similitudo enim amicitias parit, communis alit utilitas. At qui ambo uos iusti, ambo prudentes, ambo magnanimi, quæ'nam causa discordiæ? Pax utilis est ambobus, imò cunctis necessaria, nisi illis qui rapto uiuunt, & exiguum censum multò mercantur sanguine, immane genus hominum, si tamen homines sunt, quibus humani nihil est præter effigiem. Hi sunt, qui infami stipendio, calamitosam & miseram uitam trahunt, iure itaque pacem, & in pace famem metuunt, bellum amant, & lupi uelut ac uultures, strage hominum ac cadaueribus delectantur. His'ne tu belluis morem geres? Aequè carnem & cæsorum exuuias esuriunt, æquè sanguinem sitiunt atque aurum, noli quæso, noli committere, ut florentissimam tuæ creditam custodiæ Rempub. atque omnem hanc, quæ inter Apenninum & Alpes interiacet, opulentissimam atque pulcherrimam Italiæ partem, externorum ac famescentium prædam facias luporum, à quibus nos benè, quod in ore semper habeo, ipsarum iugis Alpium solers natura secreuerat. De nullo queri possumus, nostra illis impatientia uiam fecit, dum leuia quælibet, in nostros ulciscimur, passi sumus, ut alienigenæ nostris impunè pascantur, saginenturq́ uisceribus. Ha quantò melius inedia consumentur & rabie, quod facient, statim ut gregis Italici pastores, resipiscere cœperint. Pastorum prouidentia mors luporum est, id sanè ante alios facere, & fecisse iam spero, nisi enim falsum fama loquitur, & nisi fallor augurio, stomachari incipis, iam stipendiarij militis insolentiam, auaritiamq́ fastidis. Quid expectas igitur? ad cor redi, & si externi displicent, tuos ama, siquidem autem forte in animo rubiginis, siquid odij est, amore patriæ & malorum communium miseratione deterge. Nec tibi persuadeas, pereunte Italia, Venetiam saluam fore, est enim pars illius, & natura partis ea est, ut sequatur sui totius, uel subsistentiã, uel ruinam. Hoc tecum sæpè recogitans, noli Dux optime rerum summam in extremum adducere, ubi & uinci miserum est, & uincere sceleratum, eoq́ ipso mis[illegible] est, quàm [illegible]

[illegible] is [illegible] nam careremus, quàm in nosmetipsos hæc [illegible] ... [illegible] pacis fuerint [illegible] ... æ. Quam [illegible] ... saltem malis [illegible] ... caput de onue [illegible] ... consilio locus [illegible] ... de [illegible] hoc [illegible] ... Caue ne [illegible] natura te mitem, [illegible] ... immensum aucta fœlicitas, non bellorum sed pacis [illegible] ... rum grege uidemini, [illegible] ut ait Psal [illegible] ... [illegible] eisdem [illegible] tuos [illegible] ... [illegible] uo unt N [illegible] enim utabit or odiosius Deo [illegible] quam curare & [illegible] ... singularis dote uirtutis ornauerit tua sponte & uoluntate [illegible] ... Quamobrem etiam [illegible] calamo. Sequere [illegible] ... dextram semper in partem, & ad [illegible] ... eò fo[illegible] prolapsus es, quò non oportuit, retrahe nunc [illegible] ... dum licet, dum nondum signis signa collata sunt, dum [illegible] ... rendus, dum inter amaras, & horribiles belli m[illegible], audis [illegible] ... men. Denique dum spes una, tàm mu[illegible]ns nondum [illegible] ... in tenebris lux apparet, irreditura [illegible] spernitur. Arripe [illegible] ... dum [illegible] ris Italicæ pacis auctor, nomenque tuum multis & magnis [illegible] ... gloriosum mittas ad poster[illegible]. Nil [illegible] suadeo, nisi quod tuum est, [illegible] ... cauere ne omnia in præcipitium tecum trahas, cum enim [illegible] ... simum & penitùs alienum est. Nam quid hæ literæ profuerint, [illegible] ... m honestarum, quibus te præfunctis ætatis nostræ ducibus abundantissimum [illegible] ... at nec mentitur, si cum meliora prouideris, deteriora feceris. Absit ho[illegible] ab [illegible] ... iam loqua[illegible], quàm putabam epistolæ modus [illegible], oro, pr[illegible]or, [illegible] ... adiuro te, per [illegible] rtutis amorem a[illegible] studium, quo nul[illegible] cedis, [illegible] er patriæ [illegible] qua cu[illegible]os exuperas. P[illegible] tremò per quinque CHRI[illegible] uulnera, qu[illegible] ... innocen[illegible]mus sanguis fluxit, quo redempti sumus, si bene, [illegible] ... aures, animumque non neges, & si consi[illegible]um placet, non con[illegible] ... Alioquin omnia uidens Deus, CHRISTVS, & præsens in omne æuum ep[illegible] ... Plutarcho Philosopho aliquid sumamus, tuque sis hodie Traianus meus, [illegible] ... æ, non mod[illegible] non per[illegible] auctore Francisco, sed pro [illegible] ante, [illegible] ... quid ne[illegible] alto suspirio & magnis anim[illegible] gemitibus reuocante. Vale. V. Cal. [illegible] C. LIII.

ANDREAS DANDALVS VENETORVM D[illegible] ... Petrarchæ, [illegible] Epist. III.

A[illegible] ice, d[illegible] singulare desiderium nos teneret, feriæ pollicitæ pridem [illegible] ... [illegible] ille, quibus summæ uirtutis & constantiæ uiro, cui os & [illegible] ... ut ali[illegible] nedum lingua doceret, sed c[illegible] nfirmaret & opere, [illegible] ... mutati[illegible], aduersa quippe studijs cont[illegible] alterius tenoris epist[illegible] ... acis utique suasi[illegible] iam, non minus libenter excepimus. In qua & [illegible] mentis [illegible] multorum dictis prudentiū ornaueris, quod tamen breue à [illegible] ... uiget fratris, potiusquam urbis insistere, temporis condi[illegible] ... enim cum [illegible] us caus[illegible] nostræ iustitia, non nimis inntitur, ... satis nota, & prospe[illegible] successuum cœl[illegible] nob[illegible] accumulata [illegible] ... professi[illegible]. Et quamuis in Hellesponto nos [illegible] mel [illegible] ... erraueri[illegible], ut de loco, quem Propontidem nostr[illegible] nomi[illegible] ... est, pe nanque ip[illegible] etiam pr[illegible] ... [illegible] Vt autem [illegible] ... nde d[illegible] fit nostra [illegible] ratio, [illegible] Deo teste, te [illegible] ... & optamus, præter [illegible] quibus & [illegible] ... præ profectò [illegible] esset, iam [illegible] ... ordi[illegible] ... am animum [illegible] obis [illegible] ...

pete [illegible] quanta sit gloria Principis, ut mansuetudine post [illegible] mod [illegible] mouerent, qu[illegible] ani [illegible] re[illegible] ad [illegible] d[illegible] impe[illegible] honest[illegible] respo[illegible], t[illegible] socijs tuis facta & [illegible] mo [illegible] ci per nos mi[illegible]a, mentis nostræ protestentur affectum, puritatem [illegible] b[illegible] simultatum [illegible] tiam detegentes. Propterea quod tantos labores senserim [illegible] ma[illegible] pace re[illegible] parare [illegible] æ[illegible] ærumnas [illegible] repe[illegible], quam se[illegible] se serpere se[illegible] at [illegible] ns [illegible] g[illegible] [illegible] are de[illegible] a[illegible] libertatis amato[illegible] prædicator eximius, uoto simili laborare n[illegible] nec [illegible] remedia, quæ [illegible] en[illegible] m[illegible] us facundo iam eloquio [illegible] [illegible] testante, n[illegible] tem [illegible] te m[illegible] em, nil [illegible] de[illegible] decore, nil [illegible] seruitute, & cum ad decus, & libertatem nati sumus, aut te[illegible] & [illegible]uenda est, aut cum ip[illegible]a pariter moriendum. Si ergo bene rei operam exhibemus, proximor[illegible]m nostrorum [illegible] ala[illegible] condolentes, opport[illegible] s u[illegible] n erat, ad execrandam [illegible] p[illegible]m demer[illegible], & n[illegible] am q[illegible] p[illegible] c nostri [illegible] oc[illegible] iam ex[illegible] usand[illegible], t[illegible] m [illegible] altera, quam ad nos, quos pacificos ipse fateris, [illegible] mus [illegible] epistolam se uert[illegible] e [illegible] m u[illegible] hæc & alia scri[illegible] ta tua, & peculiaris charitas, quæ nobis cum uirtutibus tuis e[illegible] & [illegible] tu[illegible] nim[illegible] prompta [illegible] cer[illegible] as, admixta[illegible] grauitas, cum uenustate sermonis gratis[illegible] a no[illegible] redd[illegible] & [illegible] ora[illegible] a in id quod intend[illegible] ur [illegible] uerit, & [illegible] pud no[illegible] sat [illegible] x ad illos quorum in nostros labo[illegible] es [illegible] irrepsit cupiditas, [illegible] ylum [illegible] erte [illegible] c[illegible] m cri[illegible] toribus, i[illegible] s admonere ne dubites, ut qui se tanti Disturbij reos esse co[illegible] noscunt q[illegible] m C[illegible] nobis pacem reliq[illegible] it, in terris, præpedire meritò uereantur. Ne ipse qu[illegible] est, & [illegible] imper[illegible] e [illegible] m eos [illegible] a co[illegible] iat, & arg[illegible] at [illegible] orem. Quod [illegible] dem fac[illegible] me [illegible] iturum te credimus si si[illegible] uir i[illegible] le [illegible] is, qualem cum laudibus ext[illegible] e[illegible] um bonarum mentium est, ibi etiam culpam agnoscere ubi non est, quantò magis, [illegible] c[illegible], & potiora palàm fit. Nos autem licet [illegible] a [illegible] ientu[illegible] plerunque, secundum uarietates [illegible] rum humana [illegible], idem quod hactenus fuimus, n[illegible] fumus, & eadem mente, qua s[illegible] per ad pacem d[illegible] fama & honore nostræ patriæ reseruatis, pro q[illegible] a [illegible] & uniuersaliter ciues nostri [illegible] ei profutu[illegible] i[illegible] uerimus, nedum argentum & aurum, [illegible] cd [illegible] tam qua nihil est charius, exponere cunctis periculis promptissimus. Vale facundissime uir, & super p[illegible] s q[illegible] a [illegible] ateria, pro recreatione nostra, uelis motus rescribere mentis tuæ. Vene[illegible] s datis, X[illegible] Cal. Iunij, M. CCC. LIIII.

[illegible] PETRARCHA [illegible] PRIORIB[illegible] S ARTIVM, [illegible] ILL[illegible] FERO iustitiæ, P. Q. Florentino [illegible] s. Epist. IIII.

IAm satis me uix[illegible] ar[illegible] it[illegible] o[illegible] mi ciues, & illam sapientis amici [illegible] cē audire [illegible] [illegible] eic [illegible] u[illegible] s es. Ne[illegible] m es in co[illegible] ī as[illegible] rus præcl[illegible] me[illegible] quo e[illegible] t[illegible] a c[illegible] as uiuen[illegible], u[illegible] te no[illegible] an[illegible] o[illegible] numero metienda fœlicitas & c[illegible] pe ueneris quo tend[illegible] bas, desinendum est. Audebo quidem apud uos famil ar[illegible] s [illegible] riar, co[illegible] ent[illegible] us, qu[illegible] d q[illegible] ntulac[illegible] uel esse, uel [illegible] gi potest mea [illegible] or[illegible] a, [illegible] g[illegible] s uest[illegible] perexig[illegible] a [illegible] dam er[illegible] acce[illegible] nquam opes au[illegible] p[illegible] te[illegible] aui ad [illegible] n f[illegible] te pertingere, at [illegible] em suspirare permi[illegible] sum erat, ab ann[illegible] sparu[illegible] quæ m[illegible] his maxi[illegible] a uidebantur, id unde mihi quidem nescio, sed me ue[illegible] loquit[illegible] [illegible] ratio testis est anim[illegible] s [illegible] H[illegible] omnes [illegible] ras, om[illegible] meas u[illegible] q[illegible] o [illegible] chet, u[illegible] n[illegible] m, a[illegible] onor[illegible] be[illegible] olentia n[illegible] g[illegible] s. Q[illegible] primum nondum conti[illegible] e mih[illegible] d[illegible] secundum uero uestro munere, q[illegible] am cu[illegible] quamque supra spem su[illegible] erit [illegible] al[illegible] is literarum uestrarum tenor ind[illegible] ex [illegible] [illegible] or no[illegible] m[illegible] me [illegible] or[illegible] pe[illegible] ep[illegible] q[illegible] am [illegible] au[illegible]. Gaudeo enim atque [illegible] t [illegible] cipem [illegible] tus alloq[illegible], [illegible] uirtu[illegible] ue[illegible] træ grat[illegible] r, & fortu[illegible] æ meæ se[illegible] p[illegible] peo ætate hac, quam omni[illegible] bon[illegible] àm [illegible] eilem putabamus & quod miraculum [illegible] int[illegible] animi[illegible] t[illegible] nt[illegible] o[illegible] lar[illegible] u[illegible] dixerim, ac publicæ libertat[illegible] ext[illegible] ere [illegible] x [illegible] g[illegible] q[illegible] a[illegible] h[illegible] c[illegible] a[illegible] Cicero, c[illegible] ac[illegible] s[illegible] a g[illegible] enim [illegible] so[illegible] æ[illegible]. Q[illegible] uo [illegible] pre[illegible] ati p[illegible] se[illegible] po[illegible] m ue[illegible] e[illegible] uo[illegible] a[illegible] e[illegible] i mih[illegible] u[illegible] ac t[illegible] uiri [illegible] re[illegible] & ma[illegible] ni [illegible] c[illegible] ntu[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] eral[illegible] T[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible] a[illegible] ex[illegible] C[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] ex[illegible] quod psa[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]us admonita. Et ſicut horum omnium iniuſta relegatio, ſic omnium iuſta, Camilli [illegible]aria, & prope uiolenta reuocat. Reuocarunt Alcibiadem Athenæ, ſed condi[illegible] & neceſsitate publica prope pari. Quo unquam Pl. S. quoue S. C. ſpon[illegible]uis, nullo patriæ periculo reuocatus eſt? Virgilio Auguſtus Cæſar agrum red[illegible] quem ipſe præripuerat, cui unquam filio culpa patris ager perditus, publico con[illegible]us eſt? Inaudita ſunt hæc pietatis & liberalitatis indicia. Et cum ferè raritate cla[illegible]r, quanto exemplo ſamentis ueſtræ beniuolentiæ fulgor erit? Aduocor, ſed [illegible] oro? Sed à quibus? quàm ualidis precibus? quam imperioſis blanditijs? Quanta [illegible] au[illegible]tus de publico redemptus reſtituitur? at quo nam ſeculo cultus eloquentiæ, [illegible] uerborum floribus ornatus? Quibus laudibus noſtris frangas? Quanta noſtræ uir[illegible] [illegible]e [illegible]ætiſsimus? Cui unquam tàm fertilis, & tàm fœlix fronduit agellus? Adeò [illegible]natiuam ſoli duritiem ueſtra uicit induſtria, ut nec Afris ego iam, nec Siculis fru[illegible]ideam, & Campanum Liberi, Cereriſque certamen, ex uberrima ac iocundiſsima [illegible]ne deſpiciam, quamlibet regis opulentiam animo ſupergreſſus. Ita enim mi[illegible]gat, hunc tantum Reipub. fauorem, qui nunc ueſtræ liberalitatis eſt proprius, ali[illegible] & meriti mei eſſe, ut ego multò pluris facio ueſtrum hoc de me tale iudicium, & ho[illegible]imum illud elogium, muneri ueſtro additum, quem non modò reſtitutum, [illegible]s donatum agrum, ſed quicquid inſuper ſeritur, uel aratur in circuitu. Quod haud [illegible]me perſuaſurum reor, ijs, quibus ulla rerum mearum fuerit ex conuerſatione no[illegible]id enim mihi præſtare poteſt hæc infinita diuitiarum ſitis, atque anxia finium & ope[illegible]atio? Certè quò ulterius metam fixero, longiuſque proceſſero, eò magis intelli[illegible]antum reſtet, & clariùs nequicquam laxatis [illegible]s anguſtias, meque inopem recogno[illegible] Et ó ſuperuacuos labores, cum nihil auaritiæ ſufficiat, quanti eſt quod naturæ ſuffi[illegible]antum quod ſepulchro? Regnorum finibus non contentos, breuis urna concludit, [illegible]a tamen, & benè uiuere, & fœliciter mori licet. Equidem glorioſiſsimi ciues indul[illegible] ueſtra hæc, ut uobis ſempiternam laudem, ſic mihi ſolatium non mediocre peperit, [illegible]ac prædilectam in ſedem reſtituto, in qua pater, auus ac proauus meus, uir ut lite[illegible] nops, ſic prædiues ingenij, in qua denique maiores mei reliqui, non tàm fumoſis ima[illegible] quàm clara fide conſpicui, longa ſerie ſenuerunt. Ego autem, ſeu natura mihi con[illegible]alas, ſeu fortuna, uolare longius edidici, nunc uobis auctoribus pri[illegible]s, mihi tan[illegible] nidus panditur, quo reuolare queam, longis iam feſſus erroribus. Magna hæc eſſe non [illegible]ſed illa permaxima, quod donum publicum, tanto mei nominis digno utinam præ[illegible]tanta precum inſtantia, tanta uerborum ſuauitate conditum eſt, ut niſi ſim ſaxeus, æ[illegible]mihi hoc ueſtro beneficio, & lumine ad gloriam, & calcar acceſſerit ad uirtutem. [illegible]us rebus, ſi impares grates agam, non meæ mentis ingratitudo fuerit, ſed ueſtræ mu[illegible]iæ magnitudo. Ago tamen quas poſſum, ſed ut ait Cicero, maiores habeo, quibus [illegible]endis, & acuratiori ſtylo, & fœliciori opus eſſet eloquio. Ita me ueſtris beneficijs [illegible], ac circumcluſum ſentio, ut minus ſit omne, quod dixero, quàm quod dicere uo[illegible]num hoc in finem non obmiſerim, quod anno altero, Roma reducem, inter clariſ[illegible]s uiros, qui tum frena Reipub. gubernabant, dixiſſe me recolo. Siquidem eouſque [illegible], me attollit humanitas, ut illud quondam pro tituli gaudio imperatoris Augu[illegible]m cum lachrymis redditum Senatui, mihi nunc tantillus homuncio, apud uos, [illegible]s rerum ac illorum honoribus uſurpare non uerear. Compos enim factus uo[illegible]orum P. C. quid habeo aliud Deum immortalem precari, quàm ut hunc conſen[illegible]m, ad ultimum uitæ finem perferre liceat. Proinde quid animi habeam, ad redi[illegible]eus fauerit, quantumue mandatis ueſtris obtemperare cupiam, ne omnia ſcripto, [illegible]d uiuis legati ueſtri uocibus committam. Vir egregius Ioannes Boccatius, per [illegible]em literas & monitus ueſtros, ac iuſſa percepi, præſens peraget, qui ut hanc epiſtolam, fida manu ad uos, ore diſertiſsimo perferet, affectus meos, quemue cùm audieritis illius ore me[illegible]cutum credite.

Cupio uos florentiſsimè ſemper in Re-
pub. ualere fœliciter. Patauij
VIII. Idus Aprilis.

FRAN. PETRARCHA [illegible] OMAI de Luc[illegible], [illegible] Ep[illegible] V.

AMicus noster commu[illegible]is, quo nihil [illegible] de[illegible]ius, nihil pote[illegible] esse sincerius, sæpe admonuit, ut te meis literis uisitarem excusatui, nunc occupatio[illegible]um uariarum turbam adesse dictitans, nunc scribendi deesse materiam. Nunc autē o[illegible]cas[illegible]onem nactus, omne mearum excusatio[illegible]um dimouit obstaculum, petens ut [illegible]orentini Senatus literas, humanitatis eximiæ, nouo q[illegible]dā & insol[illegible], & inaud[illegible]o genere honoru[illegible], p[illegible]m erga me testantes affectum tibi mitterem, commoda & honores meos præcordialiter gausuro. Digna res uisa est, in qua sibi morem gererem, mitto igitur & illorum exemplar epistolæ, & responsi mei, ut intelligas quanto adhuc esset in pretio, uera uirtus, si usquam appareret, quando falsum eius nomen non despicitur. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NICOL[illegible] S[illegible]O, [illegible]. Epist. VI.

TVus hic, & bonorum omnium amicus, atq; honestarum amicitiarum dili[illegible]entissimus proxeneta summo studio instituit, ut tibi al[illegible]quid scriberem. Quod cum a[illegible]quandiu recusarem ignarus, unde inciperem, au[illegible] qu[illegible]us uerbis hominē so[illegible] famæ testimonio cognitum alloquerer, euicit tandē, ut calamum arriperem [illegible]pturus quicquid occurreret. Quod cūm fecissem, lætus & uoti cōpos abscessit, mihi autem in silentio co[illegible]tanti, quonā artificio familiaris epi[illegible]ola de nihilo texeretur, miranti[illegible]q; & [illegible]bi requirenti, q[illegible]id mihi tecum rei e[illegible]set, quæ ue sc[illegible]bendi materia, nihil prius in ani[illegible]e nit, quàm Ciceronis illa uulgata quidem, sed præ[illegible]ara sententia. Virtute nihil amabilius, nihilq; q[illegible]od magis alliciat, tantamq; eius esse uim, ut eos quoq; quos nunquàm uidimu[illegible] d[illegible]gamus. Itaq; confestim uenit percussa u[illegible]do aquilone nubecula, & cunctatio, & admiratio omnis euanuit, iam latum scribendi campū uideo, iamq; nihil miror, talem animo meo uirum esse charissimum, quanquam facies eius, mihi hactenus quidē, ne uisa sit. Si enim nisi quod oculis uidimus amare non possumus, primus & maximus amandi [illegible]radus euertitur, semetip[illegible]m null[illegible]s amabit, nemo namq; suum animum, nemo faciem sua uidit. Hoc nimirum interest, quoniam ut uosipsos, quos nunquā uidimus amemus, natura est, ut uero al[illegible]os uirtus e[illegible], & fama uirtutis nuncia. Hæc est quæ præclarissimum regem Masinissam oblitum pat[illegible]æ, ac pignorum tantorum, Africani mei congressum co[illegible]git expetere, ac præ[illegible] tant[illegible] ducis at onitum, è Carthaginensium castris ad Romana signa perdu[illegible]xit, & quod instar monstri, facit morum, animorumque [illegible]uersitas, eiusdem Ducis & rei causam, sui quidem hostis, sed uirtutum amici honorificentissimos decreto & supplici ac uenerabunda prædonum acie, absent[illegible] honestauit exilium. Denique diuinæ eius orig[illegible]nis [illegible] [illegible] h[illegible]mi[illegible]m opini[illegible]em genu[illegible]t, & nedum, ueris laudibus, sed etiam fab[illegible] [illegible]cum fec[illegible]t. [illegible]o[illegible]st, quod bene meritos & uiuentes in terris celebrat & extinctos ad [illegible]um effert, tumque æternitate uicturos clicit e sepulchris, credibiliora recenseo. Q[illegible]tum sanè, quamque accensum st[illegible]d[illegible]m q[illegible]anta i[illegible]ter legentes, audie[illegible]tesq; heroum [illegible] e[illegible]e co[illegible]tentio, amante ac uene[illegible]nte quol[illegible] et n[illegible]n quem uidit, sed qu[illegible]mæ credi[illegible]gnum hoc, quod sequitur maius, quoniam non modo, quos non ui[illegible]m[illegible]s seu qu[illegible]s [illegible] de[illegible] nequiuimus, sed etiam quos od[illegible]mus, Mendat[illegible]x[illegible] la conciliat qu[illegible]d & breuiter at[illegible] gi[illegible]di endum est latiùs. Hæc est enim quæ od[illegible] in amore[illegible] uersi[illegible] [illegible]sim asq; [illegible]bes expugnauit, quæ grauissima sæpe bel[illegible]a con[illegible]t, [illegible] Camil[illegible] qu[illegible]dem [illegible]reas Fal[illegible]corum portas aperuit, Pyrrhum regem, ductoresque Romuleo[illegible], [illegible]uri[illegible]m [illegible]gidumque Fabricium, q[illegible]nta e[illegible] p[illegible]tuit familia[illegible]as deiunxit. P[illegible]r[illegible]nam S[illegible]pe b[illegible] lum Heruriæ [illegible], ab [illegible]ta rapt[illegible] o[illegible]dione di[illegible]x[illegible]. Hæc [illegible]um [illegible]um & tam m[illegible] p[illegible]los, unius uiduæ [illegible]iec[illegible] arb[illegible]rio. Hæc ad genu[illegible] Cæsa[illegible]s [illegible], adhuc for[illegible]an [illegible]ande al[illegible]uid ausuros, Gallorum reg[illegible] [illegible] in[illegible]linaui[illegible] h[illegible]c M[illegible] Pompeium d[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]res [illegible]c Alexandr[illegible]m Macedo[illegible] d Di[illegible]genis d[illegible] xer[illegible] m[illegible] e[illegible] h[illegible] ig[illegible]ens a[illegible] m[illegible] me[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible] personam licet imm[illegible] n[illegible] p[illegible]atum. A[illegible] [illegible] de [illegible]m [illegible]ton[illegible] atting[illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ul[illegible] ep[illegible] ol[illegible] [illegible]ul[illegible] [illegible]luda, q[illegible]d h[illegible]

[illegible] mes [illegible]a, multor[illegible] qui in primis latoris præsentium fidei credita me m[illegible] m d[illegible]e ne capt[illegible] hu? Præsertim cum nihil impediat non ætas, non pa[illegible] studium. Contubulari tecum hactenus iucundum animo [illegible] f[illegible], [illegible] manum solitę occupationes iniiciunt [illegible] uale, & quo[illegible] am[illegible] s[illegible] [illegible] sue quæso, ne meum sileas nomen. Patavi VI. Idus Ianuarij: sub intempesti[illegible]

[illegible] SCRIBIS CONSOD[illegible]. S. Ep. VII

S[illegible] ceptum sermonem possem mandare silentio, si oculos meos ab utilitatibus ue[illegible] is auertere, [illegible] ori meo frenum imponere potuissem, rebar mihi consultius ac[illegible] m [illegible] re, non ignaro, quantas secum calamitates attulerit, de potent[illegible] bus [illegible] qui, [illegible] imq; præsumptuosum [illegible] it, cum maiori, quàm anceps c[illegible] m par[illegible], quàm fo[illegible] dum, [illegible] contendere. Utcunque mihi tamen euenerit, uincit charitas uestra, uincit [illegible] ri pondus, uincit acerbæ fortis nostræ mysterium, ut loquar, non sileam [illegible] ue non adulatorios uel amœnos, acres potius & mordaces, & [illegible] nde tamen exordiar ince[illegible] um habeo, c[illegible] m multa mi[illegible] a. Faciam q[illegible] od solent perplexitate nimia laborantes, laxabo [illegible] benas, [illegible] uela uentis committam, quocunque mens impegerit illam [illegible] Magnus [illegible] cus, magna iniuria mea, irremediabile uulnus meum, & cum ex præ[illegible] præ[illegible] futura ęq; coniecto, in lamentis, & suspirijs mi[illegible] bilem uitam [illegible] co, ad[illegible] [illegible] inter uigilantem & dormientem, uelut in extasi posito d[illegible] x ille Dandir[illegible] endæ memoriæ, ne dum noster, sed totius patriæ nostræ parens, uirtutis & sa[illegible] en[illegible] dus, summæ benignitatis, & gratiæ uiuus fomes, auide q[illegible] in [illegible] Respub. quibusq; gubernaculis moderetur. Et cùm me [illegible] enim, [illegible] um ac prorsus elinguem totis intuetur luminibus, elicit ex taciturnitate q[illegible] od [illegible] lut cœlestis accola, terrena contemplans ex alto quod passi sumus, & pat[illegible] clara uoce depromere iam festinat. O pura dilectione m[illegible] gessi in uisceribus charitatis, nunquid uera loqui [illegible] te p[illegible] cri[illegible] as est de cœlo, & quod pro ueritate passi sunt multi mart[illegible] sancti diuer[illegible] ormentorum? Nescis quod ueritatē occultans, & mendacia prole[illegible] riter un[illegible] & quod utilius permittitur nasci, scandalū quàm ueritas relinqua[illegible] Lapidem [illegible] im tuis moribus sic familiariter cogito, uerum secreti tui m[illegible] celare debue[illegible] us enim ut ex æquo te alloquar, imò amicissimus tibi fui, & [illegible] quem amicum exi[illegible] non tantundem credas, quantum tibi, uehementissimè erras, nec uim ueræ ami[illegible] nosti. Hæc est amicitiæ uera lex, ut sit in duobus pectoribus [illegible] ens. [illegible] tenentibus, quæcunque uos inf[illegible] edum a[illegible] etiam co[illegible] dolentissimè refero, quàm tempestiuum & calamitosum fi[illegible] & patriæ primum [illegible] habuerim, scio etiam & secundum, scio quot aduersi casus me[illegible] unte u[illegible] em [illegible] Scio quantis demum iactatā fluctibus, et adeò ualida te[illegible] [illegible] ereturr, propè submersioni iam foret [illegible] pacis amœnitat[illegible] [illegible] laboris assumpto Christus ipse perduxerit. Et si fidei nostræ cr[illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] go, quem Christianissimum esse noui, apu[illegible] supero [illegible] uestris aperta sunt omnia, [illegible] qui[illegible] [illegible] a uestrā Rempub uersata sunt hactenus & uersantur, mihi [illegible] m[illegible] modis assidue uigilanti, multa dicenda fo[illegible] [illegible] d infinita sunt numer[illegible] [illegible] tius considerari quàm dici, & occupat[illegible] sensus ut uideo & nubi[illegible] men[illegible] in eis explicandi d[illegible] stincte [illegible] s attent[illegible] & sp[illegible] Ad [illegible] em t[illegible] si fomenta progrediar, in quibus e[illegible] meticu[illegible] a dil[illegible] Multa, ma[illegible] ed ex eis non [illegible] lus quàm unū mortiferu quod [illegible] ligenter curato, facilis est enim, [illegible] quicueris c[illegible] entiès profectò te fortius infirmitate animi, quàm a[illegible] orare. Quid m[illegible] tibi mors imm[illegible] xerit, h[illegible] c [illegible] xit gladium [illegible] illam t[illegible] sagittam quæ t[illegible] cor tran[illegible] ue [illegible] rauit & animam, facit [illegible] pietas [illegible] me[illegible] mo [illegible] ardentissima facula, faciunt non minus inexorabiles, & [illegible] de[illegible] fratres t[illegible] s. [illegible] tenerad[illegible] ctione [illegible] eris, [illegible] amas [illegible] quàm [illegible] leas pro[illegible] s [illegible] q; clamores, [illegible] ulos ei[illegible] us eorum [illegible] q[illegible] enter inte[illegible]

quod

quod uenerabile illud, & penè sacrum col[illegible] s quid[illegible]m, & n[illegible] et mei [illegible] tempor[illegible] de patria benemerit[illegible], [illegible] & [illegible] te iam [illegible] [illegible]mi[illegible]osa uulgo fabula factum [illegible]. [illegible]ude talia de ta[illegible] a[illegible]dire [illegible] ut sicut qui fal[illegible]o prædicantur, necesse e[illegible] ut suis laud[illegible] eru[illegible]escant, [illegible] minantur, necesse est suis criminati[illegible]us enitescant. Affirm[illegible] plane quo[illegible] [illegible]n de[illegible]am, quod experie[illegible] a[illegible]ctus sum. Eo[illegible] a[illegible]u[illegible] ar[illegible] mor[illegible]e, & [illegible] cic[illegible]a, & morum [illegible]onestate, [illegible] omne æuum laud[illegible] ctus eorum, & opera ipsa ueritas eminens ex se lucet, ideo longis argumen[illegible] are [illegible]n molior, quod manifestum, & notorium palàm fit. De reliquis uer[illegible] qui[illegible] [illegible]m n[illegible] dem eiusdem matris suni filij, nec in uia domini par[illegible]er am[illegible]ulantes, a[illegible]ire f[illegible]rtè des[illegible]eras. Et mihi de quibus[illegible] spes aliqua, de reliquis uerò nu[illegible]a. [illegible]d[illegible]rata & prorsus [illegible]ucter[illegible]ra [illegible] uitia, & nisi cum uita pariter euellenda. Sunt qui de se meliora promi[illegible]ant, no[illegible], sed ad sanitatem aspirant, facilè nisi in medio cursu deficiant assecurur[illegible] quod cu[illegible]. Nam labor improbus cuncta uincit, & ut tuus ille Agneus Sene[illegible]a Cordube[illegible]sis te[illegible]tur [illegible] [illegible]e bonum, pars maxima est bonitatis, cu[illegible]usquam etiam rei pr[illegible], parte[illegible] pote[illegible] mam e[illegible]e nosti. Bonis igitur consulo, patientiæ terga parent, in[illegible] ui[illegible] tib[illegible] fideliter perseuerent, nec odio nocentiam suam perdant. Calumniari quidem p[illegible]ssunt c[illegible] minari non possunt, callum faciant maledicta quæque, non sibi, sed alijs exem[illegible]lo disertissi[illegible] Socratis dicta p[illegible]tent. [illegible] ue[illegible]turum est Virgilianum illud,

ut det Deus his quoque finem.

Rel[illegible]quos autē admoneo, ut dimi[illegible]is erroribus in recta resipiant. Secus extirpentur d[illegible]e dio. Modicum enim fel totum uel amaricat, unica menda totam faciem deformat, [illegible]arū [illegible]r menti totam massam corrumpit, ideò putrida membra, ne totum pereat, solent a corp[illegible]e resecari. Nefandum quippè foret utile, per inutile uitiari. Sed ut uideo, nimia iam [illegible]xpec[illegible]a tione torqueris, & ad hauriendum salutare poculum, quo dolori tuo fomenta propinem, intritam & sollicitam curā geris. Accipe quod nedum leniat, sed mundet ex toto, amic[illegible]m præmisisti non perdidisti, ex his qui amantur, licet eos casus abstulerit. Manet cum [illegible] cun[illegible]itate memo[illegible]a, non tantùm futura, sed præterita quandoque delectant, hæc expe[illegible]e, [illegible]la quide[illegible] o[illegible]a. [illegible]uperuacuum etiam est dolere, ubi dolendo ne quicquam pr[illegible]fi[illegible]s. Deinde i[illegible]m est quæri, de eo quod uni accidit, & omnibus restat. Demum de[illegible] stulta quæ[illegible] est ubi inter amissum & dolentem minimum interest. Respice celeritatem rapidissimi temporis, cogita breuitatem huius spacij, per quod usitatissimè curamus. O[illegible] [illegible]ua comitatum hunc generis humani, eodem tendentium distinctum, minimis int[illegible]al[illegible] etiam ubi magna uidentur. Quem putas perijsse præmissum esse uidebis. Quid a[illegible]tem [illegible] me[illegible], quàm cùm idem iter tibi emetiendum sit, cum flere, qui tibi dilectus ad gl[illegible]iam antecessit? Non sum ablatus tibi ut extimas, ó fide pectoris mei comes, non tibi subtra[illegible] sum, non malis artibus circumuentus, translatus sum in meliorem regionem. E[illegible] labores diutinos in quietem perpetuam commutaui, de [illegible]erreno cœlestis agri[illegible] de [illegible]o liber & domi[illegible]us, de sordido & humano corpusculo angelus factus sum. Ibi redem[illegible] nostri g[illegible]oriosam effigiem, gloriosus aspicens, sanctorum sociatus ag[illegible]us, in h[illegible]m can[illegible]bus hilarem uitam ago. Tuas igitur lachrymas festinus exterge [illegible] co[illegible] & [illegible]amentis omnibus, ammod[illegible]pone, ne f[illegible]rtè certioratus [illegible] cita[illegible] inuidere po[illegible]ùs, quàm grat[illegible]lari uideatis. Confabulari tecum, & [illegible]ngulare d[illegible] luptas maxima mihi fuit, sed ad decantandas iam solitas laudes altissimo, & in e[illegible]u[illegible] platione captandam summa cum u[illegible]iate lætitiam, me uocat chorus An[illegible]elicus. [illegible] autem per uiscera miseric[illegible]iæ [illegible]SV C[illegible]RISTI, ut [illegible]mi[illegible]is mœ[illegible]o[illegible] & turb[illegible] de e[illegible] gine, fluctuanti adhuc patriæ, [illegible]e[illegible]s ut hactenus ad[illegible]utor adsi[illegible]as, n[illegible]e u[illegible]a quæ p[illegible] [illegible]sione contingere deneges, cui tantùm teneris. Chari quidem pare[illegible]tes, liberi, [illegible] p[illegible]r[illegible]ter et amici, sed omnes omniū charitates una complexa est [illegible] [illegible]dubitat morte[illegible] ap[illegible]etere, u[illegible] ei p[illegible]u[illegible]ru[illegible] sit. Noui [illegible]de[illegible] t[illegible] ma cordi [illegible] in te[illegible]dunt, in te spe[illegible]ant [illegible]roceres V[illegible]torum, [illegible] p[illegible]res [illegible] uixer[illegible] [illegible]e[illegible]are labores, licet [illegible]aues, infestique [illegible]int. Non f[illegible]itm enim n[illegible] [illegible]um [illegible] [illegible] primam pat[illegible]ia uen[illegible]icat, parte[illegible] parent[illegible] [illegible] maiestati a[illegible]x [illegible] e [illegible] x [illegible] au[illegible]ter [illegible] te ce[illegible]enr[illegible] bit [illegible] grat[illegible]m quod [illegible] [illegible]m [illegible] in terris acceptius, qu[illegible] c[illegible]n[illegible]ere patri[illegible]

quietem & pacem sæculo suo dare. Hac petijt cœlum uia, hâc petiturus es tu. Omnibus quidem qui patriam iuuerint, auxerint, opemq́ præstiterint, certum scias in cœlum distinctum locum, ubi beati sempiterno æuo fruantur. Aeternum uale mi fili, tui animam, quæ iam cœlo potitur, natos & coniugem, non aliter quàm sint in mente adduco, expertus quod uerum, & fidum amicum te sibi reliquerim, quantum natura patitur, in suis commodis uigilem, & assiduè curiosum v. Idus Februarij, Anno incarnationis eius, qui nos a morte redemit. M. CCC. LV.

BENINTENDIVS VENETVS, MODIO PARMENSI suo, s. Epist. VIII.

NOn potest mi Modi uirtus tua latere sub modio, fulget & eminet, uelut in candelabro posita, & tota iam ueris non fictis suffulta laudibus ex se lucet, ideo ut à querelis exordiar tecum, hactenus mihi quidem incognito, tantum huius fugacissimi temporis, citius solius auaritiam ueterum nostrorum commendat au[illegible]tas, irrecuperabiliter perdidisse me doleo, quamuis enim bonus non sim, in hoc tamen [illegible]nter incumbo, ut bonorum fiam consortio non indignus. Fateor magnam uim ad con[illegible]ndos sibi animos uirtus habet. Ea nihil est amabilius, nihil quod magis ad diligendum [illegible]ciat, cum propter uirtutem & probitatem, eos etiam quos nũquam uidimus, diligimus. [illegible]incit omnem cognitionem naturæ, morum similitudo bonorum, nullaq́ societas gratior, [illegible]la charior, quàm cum uiri boni, moribus similes sunt familiaritate coniuncti. Proinde [illegible]m pleriq́ referentibus multa, magnaq́ de te nuper audiuerim, factus es mihi antè cha[illegible]quàm cognitus, & dum mihi suggeritur quanta sit eloquentiæ tuæ uis, quanta discre[illegible]nis integritas, quantusq́ animi tui uigor, in te delector & stupeo. Stupeo quippè, grauibus te curis obsessum, tot sæcularibus implicatum negocijs, sic uacare animo & sapientiæ [illegible]tuisse. Et cum senserim tecum, iniquè fortunam egisse, per multos casus, uariaq́ pericu[illegible]eiactando, hoc ipsum delectat me, animi tui robur: O' quam mirabilis & ueneranda res [illegible]ostra præsertim ætate, uirtutis, utinam non magis sterilis quàm fœcunda, uirum inte[illegible]m inuenisse periculis in medijs tempestatibus placidum, & inter aduersa fœlicem maius hoc, altiusq́ mi Modi, quam ut simile tuo in quo est corpusculo credi posit. Sed uis ut opinor in te diuina descendit, animum tibi excellentem exhibuit, moderatum omnia tanquam minora transeuntem, quicquid timetur, operaturq́ ridentem, quem profectò agitat [illegible]stis potentia. Non posset res tanta, sine adminiculo numinis summi stare. Itaq́ nisi fallor, maiore tui parte illic es, unde uenisti, quemadmodum enim radij solis, contingunt quidem terram, sed ibi sunt unde mittuntur, sic animus tuus magnus ac sacer, conuersatur quidem nobiscum, sed hæret origini suæ, illinc pendet, illuc mittitur & aspirat. Quocirca fœli[illegible]at tuæ uehementer congratulor, & fortunæ meæ habituræ, deinceps inde impensæ ratio [illegible]i constet. Vnde uirtutis & patientiæ formam summam, cuius exemplo aduersus hoc momentanea, & caduca me muniam. Postremò ad eius mores, & regulã me componam. H[illegible], quantum prodest animo, nondum adulto, illic adhæsisse, unde se posit facere melio[illegible]. Propterea eli[illegible]endus est nobis uir bonus, & ante oculos semper habendus, ut illo u[illegible]te uiuamus, & tanquam illo spectante omnia faciamus. Hunc te mihi electum esse co[illegible]oueris obseruabo, imitabor, & sequar etiam, si mare transieris, animi tui mores, quos & si [illegible]n sperem facile consequi posse, magnus quidem est labor, & prorsus uiribus meis im[illegible]at saltem attingere non despero, nihil enim est quod pertinax opera, & cura intenta, & [illegible]ens non expugnet. Robora in rectum quamuis flexa trahuntur, curuatum trabem ca[illegible]explicat, & aliter natæ arbores in id finguntur, quod exigit usus noster, quantò faciliùs m[illegible]ns ipsa flexibilis, & omni humore exequentior, formam bonitatis accipiet, si feruenter [illegible]a[illegible]itur? Ne temerarium me quæso puta, ueris si de meliora promitto. Imbecillis enim so[illegible] & ægri in experta formidare, nec spem bonã concipere, ubi tali, tantoq́ duce regendus [illegible]ed ne fortè nimis blandiri tibi hæc mea uideatur oratio, ars enim ea procul à moribus [illegible]s est, alias me tibi scripturũ prænoscito, quo huic tuæ laudi contraria iudicat uulgus ex[illegible] non ut me qui discipulus esse uolo, tibi correctorẽ exhibeam, sed potiùs, ut uelut ho[illegible]tẽ amantissimũ habeas ex parte, ex puritate fidei relatiore. Et cùm nihil ex omni par[illegible]at[illegible]m, nihilq́ in humanis adinuentionibus adeò perfectum, quod si ad perspicacis cor[illegible]onis regulam deducatur, multa non indigeat tersione, magnũ augmentum benè con-

stituti animi tibi erit, si ea, quæ de te forte adhuc ignoraueras, nunc in melius reformando cognosces. VII. Idus Nouemb. M. CCC. LV.

MODIVS PARMENSIS SENINTENDIO, S. Epist. IX.

Perunsta melle Rhetorica me permulxit epistola, Benintendi, quæ mentis & oris admiranda nitore, oculos meos dulciter illexit, iosicxit spiritum: Perfricuit & auditum. Verum ubi secum strictiùs, quorsum me uocaret sollicitæ quæritarem, non obstupere non potui, quoniam modo, dum eminentiæ tuæ gradum, laboris tui studium, peruigili meditatione contemplor. Qui tanti ducis impia, tantorum principum consulta disponis, his utcunque cedens, in meos titulos te conferres. Nec mihi satis liquet, nunquid permulcendis moribus, an propulsandis erroribus institisti? His etenim haud iniuria mihi meminisse uideor, adolescentulos urgeri solere, quos olim uel illusione corripimus, uel in meliores animare callida persuasione molimur, moliris equidem fateor, nec de te qui tantus, qui talis es, nisi sanctum, nisi honestum credere minus fas fuerit quàm dubitare nefas. Moliris namque uelut interpreror, torpenti animo calcar addere, pauores excutere, & qui tibi ad probitatem offici credor, in hac te perficiar suadente. Supprime quæso mi Domine reuerende, ac nimium elata uela substringe. Nam quid agis, nisi ut præconij ludibrio mendacis erubescam? Quem tanta ui facundiæ floridum, integra discretione conspicuum, animi lorica potentem, & si sæculi fluctibus, & si fortunæ ictibus actum, uacasse disciplinæ, præ nimio stupore miraris? Miraris enim nec admirari desinis, quem nostris temporibus nihil attonitum, minimè cupidum, bifrontis fati ludis, non sine socij fauore numinis, inconcussa mente spectantem, oratione blanda nō minus quàm uera describis. Erubesco denique & mutesco penitùs, quando quod mens ægra cogitare. nedū manus trepida stylo dare uix audet, me tibi ducem eligis, speculum exigis, sed ut iam arbitror hic tibi mos est, ut quos uirtuti sa eiles reris, hunc laudibus accendere, hunc pro animorum exigentia soleas argutijs deterrere. Porrò ut ex multis quæ tot, & tanta profaris, ad paucissima respondeam. Is non sum, is nō sum, iuratus exclamem, quem tantis plausibus extollere, deperditi temporis querimonia complorare, quem phaleratis orationibus allicere, quem tanto debeas molimine flagitare: quin ut præteream quanta sit, qua sic afficeris ingeniorum dulcedo similium, si pectusculi mei latebras inanes percurreris, fortasse quem latentem sub modio non horrebas, non autem tibi in modio cognitum, quàm minus eharū intellexisse dolebis. Nouissimè ne tuis prorsum, qui tanta me contemplatione dignaris uidear, auspicijs, dissentire, non ut tecum, quem mihi singularem dominum prælegi, cui meos animi motus, & cuncta nota subegi, fulgentibus ne dicam paribus armis accingar, sed ut nascentis amoris nostri radix mutuo complura, pignore coalescat, solutis inuigilare sermonibus, non iotrepido tamen pollice laboraui, nequaquam ignarus, illuc me rapi, ubi tua nostrorum cæcropidarum simillima turba palæstris concertat ingenijs. Florescit Liuius, & facundia Ciceronis, ubi tua te uenerabilis caterua miratur, labori suo columen, & pedibus dulce iubar. Succedo itaque domine mi, ac genibus tuis supplex, & deuotus aduoluor, ut siue mitior qualem te tua commendat humanitas, siue qualem te ad ultimū polliceris, acrior impartire malueris, mihi liceat tua iussa capescere, dictata facescere, ac eo medullitùs aspirare, quò & quacunque me uocabunt tui Socratici pectoris rudimenta. Venetijs XXI. Nouembris.

SENINTENDIVS VENETVS, MODIO PARMENSI SVO, S. Epist. X.

Rem non nouam, neque inopinatam aggrediar, uulgatam potiùs, & clara uoce promissam, si tanto illi præconio, quod de te pridem altera mea profitebatur epistola, quicquam ista detraxerit. Quæ si forsitan, quod minimè reor, aliqua sui parte tibi molesta peruenerit, tantillum saltem reportatura sit fructus, ut quem te illa tātum extulerat, præsens nunc experta sit uirum. Sunt mihi quæ fortibus in te lacertis trajciam, acutissima iacula, sunt ualidissima tela, quibus te transuerberare iam properem, sunt sagittæ mortiferæ, quas in te mittere totis uiribus non formidem. Quid autē aduersum hoc negotij tibi sit, ipse delibera, non te tutabitur scutus uel galea, non lorica, uel thorax, nō quodvis alterius generis munimentum, quantumcunque exquisito artificio sint contexta. Armis crede, mihi alijs quàm ferreis opus est, miser es Modi, & miserior multo quàm putas, cum seruus, & iam non seruus esse non possis. Astrinxisti fidem tuam, astrinxisti pariter libertatem, & utinam illi domino, cui seruire summa est iocunditas, & libertas, sed quod pace tua dixerim, ab eo cui seruiueris seruias, seruiturus q; sis, quid sperare potueris, non agnosco.

Sperasti

ſperaſti fortè diuitias ab eo qui in diuitijs pauper eſt? Speraſti honores ab eo, in quem ho-
is occaſio, lethiferum uulnus inflixit? Speraſti libertatem ab eo, qui ſemper animo in-
tus, in ſumma libertate, ſeruorum noſcitur eſſe ſeruus? Quanto tibi conſultius actum
tecum ipſe uixiſſes, ſi te dignum feciſſes Deo: nemo autem alius eſt Deo dignus,
m qui hos uanos honores, opesq́ contempſit, quorum tamen poſſeſsionem non inter-
ex toto, ſed efficere uult, ut intrepide poſsideantur à nobis. Id uerò minimè conſequi
nus, niſi nos etiam ſine ipſis beatè uicturos eſſe putemus. Nunquid ſatius erat tibi
uotidie noui caſus emergunt, ceruicem ſubducere, & ſecundùm naturam uixiſſe,
paucis, ut noſti, minimisq́ contenta eſt, panem & aquam ipſa deſiderat. Nemo ad hæc
er eſt, intra hæc ſi tua deſideria concluſiſſes, cum ipſo Ioue de fœlicitate contenderes.
t uideo, implicauit te potius error, cōmunis gloriæ uidelicet appetitus, qui ſummum
etiam uirtuoſiſsimis eſſe ſolet. Quaſi pulchrum duceres, & ad magnum tibi dedecus
eres, apud illuſtrē uirum, famæ pretium meruiſſe, falleris licet aliquali uenia dignus
nne meminiſti, quod uera animi magnitudo, honeſtum illud, quod natura ſequitur
poſitum non in gloria iudicat, & mauult eſſe principem quàm uideri? Nam qui ex
imperitæ multitudinis pendet, hic in magnis uiris habendus non eſt. Facillime enim
tas impellitur, non eſt philoſophia populare artificium, nec oſtentationi para-
a ex inſecus inſtrumenta, iam quærit, domi colitur, ex ſe totum eſt. Nulla ergo
o eſt peccati, ubi reprobata cauſa peccaueris. Sic itaq́, ſi ſeruitutem, ambitionemq́
ex corde recenſeas, ſenties profectò, hæc duo laudem tuam acutiſsime transfodiſſe.
ndebis, ut opinor, hæc eadem imputaturus & mihi: Fateor non ſum liber, non ab hu
labe totaliter abſolutus, libens tamē ſeruio, iuſto & Chriſtianiſsimo principi, non
uel tyranno, qui uitæ, necisq́ in me habeat poteſtatē. Seruio reipublicæ meæ, quæ
ipſo charior ſemper fuit, ſeruio patriæ meæ, quæ filijs, parentibus & amicis, & de-
riuatæ utilitati præferenda eſt. Hanc mihi non ſeruitutem, ſed ſummam arbitror li-
tem, non tàm honoris, diuitiarū uel gloriæ cupidus, quàm ut apud eum, qui omnium
nouit, fructus benefactorum, ſi mihi bene feciſſe. Credideris fortè hic finiam, & ſigil-
piſtolam? Maius certamen expecta. Accipe quod te profundius ſauciet, & penetra-
uulneret mentem tuam. Verſus ut audio, componis, & carmina, dictiones & ſyllabas
ie menſurare non deſinis, uerbis tamen, & uocibus operam tuam ponis. O pueriles
ias his rebus intentus es, quæ nec te poſsint, nec alios facere meliores: in hoc labores,
c uigilias tuas perdis? In hoc ſubducis ſupercilia tua, barbamq́ demittis, & pallidus
doq́ & exanguis inſudas? Turpiſsima iactura, quæ ſenſato uiro, ex conſcientia ſua ne
multum ſupereſſet ætatis, parce diſpenſanda, ut neceſſarijs tantū ſufficeret, nunc quod
ergo quotidie nobis, magnaq́ inſtat, pars eius præterijt, & quicquid ætatis retro eſt,
enet, quanta dementia eſt, ſuperuacua diſcere, in tanta temporis egeſtate? Et cū aliena
ia, tempus quod ſolum noſtrum eſt, fruſtrà conterere? Non Virgilius, non Home-
n Ouidius, Statius, uel Lucanus, non reliqui Poëtarum, quotquot numerare uolue
t eorum utiq́ faceto ſtylo metra compoſita, eo quòd ab omnibus quæritur, à paucis
iuenitur, o io te iuuabunt. Id tibi cœleſtis amor & Philoſophia ſola præſtabit, ef-
enter contumaciter fortunam aſpicias, aliquid contra paupertatem, ali-
q́ con em, ſingulis te adhortabitur horis. Docebit te nulli rei ſeruire, nul-
rſitati, nullis ibus, demum ad calcem perducet, ut teipſo contentus ſis, & ex te na-
us bonis, utq́ hoc quotidie mediteris, quemadmodum poſsis æquo animo imbecil-
nc & tranſitoriam uitam relinquere. Facere ſuadebit, non dicere, & non uerbis ope-
eribus uerba probare. Crede mihi, mi Modi, literata colloquia, & exceptis ſapien-
a collecta, eruditusq́ ſermo, uerum robur animi non oſtendunt, cùm ſit oratio
m timidiſsimis audax. Proinde tibi perſuade, libertatem eſſe pretioſiſsimum boni ge-
iam naturalem facultatem, eius quod cuiq́ facere libet, niſi quod ui, aut iure prohi-
ientes eſſe diffiniunt. Seruitutem econtrà omnium malorum grauiſsimum, qua
lieno iuri, contra naturam ſubijcitur. Ab initio enim omnes homines liberi naſceban
Ambitionem quoq́ periculoſiſsimam peſtem fore, quæ ut tuus ille Salluſtius ait: Mul
talium falſos fieri coëgit, aliud clauſum in pectore, aliud in lingua promptum habe
m ſummam negligentiam illam eſſe, ſi exiguum hoc nobis datum eſt temporis,
expendatur & prodigè, ubi uelut irrecuperabile fuerit parciſsime diſpenſandū.
qualem, quantumúc haberi te uelis, non in fortunæ, ſed in manibus tuis ſit,

tunc consummata fœlicitas tibi erit, tunc summam summarum attigisse te noueris, [illegible] peruenerıs, ut qualis haberi cupias, talis sis. XV. Cal. Decembris.

BENINTENDIVS VENETVS FRANCISCO PETRARCHÆ, S. Epist. XI.

NErius noster mihi pridem apparuit, ad cuius primò complexum, magna me subiit ueneratio eius, dum eum esse memini, qui se probitatibus suis fecerat amicitia tua dignum. Magnum opus fecisse, magnas sibi comparasse diuitias, immensum sibi theatrum extruxisse, uisus est mihi. Quæror, irascor & litigo mecū ipse, quòd non maiori cera tanti uiri gloriam & ipse ego uenatus sum. Accuso ignauiam meam, ipse me sæpe redarguo, ac miserum, & infœlicem me clamito, quod tanta diligentia, hoc luteum corpus operiam, fami, sitiq; satisfaciam suæ, ac eius si quid languoris intercidat, lingula membra curem. Animū uero qui non suo, sed alieno potius, uitio semper est nudus, qui non annonæ, sed pastoris inopia famelicus, semper & æger, sic prorsus ac si mea nihil eius interesset, abijcerem. Dico intro meipsum, si cæci corporis lumina perdidisses, [illegible] au[illegible], gustum, uel tactum, aut deniq; odoratum, sinistra manu casus aliquis abstulisset, nunquid Adriaticum mare non sulcares? Nunquid Ionicum & Aegeum? Nunquid Charybdim & Scyllam forti animo nedum traijceres, sed tranares? Nunquid non Italiam, Germaniam, Galliam peragrares? Et ut paucis totum complectar, nunquid non Europam, Asiam, Africam uelut furibundus inquireres, ut nedum qui sanaret, sed qui salutem promitteret inuenires. Nunc in foribus tibi est, qui morbos animi diligenter expurget, qui tanta ualetudine infectum eum curet, & sanet, tenebras pellat, lucemq; subducat, qui be[illegible]to s[illegible]e partem angelis efficiat, ut quid moraris uel cessas? Excute teipsum & libera, festina, propera, & uirum illum uelut diuinum quoddam oraculum supplex adora, nulla adeò tibi transeunda sunt maria, nulla hostium adeunda pericula, nulla peregrinatione iter quærendum. Plana tuta, & aperta sunt omnia, utilis labor est, utilior multò, quàm putas, plus eo quam sperare possis inuenies. Nunquid quod raro in Philosopho reperitur, Christianæ religioni quisquam fidelior? Nunquid ad obediendum quisquam humilior? Nunquid ad imperandum quisquam modestior? Nunquid ad seruiendum paratior, & in conuersatione benignior uisus est? Ita ut meritò dici possit, quod nequaquam ei similis sit inuentus. Ad T. Liuium lacteo tūc eloquentiæ fonte manantem, multos de ultimis terrarum finibus legimus peruenisse, & quod ad sui contemplationem Roma non traxerat, unius hominis fama perduxit. Quanto magis his, non lacteum fontem sed ut uerius dicam aureum uirtutis, & eloquentiæ flumen emittens, adeundus & contemplandus est iste? O thesaurum immensum, si bene quis computet ô inextimabile sęculi nostri donum, illam in terris inuenisse salutem, quam nec præteritis, nec futuris sperare, nisi de cœlo fas fuerit. Leges in antiquorum historijs, uiros fuisse prudentes, iustos, tēperatos & fortes, sed quod uni contigerit, alteri defuisse comperies. In uno hoc totum quod dici, uel cogitari possit uirtutis inuenies. Si quæras sapientiam, æquabis eum Aristoteli uel præpones: si mores, Anneus Seneca cedet illi: si eloquentiam, alteram inuenisse crediderıs T. Ciceronem: si cardinalium uirtutum quamuis ex quatuor, alterum cōspicies Socratem, alterum & Platonem. [illegible] huiusmodi ergo uir, [illegible] nil aliud quàm Deus in humano corpore uiuens extimari iam p[illegible]suadat me sæpius immoderata quædam cupiditas, ut mandatum dominicum quodammodo in te sequens, u[illegible] & filios, patrem si superesset & matrem, fratres deniq; & sorores. Cætera etiā, quæ circa me boni uidentur, propter te deseram centuplum accepturus. Scio quidem quod [illegible] mani[illegible] tuis est, regna, imperia, nobilitates, honores, diuitias, opesq; conferre, & quod his omnibus maius est, animas hominum erudire, eisq; sapientiam dignissimam rerum in[illegible] der[illegible]. Quid autem ea optabilius [illegible]? Quid præstantius? Quid melius, aut homine [illegible] gnius, non agnosco. Hæc est diuinarum & humanarum rerum notitia, hæc fasi, ueri [illegible] entia, hæc quæ sola potest hominem contentum, beatumq; præstare. Itaq; secessum mi[illegible] quentius persuadens, cuncta dispono, accingor ad iter, & pacatis omnibus, uel[illegible] gloriam petiturus, solari & curis absēdo. Et semper in limine quæ me turbet [illegible] licet rerum omnium moderatrix, clamat & resistit in faciem, uulgatam illam [illegible] tus intellectam sententiam repræsentans, Appetitus obtemperet rationi. Ad hu[illegible] [illegible] sisto gradum, pedem retraho, ad nauis iam pro[illegible]rantem a[illegible] & [illegible] ta[illegible]ratione concussus, eius imperium taci[illegible]mus expecto. Arguit [illegible] gat, & uelut grauiter delinquentem alloquitur. Quis te in dementiam tantam duxi[illegible]e-

... uicquam, nec consultò constituas. Cogita quis sis, quò, quidue quæsitutus accedas. ... & tenebrosa materia, cui uix possit aliqua bonitatis effigies, ne dicam imprimi, sed ... etiam ... Pro sapientia, tentas luminum summum lumen? Nescius quod frustrà ... quam agitur in non dispositò & patiente? Tu pædagogi ministerio adhuc egens, qua ... clarissimi uiri fores, etiam pro ... issimus in ... & nisi consumatæ sapientiæ accessi ... mentibus pulsare præsumens? Nam tibi delirare maximè uideretur, qui scandere turre ... ex ... iam, uix per multas ascensibilem scalas, unico saltu contenderet? Num tibi insa... uideretur, & improbus, pannosus & sordidus, nec cilicio quidem dignus, regiam sibi ... em, auro, gemmisque contextam, repentina quadam impetitione deposcens? Magno ut ... inor moueretis cachinno, sed maiori multo, si alium inuenires, uolare contra naturam ... le ... em, certè ut ille, quo altius ascenderet, maiori foret ruina casurus. Sic & tibi nisi pro... re ... ipiscas, quasi erranti uiam, quo magis ambulare credideris, itineris plus restabit. ... ad sapientiam ipsam gradus, quorum si quem intercalari, uel prætermitti contigerit, ... e est qui hoc tentat, ordine peruerso præcipitet. Melle & lacte prius educantur infan... m ... alescentibus annis, ualidioribus nutriuntur cibarijs. Tu quoque ... mile ... ac, in ... numero collocandus, est enim cibus quem quæris, prorsus unibus tuis im... m autem adolcueris, ad fortiora matura cōsultatione conscendens, tunc destinatum ... m, securus intrabis, ubi salutarem medelam, ubi incomparabiles thesauros, ubi quie... test, circa hominem boni esse, conferta mensura recipies, ita ut tibi meritò sit di... en... Hoc est quod semper optaui. Hæc igitur uirorum optime, etiam quemque constantis... m ... ritura, ita præsentia carere inuitum me compellunt, feram quod potero, patien... absque operam, licet ignauus & discolus, licet publicis obsessus negocijs, ut aliquando ... aciam desiderio meo dignum. Tu autem benignus & pius, hoc unum quod absenti ... are potes, literatum colloquium, quæso, mihi ne deneges, hoc uno modo mihi uisen... te præbe. Nunquam epistolam tuam accipiam, ut non protinus tecum sim, nam si ami... m absentium imagines iocundæ sunt, quæ memoriam renouant, & desiderium absen... allo, & inani leuant solatio, quanto iocundiores futuræ sunt literæ, quæ ueri notas ami... ... e, a ucsti ... ia representant? Vale mi fœlicissime domine, & quotiens seruos tuos com... ... cu ... ueris, precor nomen meum saltem in ultimis non omittas. Ago autem tibi reue... ... icr memoriam, ut epistolarij tui copiam munus quidem mihi charissimum, & alias tua ... gnitate promissum, qualicunque uia habere promerear, pro cuius scriptura per commu... em amicum nostrum Marcum de Raude, ciuem Mediolanensem, & Venetum, sicut ne... ... erit scriptoribus satisfiet. Ecce enim, & ego tibi expendens, exoluo debitum q... od ... i mitto inclusam responsionem, quam ad ea quæ secundario inuexisti, non tamen ... ris tibi receptam, mandauit recolendæ memoriæ dum ille Danduleus, olim tibi, suis ... ui uirtutibus, & ueræ nostræ patriæ uera lux, ut scias ei nec uerba, nec sententias de... ut nil restet, quo tanti uiri posstit accusari memoria, certum tene, cum omni tempo... simum pacis fuisse: at ut audire sæpiùs potuisti, hic mos, gloriosum quippe pa... ... e decus, ducibus nostris est, ut quamuis in eos dignitatis titulus sit collatus, potius ... am duce ... nec tàm imperandi, quàm parendi sibi potestatem ascribunt, uti ipsius ... des, ... as ... capere posset, uoluminis magni liber paucis absoluam, nil in co natura ... a ... n ... m breuem uitam dedit eidem, cui tamen benè redditæ reliquit memo... sempiternam. ... Cal. Feb.

FRAN. PETRARCHA BENINTENDIO S. Epist. XII.

Benè mihi accidit, quod in urbe licet frequentissima, tua me solitarium epistola reperit, erubuissem enim coram multis deprehensus in publico, nunc solus erubui, & dixi qu... non potes imperiose amor? Quid non potes? Quando etiam talis uiri oculos, auditumque perstringis? In literis quidem tuis optime uir, duas simul ueterum ... recognoui, & amoris scilicet, & eloquentiæ magnam uim, nec de nihilo dictum, ... um cæca esse iuditia, uel Oratorem posse omnia. Primum te amice, in extima... mearum f... t haud dubie: secundum uerò me paulò minus fefellisset, ut talis ... inciperem, qualem tu me facis, sic corda legentium in manu habes, sic papirus ... lamus tibi pro sceptro est, nisi quod me cogi sentiens, in arcam ra... e ua... ipsum idenudem percunctabar, an uera essent, quæ de me stylo quamu... s art...

ciofo & mellifluo dicerentur. Scio quid mihi intus in silentio sit responsum. [illegible] posthac pudori meo parcas, neue me non meis laudibus oneres. Non pr[illegible] ex[illegible]as, quo delector, tantùm ne me facundiæ unco trahas, in errorem mu[illegible]o [illegible] pate[illegible] tuus enim error ingenuus, & amicitiæ testis, eximie meus [illegible]it, nisi amens, ridi[illegible] erit [illegible] quam ni[illegible]or ne in hac parte labi possim prouisum est mihi. [illegible]abe[illegible] cui hæc [illegible] c[illegible]en tiam meam, à qua si non exterius flatibus auulsus fuero, non facile ce[illegible]am [illegible] enim non nisi aura purissima, uerique flant spiritus. Denique sic habeto posse me tibi omnia c[illegible]cedere, nisi quæ de me [illegible]ibis, quæ si aliunde procederent, qua putas fronte lecturus fuerim? At nunc mi[illegible] notissimus candor tuus, quicqui[illegible]is, aut sensibus meis approbat, & quæ ore alterius illusoria uiderentur, & tuis labris grata facit, & dulcia. Ad summã, qu[illegible] sum, tuus sum, & amicitiæ no[illegible]æ fores, quas eloquentiæ tuæ clauibus aperire tanto studio satagis, apertæ sunt, ut liber exoptatis ingredere. Crede mihi, nullo nisu, nulla opus est arte, ult[illegible]imis præsto sum, teque in limine lætus excipio, non prius exclusurus, q[illegible]m hanc inde an[illegible]am mors excludat, idque sic esse ut dico, penitùs tibi insitum esse uelim. Pauca [illegible]nt q[illegible]us glorier, inque his ipsis hæ[illegible]itare soleo. Vnum hoc intrepidè dixerim, temporales ami[illegible]itias non noui, ad quas [illegible] non in annis emolumenti fluxa ratio, sed honestas allicere, immortalis ex se genitas mortales esse non fineret. Ego fateor, ad ineundas amicitias tard[illegible]s, a[illegible]s immobilis, ad hanc contrahendam unque pronus sum, ac ne id fortuitum putes, de te mihi [illegible]u
a ante prouisum erat, quem ut in amicis haberem, & dignus, & appetens uidebaris. Sane quod præter modestissimum amicitiæ uotum, etiam de scriptis familiaribus quæ u[illegible]ria exigente materia q[illegible]otidie mihi è manibus excidunt, partem postulare di[illegible]natus [illegible], miror, quid ita cum uiuum fontem domi habeas, & lucidum, semiarentes ac turbidos uicinorum riuulos sitibundus ambias. N[illegible] pridem intellectus mihi sit animi tui ardor, qui tacitus est, ut nullum ingenij liquorem undecunque fastidiat, neque sibi sufficere tuũ arbitretur, quicquid perennibus scatebris [illegible]berrimum pectus affatim promit, nisi uel ad limina pauperum pulses, & tui locuples aliena mendices. Perge, age, habes quos sequaris duces, seu Socratem mauis, seu Platonem, quorum alter ut scriptum uides, ad discendum pauper, ditissimus ad docendum f[illegible]it. Alter literas toto orbe collegit, quas toto orbe refunderet, his exempl[illegible]re tus, & hac iter ingressus [illegible]eri non potest, quin ad summas quoque diuitias proueh'are. Quod ad nugas meas attinet desiderio tuo, etiam mei, & mearum rerum amor accedit, amor cæcus, ut dixi, & semper obliquus rerum arbiter, uulgo dici solet. Placens histrio semper placidum canit. P[illegible]ofectò autem non in me, neque in meis scriptis est [illegible]t placeant, sed in te. Quantum uerò in his, quando in his delectaris, quantum in maioribus si qua sors fauerit, tibi morem gerere cupiam & rursum, quid si uacet, ex te uelim, eius ex ore audies cuius è manibus ista percipies. Qui uir musica suauitate mulcere aures, & digito potens est [illegible]genium excitare. Cumque ipse sit magnus, quanquam non è coniugio Thetidis maiorem se genu[illegible] Nunc ambo quietis auidi, de toto orbe sibi Venetiam delegere, adesto illis oro, qua pot[illegible] met sunt coque magis esse tui, quo esse sui non alterius uidebuntur. Nouissimum est [illegible]ris, epistolam, i[illegible]s optimi uiri, & ciuis, & Ducis meliore nunc patria uiuentis, q[illegible]o d[illegible] utinam d[illegible]ut[illegible]s fu[illegible]emus, latum me, sed non sine lachrymis perlegisse, ita mihi de sep[illegible]lchro, imò de cœlo respondere uisus est, ut multa mihi suspiria renouare[illegible]ed non ita, ut non sibi quoque multa responsurus fuerim, si nobiscum ageret. Nunc ut puto, uel tacitum i[illegible]telligit. Vale memor nostri, Mediolani. XIIII. Cal. Iunij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA BENINTENDIO SVO, S. Epist. XIII.

COlende semper atque honorabilis amice, literis uestris primum acceptis, super epigrammate claræ & gloriosæ memoriæ domini duc[illegible]s nostri, ut quid segnitie[illegible] meam cælem excusationem non Epitaphium meditabar, ut qui m[illegible]que al[illegible]a curarum acie obsessus, & occupationum mearum mole obrutus, uobis ut reor animi saltem augurio non ignota, nec cœptis ipse sufficiam meis, & usque adeò, ab huiusmodi iuuenilibus exercitijs sim distractus, ut non iam antiqua repetere uidear, sed [illegible]ua p[illegible]orsus, & [illegible]eta tentare, u[illegible]ræque metiens breu[illegible]tatem, & fundamentorum amplu[illegible]d[illegible]em, q[illegible]æ le[illegible]sedul[illegible] mecũ ipse remetiens contremiscam, ideoque iampr[illegible]d[illegible] semel mente firmauera[illegible] nihil unqu[illegible] uel ingenij exercitio, uel cuiusquã precibus, uel qualibet se[illegible] necessitate [illegible] de[illegible]ctatione mat[illegible]æ [illegible]oui, carminis aggredi, satis, superque existimãs [illegible]

Q[illegible]d

Quod præruptum animi decretum, neglecta interim ingenij asperioris infamia contra feruorem amicorum instantiam, inexorabilem sæpe me tenuit. Quid multa? Iam calamus erat in manibus, iamque excusatio texebatur, dum secundus interuentus epistolæ inijciens manum, diffidentiam abstulit, pudorem attulit, duritiem fregit. Itaque calamum, quem ad negandum cœperam, ad parendum uerti, quid & per quem, & pro quo posceretur, quidue huius amicitiæ, & illius memoriæ debeam, acriter mecum uoluens, eadem hora igitur, eademque sessione, quatuordecim Elegos dictaui, qui si mei non uidebuntur, nolite mirari, iam nec ego ut cuperem meus sum, nec sum ille qui fueram, ita me multa circumstrepunt, tanquam hoc ita uelim accipi uerum esse, ubi me uiuum, meas res intueor. Nam ubi alios & humanum genus omne contemplor, multa fateor occurrunt, unde cùm mei statum alienæ sortis collatione consoler, neque facile quisque me liberior, aut magis suus appareat, quod si fortè uersiculi plures sunt, quam petiti erant, remedium præstò est, duos abijcite quos uidebitur, & numeri ratio constabit. Sin omninò non placent, eò me magis uestrum credite, qui ut uobis obsequar mihi aduersor, neue aliquid uobis aut natis inclyti Ducis negem, sciens ac uolens inglorio labori, id ipsum, cuius mihi penuria ingens est, item opus impendo. Asscripsi autem in margine, siquid est, ubi uel dubitem, uel res eadem uariè dici posse uideatur, ut sic electio uestra sit. Mihi enim cum omnes Musæ hodie, tum præcipuè illam abesse perpendi, quàm Gratiam Graij uocant. Valete. Scripta rurali calamò in domo Carthusiæ Mediolan. ubi & æstatem ago. Calend. Septemb. ad uesperum M. CCC. LVII.

En domus Andreæ Veneti Ducis, ultima quanta est!
Alta, sed assurgens spiritus, astra tenet.
Publica lux iacet hic, & quartum sidus honorum,
Stirpis Dandulææ gloria prima, ducum.
Hunc animi uigilem temeraria Græcia sensit,
Et leuis antiquo reddita Creta iugo.
Hunc, comes Albertus Tyrolis, nostra perurgens,
Vastatis proprijs, qui meruit ueniam.
Hunc Iustino polis feruens, & Iadra rebellis.
Pertimuêre trucem, percoluêre pium.
Hic Genuam bello claram, pelagoque superbam.
Fregit ad Algerium, seruitioque dedit.
Iustus, amans patriæ, magnos cui fecit amicos,
Ingenio præstans, eloquio omnipotens.

BENINTENDIVS FRANCISCO PETRARCHÆ, S. Epist. XIIII.

Reuerende domine mi: Si plus debito importunus, infestusque sum, asscribite quæso feruenti in uos deuotioni meæ, quæ omnem à me pauorem simul, & ruborem auertens, nimitum deuiare facit à tramite rationis. Scio quidem, nunquam erga uos ulla, ex me merita præcessisse, unde tantum uirum sic audaci fronte, tàm crebris pulsare tædijs ausus sim, sed uestra summa uirtus, omnem iam uulgata per orbem, & animus mihi famelicus, sitibundusque simul, timore nescius, in hoc quantulumcunque futurum sit, hic temporis moræ meæ pabulo generoso, quo diu delectatus sum cupiens saginari, faciunt audacem ex timido, & ex uerecundo securum. Epistolas duas ad Ciceronem habui, restat ea, quam ad Anneum Senecam direxistis: & cum diebus octo uel circa, hîc adhuc me moraturum existimem, supplico ne me ociosum uestra benignitas esse sinat. Quicquid uobis ad manum occurrerit, quæso copiandum transmittite, cui uestra omnia clarissima sunt, fulgentia super aurum, & quamlibet margaritam. In quibus & si multa alia grandis utilitatis mihi futura sint, in summo tamen pretio mihi erit, quod ea intuens uidebor uos habere præsentem, quem in singularem patrem, & dominum habere propono, cunctis temporibus uitæ meæ. Recommendans me humiliter gratiæ uestræ semper.

Venissem nunc & frequentius uenirem ad uos, si his quibus utiliter insudatis operibus, meam uisitationem tàm utilem, quàm superuacuam esse scirem.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NERIO SVO, S. Epist. XV.

GRauem curis, obsessumq; negotijs, & perosum cūcta quæ uideo, nec aliter quàm fessus atq; aridus ceruus solet, ad umbrosum fontem, ad solitudinem, unde latratu canum sequacium pulsus est, atq; ad silentium aspirātem, epistola tua parumper auertit, quæ tàm longa interfuisset, ut quod ad exiguum tempus fecit, rerum me præsentium obliuisci in perpetuum cogisset. Ita enim me seculi nostri memoratorem scito, ut uix fuisse aliquid ætate, miserius, aut extremius putem. Vnum me solatur, quod si nasci oportuit, & penitùs necessarium fuit, ut inexorabilis Clotho nos ad prędurum huius uitæ limen impelleret, necprius in lucem erumpere datum erat, minus mali fuerit nunc natos esse, quam postea, talia de posteritate coniecto, trepido, utinam ludar, augurio. Sed hāc mihi spem de se nostra tribuit iuuentus, ea indoles, hi mores sunt, is notorum modus, is terminus studiorum, deliros etiam senes nostris iuuenibus admotos sapere ad inuidiam putes, & fœlices dicas, quod pridie nati sunt, sic mundus indies ad extrema præcipitans secum omnia, in deterius trahit. Mitto autem, quandoquidem & quid senior ætas actura sit, quod de Sergio Galba fertur dixisse Tyberius Cæsar, ad nos nihil pertinet, & cauendum est, ne maiori ingenio sit querela. Neue mihi forsan occurrat illud Senecæ, ubi ait: Omnem ætatem de moribus suis quæstam. Credo enim, sed ni fallor, quò ad mores attinet, nulla unquam dignius quæsta est. Illud non omissum, quod ab amantibus sese, & sua cuncta mirantibus opponi posse uideo. Non sum nescius Italiæ uulnerum, quæ nunc, quæue olim perpessa, iam malis induruit, & callum crebris cicatricibus superduxit, quanquam non Italia tantùm, sed terrarum orbis, ab origine clades tulit innumeras. Quid uerò est aliud, breuis hæc uita, quàm mors longior? Quid aliud terrena habitatio, quam grauis seruitij fœdus carcer, & iugis mœstitiæ cæca domus? Scio. Sed aliud est ab hostibus, aliud à uitijs obsideri, urgeri, premi, uri, uastari. Deficit aliquando hostis externus, & ipse alium fatigando lassatur, denique omnis hominum incursus breuis, nec ullum omninò bellum mortalium immortale est, cum auctoribus suis intercidat, oportet, & suis ipsum uiribus extinguatur. Vitia spatio temporis augentur, & exercitio roborantur, & quo plus nocuerint, incipiunt plus nocere. Nemo crudelior quàm qui diù fuit, nemo tàm citò luxuriæ succumbit, quàm qui sæpe succubuit. Multis ex actibus habitus fiunt, & assuescendo curuescimus, ut pronos in terram sternere promptum sit. Sic æuo crescit auaritia, sic senum pertinacior ambitio est, & sic reliquis pestibus processus est suus, neue mori unquam morbus possit, ægrorum intemperies facit. Cum his hostibus res est nobis, quibus modò non resistimus, sed fauemus, & ultrò nostros in iugulos ferrum damus, quinetiam mirum dictù, si lentescere cœperint, irritamus illos, quasi, minus miserum fieri, sit miseria summa. Quod passim in multis modò senibus, usque ad fastidium uidemus, quibus nihil obscœnius sol uidet. De quibusdam legimus, at in primis de illo, cuius paulò antè memini, Tyberio, quem apud inferos quoque dij sui, deęq; malè torqueant, ita mihi stomachum torquet, bilemq; agitat, quotiens senem illum lego, miris & infandis modis, atque inter cæteros relatu etiam turpi, spectaculo concubitus monstruosi, ut Tranquilli uerbo utar, deficientes libidines excitantem. Hinc illę ridiculæ, infamesq; nostrorum senum querimoniæ, quod solito minus uoluptatibus inardescāt, quod malesuada titillatio, & pruritus iuuenilis abscesserit, quod gulæ, somniq; & uentris illecebris, destituti sunt. Postremò quod uires corporeæ ad cædem, carnificinamq; defecerunt: at quid peius est, sanguinarium esse uelle, quam esse quamuis qui malus esse cupit, utiq; iam malus ac pessimus est. Nec quisquam peior, quàm qui peccat & studet & flagitio gloriatur. Delectari equidem in malis, propè malorum omnium est natura. Vnde peccandi consuetudo iucundissima, apud Ciceronem dicitur, in medijs sane delectationibus inhonestis, molestum aliquid pati, & uelut frenum aliquid sentire libidinum, malorum adhuc est, sed ad meliora tendentium, & quos sæpe de magnis tempestatibus liberatos, in portum peruenisse cognouimus. Effundi autem in malis, & efferri lætitia, & gestire, & niti, & quod est omnium pessimum gloriari, propè ultimæ, desperatæq; nequitiæ est. Horum uerò plena sunt omnia, hosq; inter uiuendum est nobis, & si inter hos tantum, ac non etiam ex his sumus, bene est, quanquam conuictus sceleratorum, nullis sit molestior, quàm his, qui ab illorum moribus insigni dissimilitudine secernuntur. Vtcunque est inter hos uiximus, & quod Psalmista regius deflebat: Inueterauimus inter inimicos nostros, quodq; miserrimum dixerim, inter hos ipsos moriendum est. Quò enim patet fuga? Quò ibimus.

non nos sceleratorum acies ac signa præcesserit? Vbi non pessimis moribus impe-
um partum atque firmatum sit? Trans Oceanum nauigandum erat, nisi quia credibile est,
a nostra iam ad Antipodas descendisse. Ad cœlum potius euolandum, n[illegible] nostris ad ter
ponderibus premeremur, illa si salui esse cupimus, deponenda sunt, quod facile factum
et, nisi quia malorum exemplis obruimur, quorum cum feracissima ætas nostra sit, ut di-
feratior est etiam speranda posteritas. Pugnarunt equidem maiores nostri aduersus Pœ-
nos, Cymbros, ac Teutonas & Britannos, ægrè uel Italiam ab Hannibale, uel Capitolium à
enonibus defenderunt, omnium tandem uera & indomita uirtute uictores. Nos si Capi-
tolij nostri atcem, à tanto Barbaricorum uitiorum circumfuso exercitu defendimus, ad tu-
telam nostram, cœlesti alite excitati, si circumstrepentibus uulgi erroribus immota fronte
resistimus, & Manlio, & Mario, & ipso Cæsare fortiores erimus. Illos enim ab hoste murus
interdum, uallumque dirimebat, sæpè noctibus quiescebant, hyemis asperitatem hyberno-
rum solatio leniebant, nobis nulla quies, nullum sine periculo tempus, non pru na, non in-
duciæ, non nox. Nihil usquam tuti, pacatique est, assiduè de salute certamus, semper in acie
stamus, tentamur, circumsidemur, impellimur. Hostes intra muros sunt, ad ipsam rationis
arcem scalas applicant. Quid expectas ut dicam? in ipsas mensas nostras, atque cubilia irrum-
pit, quodque proximum exitio est, uulgus omne pro hostibus partes facit. In hoc iam an-
ci[illegible] du[illegible]oque certamine, non nisi de cœlo speranda uictoria est. Inde eam amicè poscamus,
tamen ubi sim uideo, non moueri nequeo, interdumque tàm grauiter, ut meæ fortis
patiens, mœstis penè uincar angoribus. Aberrasse fortè à proposito uideor, tulit impe-
us, sed redeo. His ergo hodie curis implicitus, quas mihi circumstrepentium rerum fra-
or, satietasque pepererant, dum thalamo egredior, epistolam tuam in limine obuiam habui,
uem quidem, è longa ueluti peregrinatione succinctam. Multa tamen, qui properanti-
s mos est, paucis illa uerbis expedijt, & qualiter affectus singula putas audierim. Atque in
nis Lælij mei nomen, cum quo cupidè oro uersare, totaque illum mente complectere. Di-
gni estis alterutro. Sanè quod sequitur, nostræ gentis aduentu, Pisanum populum graui su
tione turbatum, mirari non debes, nam neque gens ulla suspitiosior, & uipera nostra terri-
bilis, rubentem dentibus uirum stringens, securos quoque sollicitat. In quo Cæsaris prouiden
tiam laudo, quæ & pauori ciuium succurrit, & pudori multum occurrit. Quod uero de pa-
tria mea scribis, latè admodum legi, & Romano principi obedientiam non negari, & si qua
iam toto orbe neglectæ libertatis cura est, eam in patria mea esse. Vltimum nihil miror,
quod de auri potestate facetissimè cauillatus es, scio enim esse uerissimum illud Flacci:

Aurum per medios ire satellites,
Et perrumpere amat saxa, potentius.

[illegible]e fulmineo, quod ipsum in libris Metamorphoseos ponit Apuleius. Certus (inquit) fra-
[illegible]atis humanæ, fidei, & quod pecuniæ cunctæ sunt difficultates peruiæ, auroque soleant
amantinæ etiam perfringi fores, quàm latè patens, & quàm nota sententia est, quæ nō mo
Philosopho, sed philosophanti tribuitur asello. Legisti credo apud Pomponium Melam
smographiæ lib. tertio esse gentem Aethiopum, auri ditissimam, æris indigam, cui rari-
te, & frequentia prætia rerum alternantibus, & ornamenta ænea, & uincla sunt aurea. No
am ice omnia iam ex auro sunt, & hastæ, & clypei, & compedes, & coronæ, hoc & comi-
ur, & ligamur, hoc diuites sumus, hoc inopes, hoc fœlices, hoc miseri. Aurum solutos uin
, uinctos soluit, aurum sontes liberat, damnat innoxios, aurum disertos ex mutis, ex diser
simis mutos reddit. Auro concionatus est Metellus in Cęsarem, auro Demosthenes ora-
obmutuit. Aurū & de seruis principes, & de principibus seruos facit, & audacibus me-
pauidis præbet audaciam, & curas inertibus, sollicitisque segnitiem. Hoc & inermes at-
& nudat armatos, indomitos duces domat, magnos populos premit, ualidos fundit ex-
c tus, bella longissima paucis horis conficit, pacem præstat & eripit, sicca, flumina, terras
rat, maria concutit, montes æquat, pandit aditus claustrorum, urbes aggreditur, expu-
at arces, oppida demolitur: Et quod apud Ciceronem legimus. Nullus fortis est locus,
uem onustus auro asellus non possit ascendere. Aurum claras parat amicitias, magnas
telas, & honesta coniugia, quippè quod generosos & fortes, & doctos, & formosos, &
d miraberis sanctos efficiat possessores [illegible]. Itaque qui diuites sunt, boni uiri in ciuitat
appellantur, eis tantùm creditur. Nulla fides est pauperi, quia pecuniæ nihil adest, u
que est illud Satyrici:

Quantum quisque sua nummorum seruat in arca, Tantum habet & fidei.

DDd 5 Post[illegible]

Postremò inuitus dicam, sed ueritas cogit, non modò potens, sed omnipotens est aurum, & omnia quæ sub cœlo sunt auro cedunt, auro seruiunt, & pietas, & pudicitia, & fides, omnis deniq; uirtus, & gloria aurum supra se uident, inq; ipsos animos cœlitùs nobis datos, pudet fateri, etiam rutilanti imperium est metallo. Hoc reges ligat atq; Pontifices, hoc homines, & ut aiunt etiam ipsos deos placat. Nec quicquam inexpugnabilem, inaccessumq; auro est. Quod sciens Iuppiter, ut custoditæ muliens pudicitiam rapturus ferreas portas effringeret, in imbrem aureum sese uertit. Tali deo dignum opus. Deus autem noster pudicitiam amat, aurum spernit, auaritiam detestatur. Opto tibi ualetudinem inconcussam mentis & corporis.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NERIO SVO S. Epist. XVI.

NOndum superiori epistolæ signum impresserā, dum ecce alia superueniens coëgit, ut posito anulo, depositum calamum rursus arriperem, & quamuis tua hæc, superiori sit longior, responso tamen breuiore contenta erit. Nam nec cui nostri querelam iterare est necesse, quàm & tacitus loquor, & ipsa res clamat, nec quicquàm prohibet, quòd in ista dixeram ad hanc transferri. Neq; enim aut minor est hodie dolor meus, quàm heri & nudiustertius fuit, neq; minus efficax, epistolæ tuæ hodiernæ solatium quàm hesternæ. Accedit quod neq; de his, quæ nouissimè scripsisti, ausim apertè pronunciare. Quod sentio, neq; tu ideò minus quid sentiam, quidúe pronunciem intelligis. Sępè silentium ad exprimendum animi conceptus, quouis sermone potentius fuit, nec minus silentio Niobe, quàm latratu Hecuba, dolorem animo insitum designabat, itaq; cum illa in saxum, hæc in canem uersa fingatur, non minus mutum illius simulachrum, quàm hęc querula rabies, suam miseriam loquebatur. Illud non siluerim, agnoscere me Cæsarum fatum, quod & in occasu solis, & sub austro, deniq; ubilibet fœlicius fuerit, quàm sub arcto, ita ibi gelida omnia, nullus ardor nobilis, nullus uitalis calor Imperij. Redde nobis fortuna, si Romuleos Cæsares, Parcę uetant: at saltem ab Hispania Theodosios, Seueros ab Africa. Heu, quid diceret nunc architector ille magnus Monarchiæ, successorem suum, cum sacerdote humili, de humilitate certare, dum meminisset superbissimum olim Galliarum regem, dum supplex, ut ait Florus historicus, in castra uenisset, phaleras & sua arma ante Cæsaris genua proiecisse, ac dixisse: Habe hæc, uirum fortem, uir fortissime uicisti? Multa se offerunt id generis. Nam & locuplex materia & multiloquax indignatio est, sed frenabo impetum, ut qui hæc ipsa, non mihi ira cogente ac dictante profuderim. Sanè de Cæsaris, Legatiq; congressu, quod prouidentissime uaticinaris amplector ac probo, & penè rem ipsam uideor uidere, non quod omnia ista me moueant, contrà quæ multa sæpè disserui, sed ex præteritis uenturs conijcio. Itaq; non tangor, quod legati sonipes in Cæsarem calcitrarit, quàm quod calcitrare animos noui, & scio quod omnis potestas est consortis impatiens. Hæc hactenus. Lælium meum, imò tuum, imò nostrum familiarissimum & Cæsari factum gaudeo nō miror, nihil enim est uirtute rapacius, nihilq; tenacius, rapit, uincitq; animos hominum, uinctosq; semel in perpetuum uinctos tenet. Nulla mihi dubitatio unquàm fuit, quin non solum ab illo humanissimo Principum, sed ab alio quolibet licet asperioris ingenij, cū tamen uirtus in pretio sit, posset ille uir amorem promereri, non modò notitiam promeruisse. Quis enim tam agrestis est, ut Lælium non amet, & sapientiæ laude perspicuū, & in amicitijs faustum nomen? Quod si sola uirtutis fama efficit, ut quem nunquàm uidimus, senem illū Lælium amemus, quid huius nostri uirtus, ac præsentia posse debent? Itaq; minus miror, quod de Legato sedis Apostolicæ idem scribis, cum quo familiaritas Lælij uetus est, illud potius miror, quòd prioribus literis prætermissum his inserui, quid ita illum ad coronandum Cæsarem, diù ante digressum iste præuenerit, nisi quia ut arbitror, & ut solet, illum fortuna segnem, hunc sollicitū uirtus facit. Vnum non mirari cum eodem nequeo, ambo pergerent, Modanoq; dimisso Tyberim peterent, unde reuerentior adhuc Romanus Princeps: Diadema supremum poscit, quòd Petri successor, Cæsaris successorē securior non curat, qui fieri potuit, ut Cardinalis rutilo uertice, & purpureo fulgidus amictu, tantoq; spectabilis comitatu, nostri huius lyncea lumina fugierit, aut cū hic Pisas, ille uix dum Ianuā peruenisset, ut illi obuiam iste redierit. Auguror sanè alterum terra, mari alterum uenisse. De hoc equidem ac reliquo statu uestro, tuis ac suis literis certior fieri uelim. Ad singula respondisse uideor. Nam ad epistolæ tuæ finē de familiaribus curis stylo, alio & seorsum loquar, ut soleo. Gratias autem tibi, quod quas ipse iam obliuioni tradideram, adeo ut nec locutum tibi me

... tám memoriter tenes, ut facilè pateat, rerum te mearum curio ... mirum & penè incredibile, nisi claritatis tuæ miraculo incuriositatem ... lateq; nota detraheret. Vale fœliciter, nostri memor.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NERIO SVO S. Epist. XVII.

Mirari cogor, in tantis occupationibus tuis, in his fluctibus rerum maximarum, quos ab aquilone ueniens, nouus Cæsar inuexit Italiæ, & quorum te ualde principem tua sors facit, hanc tantam meis in rebus diligentiam tuam, ut uideri possis, nihil aliud quàm me unum cogitare, ita dico uideri posses ignaris industriæ ... tui. Nam qui te nouerunt, non mirantur, posse animum tuũ ad multa, & multum sufficere, præsertim ubi illum suis stimulis urget amor, quem omnis difficultatis ... & regem nouimus animorum. Hæc cur præfatus sim interroges, quia dum te literis ... ibus tessum reor, ecce duæ simul aliæ, à te mihi uir optime redduntur, omnes impi... tuis scriptæ, ita mirum plus tibi uacat in negotio quàm in ocio. Mirum ... ista celeritas, quæ ut Cicero noster ait, ingenij laus est, mirum esse desineret ... ad rem, & illud transeo, quod in primis quasi magni criminis te mihi purgas in sa... instar sacrilegij instar ducis, in tuis me literis singulariter compellasse. Itaq; stylum ... uel ego blanditiarum egeam, quas primum Iul. Cæsaris fortuna mundo intu... stylus, robustiorq; non deceat, cuius & ueteres omnes, quicunq; calamum ... e. Quem articulum quoniam alibi latius digessi, nunc suspenso pede prætereuehor. ... auctoritatis apud te non quidem merui, sed inueni, me quoq; nouissimum omni... auctorem, qui hoc stylo non tantum ad amicos, quos ex æquo alloquor, sed ad ... pontifices, Cæsaremq; ipsum uti leo, quos reuerentiùs affari, ius, æquũq; est. ... ego reuerentiam ueram in mendacijs non repono, mentiri autem dominis bis uo..., qui ... nunc uulgò utimur, ætate ipsius Cæsaris inuentum, Lucanus asseruit. Sen... autem quid te mouit, neq; tu dissimulas, motum te literulis meis, in quibus stylum hũc ... uideor, cuius rei ne de cætero moueare reddenda ratio est. Ego quidem amice ... constanter inhæreo, quotiens grandiusculum aliquid adorior, grandia enim nec ... angustissimi, fugacissimiq; temporis, nec ingenij mei sunt, nec huius calami, quem ... rectiùs cum liceret, cœlestem urbaniùs dicere maluisti. At quotiens ad plebeias ... similes curas, quas nec stylo dignas putem, aliqua rerum necessitas me attraxerit, ple... quoq; characterem non recuso, ne forte plus opere uerbis impendam, quàm senten... ... idq; mihi non aliud causæ in illis literulis fuisse noueris. Et hęc quidem hacte... ex nunc autem quicquid agam, & stylo quolibet, illud saltem non admittam, ut plurali ... amico, & uni loquens. Idq; tũ per meipsum sum facturus, ne amicis me ... maximè ne exemplo tibi noceam, cuius apud te non leue pondus esse uideo. Tu ... amas, ad proprium stylum redi, & id agamus non ut auribus uulgi, sed ut deco... satisfecisse uideamur. Venio nunc ad acerrimum dolorem meum, quo in secunda ... literarum tuarum, quasi uenenata cuspide aures meas, atq; animum pupugisti. O' fa... me, de amico optimo: O' infaustum negotium: O' rem tristem, calamitosam, & ... O' nouum, & inauditum seculis infortunij genus: Assueseceram oculos tristibus ... aures amaris rumoribus, pectus cunctis fortunæ uulneribus, & cogitabam as... quid unquàm mali, quid asperi, quid acerbi accidisset homini, ut quidẽ mihi & meis, ... homines simus & non dij, uel euenturum esse, uel euenire posse certè scirẽ, utq; ... iacula duratum, atq; armatum animum haberem, telũ hoc, quia nunquàm ... uideram, nil simile prorsus audieram, aut legeram, cogitare & præuidere non ... inermem, improuidumq; transfixit. Hei mihi quid quæram? Vnde ordiar? ... Accusabo fortunam? Surda est. Accusabo mollitiem amici, qui sibi mortem, ... dolorem attulit? Sera est accusatio erroris, irreuocabile damnũ est. Quo ... inutiles sint querelæ. Et tamen o dulcedo effera, iuuat in flere, & fando ali... miseriæ præstare. Quid enim aptiùs possit animus tristis, quàm in tristi materia uer... habet & mœror uoluptatem suam, duram quidem, sed sibi accommodatam, in Arte ... : —tristia mœstum

Vultum uerba decent.

... quod me decet. Sed quò pergo, ut illi nihil prosim, mihi noceam, forte aures ... tuos lædam? O' cæca mens hominum, & non futuri modò, sed sæpè præsentis

etiam

etiam facti sui nescia. Ad Paulum Hannibalensem unũ ex Romanis prin[illegible]us, cui me familiarissi[illegible]um uirtus & humanitas fecerant, quibus illum mirabiliter natura do auerat, mandata dederam, ubi ignarus, illum iam rebus humanis exemptum, taliter q[illegible]em ut nõ mortem, quæ natis omnibus æqua est, sed genus mortis unicè miserum cogerer, usq; ad meam ipse mortem lamentari. O' cogitationes hominum uanas: O inanem spem. O' lu[illegible]cum statum: O instabilem fortunam: O' ancipites uitæ uias: O' præcipites exitus: O' prosperitates ambiguas: O' ineuitabiles ærumnas. Amisit filium Paulus, tritum & intolerabile mali genus, quis enim non aliquando filium perdidit, nisi qui nullum habuit? Rar[illegible] quibus fortuna prolem dederit, nec donum suum delibauerit, rapinam dicimus, primi[illegible] sunt. Amisit Paulus noster filium, rem non insolitã narras, & alius Paulus [illegible]lios amisi[illegible] Han[illegible]lensis unum perdid[illegible]t, Macedonicus duos, al[illegible] plures, quidam omnes, unum iste perdidit. Priamus unus, ex tanta natorum acie superfuit, sed hic [illegible] ferro am[illegible] Q[illegible] ferè an ferro, an incendio, an naufragio, an febribus, an ueneno. Mors autem una est [illegible] hæc iuuenem abstulit. Scio. Nam adhuc iuuenis Pater erat. Quæ nam uerò hinc [illegible]loris ca[illegible]sa fuit? An ignorabat doctus homo, & prudens, plures mul[illegible] iuuenes mori [illegible]c, qu[illegible] senes? Et ut uulg[illegible] dicitur, plures hœdos perire, quàm capra[illegible] Humani generis [illegible] terra non caperet, si omnes senescerent, qui nascuntur? Quid igitur ploras? Dicat [illegible]quis. Nihil adhuc noui audio. Adolescentem in prælio pugnantem, in prælio cecidisse. Euenit[illegible] quotidie, & fortium patrum innumerabilis multitudo est. Nam quod scribis, corpus e[illegible] an[illegible]guc, hostib. f[illegible]sse ludibrio, hostili sæuitiæ aliquid, sed superstitis, existentię miseri[illegible] nil prorsus adiecerit. [illegible]ltum enim, cum mortem spreueris, cadaueris iniuriã formidare. Patres o[illegible] rum fi[illegible]iorum forti tulêre animo, laceros quidẽ artus siccis oculis collegêre. Multi autẽ suos cum lachrymis ad sepulchrum, ad inferos quidã uersis in se gladijs prosecuti sunt, fletu i[illegible] mod[illegible]. Quod meminerim autem Paulum nostrũ nemo. Hic est nouus & rarus, & [illegible] solabilis dolor meus, homo nobilissimus, & mea quondã opinione fortissimus, sic fort[illegible] tergũ præbuit, sic laxauit frena mœstitiæ, ut illa eum præcipitaret in mortem: O' lachrymas meas: o inexhaustos fletu oculos: ó liuentia lumina. Da ueniã Paule, fons ille aruit, qui cunctis amicorum miserijs ubertim lachrymas dabat. Sic e arefacillũ uel una Romana domus debuit, dum Columnensium familiam fleo, flere alios posse desij. Omnes lachrymarum mearum f[illegible]atebras illa consumpsit, pumice siccior factus sum. Tu tamen uir optime, sine lachrymis meis non eris, quas de profundissimis atq; abditis animæ recessibus fando eruã, & quibus mo[illegible] funus absens prosequar, imò uerò inter tristia funera fletu madidus, præsens q; uersabor. Quid, heu, mihi fecit[illegible] Vir in rebus alijs acer ac strenuus, quid fecisti? Non f[illegible] magna pietas est, uisa paternis lachrymis, filij funus ornare, quòd ipsum uirtute animi melius, & spe ac solatio promissæ resurrectionis ornasses, sed parũ piæ uisæ sunt lachrymæ, n[illegible] mortem morte accumulans, charissimo & insonti filio, pateinæ mortis inuidiam, post[illegible] a re[illegible] quere[illegible], & reum, atq; odiosum posteris faceres, quẽ amabas. Nonne præstabat quamu[illegible] p[illegible] postere filio superesse, & te tibi fratres, fœliciores tibi natos quærere? Virtutissima ætas era[illegible] uel quòd Christianæ pietatis proprium fuit, pro illius salute animæ, cuius corporis præceps & festinata mors fuerat, preces atque suffragia ad cœlum mittere? Vel si q[illegible] a ea dulce[illegible]o est, recolligere animum atq; firmare & in extrema solatia patri, ulroq; forti[illegible] debitæ ultioni [illegible]tendere? Postremò quid uis facere potiùs, quàm quod potissimum elegisti? Quæ enim ista dementia est, superbis hosti[illegible], qui filij tui frigida membra calcauerant, quibusq; suus luctus, & crudelitatis, & insolen[illegible] supplicia debebantur, de te quoque duplex gaud[illegible]m, & g[illegible]minam ultrò uictoriam c[illegible]ncesisses? O' mortalia pectora, in extremis semper cæca casibus. Audita primum morte filij, conspectoq; e cadauere, quòd humanitatis[illegible] memor host[illegible]s ita discerperat, cum & ferro[illegible] osses ulcisci, & animi uiribus grauem ferre [illegible]tunam, & fato succumbere maluisti, & te exitialibus atque mortiferis ulti[illegible]es lach[illegible]mis, cumque uirorum exemplis illustrium, quæ probè noueras, reuocaueris ad [illegible] ad spem desper[illegible]tam in mortem nescio, qua ferali dulcedine raptus es. Nonne autem, quæ so, luctus incon[illegible]ulabiles paranti tibi occurrat Anaxagoras qui mortem nuncianti Nihil (inquit) inopinum narres. Cum enim ipse m[illegible]talis sim, sciebam ex me [illegible]en[illegible] mo[illegible]alem. Nonne Xe[illegible]ophon in animum uenit, [illegible]m faci[illegible] an[illegible] primoge[illegible]t mors [illegible] ciat[illegible] esset, neq; c[illegible]ptum sacrificium intermi[illegible]eq; succubuit fortunæ, sed corpore atq; e animo mansit immobilis, corona duntaxat, quam capiti gestabat, deposita, ne tantum [illegible]nus non sens[illegible]e uideretur, moxq; cum gaudio reposita, ubi accepit, f[illegible] cr[illegible]ica[illegible]tem

[illegible] testes faciens, plus se uirtute filij delectari, quàm in morte torque- [illegible] orem immodicum, castigare usus est Pericles, qui duobus simul [illegible] amissis filiis neque comam deposuit, neque concionibus abstinuit, neque ullum [illegible] uerbis, aut in uultu mutati animi signum dedit. Et si longinqua respicere mens [illegible] non poterat, nonne sub oculis erant Romanæ uirtutis exempla clarissima? [illegible] M. Cato Senex ille famosissimus, cuius cum innumeræ laudes sint, tamen [illegible] ero tem præ ipsa est, quod fortiter ac modestè optimi filij mortem tulit? [illegible] Cato eius collega, Q. Marcius, qui cum Cos. esset ipso die, quo Senatus secundùm le- [illegible] ad [illegible] ea, [illegible] amisisset, & sepulturæ filij pius pa [illegible] & mox [illegible] Cos. egregius conuocauit, unum diem inter diuersissima [illegible] & publicæ maiestatis partitus officia. Nonne Paulus Aemilius cuius fu- [illegible] Paulo nostro par nomine, sed quod nollem uirtute superior, qui duobus [illegible] in adoptionem datis, & mox duobus, quos sibi seruauerat (qui quales essent [illegible] quód inter datos, Africanus iunior) intra septimum diem morte subtractis, [illegible] animo pertulit, ut post triumphum Macedonicum, quem sibi [illegible] rege pepererant, & quem alterius filiorum mors præ- [illegible] erat, P. R. alloquens, quasi publici consolatoris officio fungere- [illegible] accidisse diceret, quód in tanto splendore successuum publicorum, me- [illegible] gaudio ut hic mœstitiæ se nubes effunderet, deos anxiè precatus esset, [illegible] tacitum minaretur, totum a populi ceruicibus, in suam domum fortuna conuer- [illegible] M. Hor. Puluillus, cui cum Capitolium dedicanti ab Aemilio mors filij nun- [illegible] ab opere glorioso, quamuis equidem, ut falso, mœsto tamen rumore perculsus [illegible] aut uultu, aut animo motus est, cœptumque non amplius intermisit, quàm ut [illegible] efferri, [illegible] continuo postem tenens. Quód si falsæ tantum ille religio- [illegible] tribuit, quantum ueræ religioni, uero Deo tribuendum erat? Quan- [illegible] prouidendum, ne tuo fletu Paule tu peires. CHRISTVS offenderetur? Quan- [illegible] exempla uirilia colligo, cum Romanæ mulieres, pudorem tuum premere, & [illegible] debuerint uir Romane? Nam ubi tunc quæso, ubi tunc Cornelij Africa- [illegible] item mater. Cui præter maternæ pietatis affectum, quàm chari filij essent, il- [illegible] Campanæ olim hospitæ, apud se muliebriter iactabundæ, & sua sibi or- [illegible] e ludo literarum reuertentes ostendit. Et hæc (inquit) mea or- [illegible] Hos [illegible], & hæc ornamenta simul omnia, sæua mors rapuit, tantum ta- [illegible] mi fœmineo fuit in pectore, ut ex morte illam complorantibus, & miseram uoci- [illegible] ponderet: Mœstam utique, sed miseram se non esse, quæ tales filios genuisset. [illegible] mineum, sed uirilem & uerè paterna gloria dignam uocem. Vbi erat Liuia Au- [illegible] e duobus filijs mors, ut fermè mos suum est, & pessimum reliquisset, & [illegible] imperioque dignissimum abstulisset, ita casum suum fleuit, ut ultrò & modum, & [illegible] imponeret, mediamque se inter piam matrem, & principem fœminam ex- [illegible] uel naturæ debitum ne [illegible] uel tanti coniugis oculos spectaculo tristiore con- [illegible] Quanto autem exactius cauendum erat, ne gemitu nimio læderetur CHRISTVS [illegible] iudex actuum nostrorum, cui mortalibus querelis, iuditia æterna conuelli, [illegible] neque immeritò permolestum est. Sed Romanas transeo, quibus ut muliebris [illegible] animi robur, atque constantia, quas nunc etiam fama uulgaris, & si [illegible] tamen omnium gentium mulieribus anteponit, cum in hoc ge- [illegible] grata muliercula, ut prole impar, sic par animo, quæ audita morte [illegible] In hoc inquit) illum genui, ut esset qui mori pro patria non timeret. [illegible] pensó, cui natus incolumis redderetur, quem tam fortiter amisisset. Ve- [illegible] ediar. quid ago. Consternatos [illegible] resurgendi [illegible] deiectos animos, for- [illegible] decet. Itaque quando nihil mœstius, nihil hoc tempore dulcius possum, [illegible] hærrere, & omnibus seculis flebiliora conquirere, ut ostendam Paulo [illegible] miserabilius, nihil ulla ætate flebilius, qui ut patrem indueret, uirum [illegible] est, ut [illegible] pater potiùs, quàm modestus & sapiens uideretur. [illegible] æ, euoluantur H[illegible] protrahantur in medium insignes gemitus, ut [illegible] hoc genere mali [illegible] Paulus, quantumque supereminet, [illegible] a est: ut Maro ait.

[illegible] Pallanta, miserabilis Euandrus.

Sed

Sed post fletum uixit, & uindictam præstolari maluit, quàm filium sequi. Lausum qu[illegible]e Mezentius fleuit, nec immeritò, nam si credimus Virgilio pietas patris, filio caus[illegible]m mortis attulerat, n[illegible] multum hic filio superuixit, tentauitq́ uind[illegible]am, quæ cum parum [illegible]ccederet non tàm flendo mori uoluit, quàm pugnando. Et erant ambo senes, & ut di[illegible]re, & animosius pugnare potuerit Paulus meus. Legimus Phocæum Argi patrem, qu[illegible]a-uali præli[illegible]u[illegible]d Marsiliæ gestum est, cum traiectum iaculo, & expirantem filium uideret, uiolentius quidem indoluit, non tamen eatenus ut fletu solo, sed ut gladio proprio con[illegible]sus, saltu etiam præceps in medios fluctus, gemina uelut morte procumberet. Quod genus mortis o Paule utinam esses imitatus. Sic enim nisi fallor & partiùs, & profectò u[illegible]us do-luisses. Nullus enim maior dolor, quàm qui non eget auxilio, nec circumspicit instrumenta, sed ad inferendum mortem solus sufficit. Ad hæc & honest[illegible]us uiso est, [illegible]ribus q[illegible]m lachrymis mori, hunc dolorem, & has lachrymas consumptrices, apud Lucanum, ut [illegible]sum ad luctus fœmineos reuertamur: Pompeiana uxor optabat, ubi ait:

Turpe mori post te solo non posse dolore.

Ipsa tamen hæc dicens uixit, sicut Hecuba uixit, & Andromache post c[illegible]m, & n[illegible]torum mortes. Multum filios multæ fleuerunt matres, sed plus omnibu[illegible]m, [illegible]ter Octauia Augusti soror, quæ talis, tantæq́ue spei filio amisso, qualem [illegible] Ro[illegible] puerum fuisse Virgilius æternæ memoriæ mandare non timuit, omni solatio reiecto in te-nebris, perpetuisq́ue gemitibus æuum egit, pertinaciter infœlix, omnis illi lætior h[illegible]tus, omne minus triste uerbum irritamentum doloris, omnis illi consol[illegible]or ho[illegible] Postremò ita semper uixit ut ait Seneca, talis per omnem uitam, qualis in funere. M[illegible]tum fleuit apud Virgilium mater Euryali, multum apud Statium nutrix fletu A[illegible] hemori. Ille tamen filijs uixêre superstites, hæc alumno sic fletum legimus Ant[illegible]en[illegible]s, & [illegible]giæ mortem, nunc legimus mirum superfuisse iuuenculas dolori, cui uir fortis [illegible] nequiuerit. Fleuit Euadnes Capaneum, fleuit Brutum suum Portia, sed illa se in a[illegible]tem uiri rogum intulit, hæc candentes hauriens carbones, præcluso spiritu, quò [illegible] p[illegible]dem animo destinarat, uirum ad inferos prosecuta est. Et ut amores illi[illegible]s a[illegible] ti[illegible]g[illegible] qui ut turpiores, sic nonnunquam iustis amoribus fortiores sunt. Fleuit Hero Leandrum Phædra Hippolytum, neutra tamen gemitu, sed illa præcipitio perijt, hæc laqueo. Apud Catullum Lesbia meretricio amore saucia, passerem suum fleuit extinctum, ita tamen ut oculorum aciem perderet, non ut animam exhalaret. Verum hoc dicit aliquis, uiros aut fratres, aut amicos flebant, noster hic filium, sed quid superioribus dicemus, quæ fleuerunt natos, uel plurimos, uel unicos. Quid dicemus illis matribus, quas Romana narrat hi[illegible]ria, post insignem cladem, quæ ad Thrasymenum (ut Liuius tradit) cui potius fidem d[illegible], & quem Valerius sequitur, uel Cannis (ut Plinio placet) est accepta, nunciatis [illegible]orum mortibus, attonitas fleuisse? Vtramque autem post aliquantulum temporis, alte[illegible]am scilicet mœstam domi sedentem, præter spem conspecto filio, dum in occursum e[illegible]s assurgit exanimem corruisse, alteram percunctandi studio anxiam, extraq́ue muros urbis e[illegible] effusam porta Flaminea, qua fusæ redibant legiones, obuio repente filio, dum irruit in amp[illegible]xus expirasse. Has nempè non mœror, sed quod multis accidit, gaudium interfecit. Fui[illegible]et ille utinam o Paule falsus etiam rumor tuus, ut te quoque non luctus, sed gaudium peremisset. Nunc quocunque me uerto, dolore simul ac pudore confun[illegible]or. Legi ego per multos amantissimorum, le[illegible]i m[illegible]rum gem[illegible]s, ac sororum, & coniugum utriusq́ sexus, siquidem duos Plautios mirum dictu, ut ei[illegible]em nominis, sic paris amentiæ, in patientia doloris, in uxorum mortibus sese gladio transuerberasse compertum est, quod apud Val[illegible]rium Maximum non excusari tantùm, sed laudari, si de proprio loqui da[illegible]r, non ex[illegible] nec laudo. Legi mortem Indorum, apud quos cum mortuis uiris uiuæ cremantur uxores, legi singulorum hominum, legi populorum atque exercituum luctus, tàm uehementes, ut quidam arma, reliquumq́ ornatum, quidam etiam semetipsos ardentium ducum rog[illegible] iecerint. Legi quorundam fidem superuacuam amicorum, n[illegible]i utilem, & damnosam [illegible], qui confodi gladij iuxta dilecta cadauera uoluerunt, quam dum liceret euadere. Ad s[illegible]mmam multos inuenio, quibus causam mortis dolor attulit, cui uerò mor[illegible] intulerit, nul[illegible]m nisi fortè pro uero recipimus. Quod de [illegible]ome[illegible] Poeta qu[illegible] scripse[illegible]e, re[illegible] fi[illegible] tàm docto uiro, de tàmq́ diuino inge[illegible] suspi[illegible] liber. Quod ipsum tamen [illegible] in[illegible]a numerare uoluerimus, nec de morte altera dol[illegible]r fuit, nec repentina ui[illegible] d[illegible]loris sed [illegible]do fortè animi, & ægritudinis, fortè inedia, ac spiritus indies tristior, qui [illegible] o uita [illegible]

minuit: & sicut scriptum est exiccat ossa, & quem multos paulatim, seu consumpturum ..., seu consumpsisse non negem, in quibus nomen habet Macedoniæ rex Philippus, morbo animi crudelitatis propriæ & insulsæ tristi, seraque pœnitentia, Perseique filij dolis & impietate contracto. Nam Paulus Rutilius, quem nunciata fratris repulsa, in consulatus petitione illico expirasse, scribit Plinius septimo Naturalis historiæ, ut uerum sit, huic sententiæ ... uditri nihil affert, quod iam ante morbo impeditus describitur. Itaque facilè parua dolo... accessio, inclinatum animum strauit, atque integrum, quenquam subitus dolor de alte... us morte susceptus, mœroris impetu, & lachrymarum diluuio oppresserit atque necauerit, ... est, quod apud auctores idoneos, uel non legi, uel me legisse non memini, eoque in... abilior dolor est meus, quò insuetatior amici miseria, qui sic mori uoluit, ac potuit, ut sine ... emplo sit mors ipsa mortalibus. Cæterùm, ego quoque fortassis impetu animi euectus ... longius, quàm debui, da ueniam quæso. Amara mihi & dulcedo, & dulcis fuit amari... cum amico iam sepulto, quasi responsuro ac præsente contendere, iam tandem deter... is utcunque oculis, ad te redeo, atque ita censeo, idem omnibus agendum esse, fortunæ sub im... peri degentibus, quod solent, qui sæua premuntur tyrannide, tergum patientia durand... m. Sic instruendos oculos ac aures, sic formandos animos, ut quod uident non uideant, ... uod audiunt non audiant, & quod sciunt nesciunt, multa dissimulanda, omnia toleranda: ... ut Flaccus ait, amara lento risu temperanda. Horribile cogitatu est, quàm nihil est mali, ... od non impendeat hanc uitam agentibus, cui nisi fallor optandus finis esset, quē tanto... e formidamus. Itaque sapiēs omnia cogitat, omnia præuidet, omnia scit, multo ante quàm ... examinans, non tantum quæ uentura sunt, sed quæ possunt euenire, tāquam quæ eue... possunt, prorsus non euenire non possint. & aduersus possibilia quælibet ceu necessa... atque ineuitabilia sese armat, peruigilem, intentumque in excubijs animum tenens, & hæc ... em sapiens. Ego autem, qui tàm procul inde absum, ut sapientem si occurrat, ne nosse ... m, uenerarique dignè queam, meis hactenus, amicorumque fortunijs non possibilia fa... or, & uerisimilia, & inusitata præuidi. Videbam ergo nunc gladios, uidebam morbos & uenena, & incursus ferarum, & naufragia, & incendia, & laqueos, & ruinas, luctum repentinum mortiferum non uidebam. Vnde facie rerum in solita uehementer exterritus, atque de... s sum, sensim animum attollere, & sparsa arma colligere incipio. Discam cogitare, & ... pectare omnia, & si possim nihil ualde metuere, imparatum & inermem nostra fortuna reperit, lorica defuerat, ubi furtiua cuspis irrepsit. Quamobrem uiuus hoc sentio, & Paulum meum, nunquam sine suspirio recordabor. Tu uale. Nam de reliquis & præsertim ad ... mmam Reip. quod ominer, & quod sperem ne dici, quidem opus est. Mediolani XII. Cal. Martias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVIDONI SEPTEM SVO, S. Epist. XVIII.

Rumores Italicos, quotidie nisi fallor ad satietatem audis, qui uel utinam rariores essent, uel minùs immites. Nunc crebri, uehemētesque sunt, & sonori adeò, ut non tantùm in Gallijs uicina regione, sed apud Indos, atque Arabes audiri queant. Magni fiunt rerum motus, magni bellorum strepitus, magna imperiorum, iugisque col... o, magna denique famæ uox, quæque non modò alpes patrias, sed maria transilit, & cum ma... na sint semper, mala præsentia, futurorum apparatus continuò maiorem. Ita nobis quòd in ... ni aduersitate durissimum est, extremum malorum solatium spes aufert. Semper ne ... tur sic inuicem conteremur? Semper nostrorum laborum sonitu, cunctarumque gentium ... res, atque ora complebimus? Semper mundo quod audiat, famæ dabimus quid loquatur? ... neuerò ætati tantum suæ, sed omnibus seculis, nec poëtico magis, quàm prophetico ore ... sunt Virgilius, & Flaccus, quorum alter:

Grauidam imperijs, belloque frementem Italiam dixit: alter,
Auditum Medis Hesperiæ sonitum ruinæ.

... t modò fortuna, perficiat quod inceepit, quando si Virgilio ipsi credimus, omnipotens ... neluctabilis dea est, de qua re, ne quid præcipitante iudicio diffiniam, nihil in præsens ... nuncio, tu tamen sententiā meam nosti, si quid seriū loqui soleo, ab hac opinione remo... mus sum. Nunc loquor ut uulgus à quo maximè dissentio. Cæterùm siue illa nihil, siue ... d est, nam dea proculdubio non est, & rursus siue suis uiribus, siue nostra ignauia po... est, qui quibus solis obstari illi poterit arma rationis obiecimus. Agat (inquam) sæuiat, ... et, ac fulminet, in hoc præcipuè mundi latus, ubi in utranque partem plurimum se semper exercuit,

exercuit, pergat, instet, premat, urgeat, & quando ita superis & inferis placet, ut dictum est, cœpta perficiat. Vereor sanè ne præsens præfatiuncula, quasi magnæ mœstitiæ index, amantem & amore pauidum, atque sollicitum animum tuum fortè turbauerit. Pone metum, priuatim nihil aduersi est, certè sicut publicæ nihil est prosperi. Quid enim prosperum uiris? imò uerò quid nunc non triste prorsus, & miserum, libertate mortua & sepulta? Qua multi sæpè uitam, cum uoluptate & gloria perfudere, præsertim cum nō libertas sola perierit, sed cum illa simul fides, pietas, pudicitia, pessimusque iam morbus latè regnantibus, nullus usquam iustitiæ ac modestiæ locus est? Quæ quoniam sine consensu generis humani contigisse non poterant, ideò stomachosus, & indignans animus, non magis suam quàm publicam sortem luget: hic sæpenumerò dolor meus, his quæ nulli hominū prosunt, mihi etiam noceat, friuolis quærimonijs euaporat: & hoc genere principium istud esse noueris. Nunc ne te ampliùs expectatione torqueam, quod destinaueram expedio, & omissis rumoribus, qui assiduè aures tuas fama uociferante circumsonant, quos nullis annalibus comprehendi posse crediderim, qui Pisis, & qui Senis populorum motus, quod in latus reuoluta Bononia, quis'nam patriæ meæ status, utinā & florentis semper, sic aliquando fructiferæ, quid flcat Roma, quid Parthenope metuat, ut regibus ipsis cognomen suū, Terra laboris æquauerit, quibus æstibus odiorum ferueat, sulphurea Trinacria, quid agat Ianua, quid paret Liguria, quid Aemilia cogitet, aut Picenum, quàm insomnis & laboriosa sit Mantua, quàm meticulosa Ferraria, quàm Verona miserabilis, Acteonis in morem, suis ipsa canibus laceretur, ut Barbaricis semper incursibus pateant Aquileia & Tridentū. Postremò pudorum maximus, qui prædonum cœtus per Italiam peruagantur, utque de prouinciarum domina, seruorum sit facta prouincia. Ad Venetorum, ut Liuij uerbo utar, angulum, & ad ea, quæ uix dum potes audisse festino. Qui bello cum Ianuensibus suscepto dicam antè detecto, latens enim bellum defuisse nunquam puto, intra breue tempus primum uicti, mox uictores, rursum maiore prælio uicti sunt, in quo illis quidem, ut hominibus, utque Italis compatior, mihi autem gratulor, quod hæc eis mala omnia uentura præuidi, prædixique non astrorum iuditio, aut ullo uaticinij genere, quod totum despicio, rejcioque, sed præsagio quodam mentis, & urgentibus coniecturis, quibus in eam sententiam trahebar, ut uidere mihi tunc uiderer, quod nunc uideo. Atque utinam dux Andreas, qui rerum summæ tunc præerat, hodie uiueret, exagitarem eum literis, & omnes aculeos incuterem, ac tota uterer libertate. Bonum enim uirum, atque integrum, suæque Reip. amantissimum sciebam, doctum præterea & facundum, & circumspectum, & affabilem, & mitē, uno tamen offendebar, quod belli studio ardentior erat, quàm naturæ ac suis moribus conueniret. Viuenti equidem non peperci, & præsens uerbo, & absens literis lacessere ausus tantùm uirum, quæ ille de animo meo certus, patienter ferebat, sed recenti uictoria clarus, consiliū respuebat, consuluit illi mors, ut & acerbissimum patriæ suæ luctum, & mordaciores meas literas non uideret. Vti enim fortunæ testimonio solebat, nec dubitare, quin sicut illa prosperior uideretur, sic iustior causa sua esset. Itaque sæpè mecum illud Scipionis Africani dictum usurpabat, qui loquens cum Hannibale: Dij (inquit) testes sint, qui & illius belli exitum, sed ius, iasque dederunt, & huius dant & dabunt. Illudque Cæsareum:

Hæc fato quæ teste probet, quis iustius arma
induit, hæc acies uictum factura nocentem.

Est & quantulum illi uiuendum erat, ut in eundem ista reflecterem, nocentē teste fato conuincens, qui teste fato innocentiam astruebat? Paucis ante obitum diebus, literulas meas acceperat, aculeosas fateor, plenas tamen affectuum optimorum, quibus ita se torsit, ita responsionis studio efferbuit, sicut postea retulerunt, qui præsentes erant, quasi summo pudori duceret, non æquasse stylum, quod unum facillimum illi erat, literato in primis, disertoque homini, id enim puto, quod erat difficillimum non curabat, retundere scilicet, & frangere sententias uerbis, equidem atque dicendi exercitio ornatus, uerborum certamina non timebat. Sed quid rebus ipsis facias, atque apertissimę ueritati quid respondeas, nisi ut taceas, aut confirmes? Verba enim cōpares, aut par, aut superior esse potes, rebus inferior sis oportet. Sæpè phaleratam eloquentiam nuda ueritas uincit. Itaque cum se multum torsisset, septimo demum die, nuncium meum sine literis dimisit, responsum, propriumque nuncium pollicitus, quem non misit, nec deinde respondit, seu morbo corporis, seu animi præuentus, quod per eos dies contra suum atque omnium spem, animosissimè ad littus Venetū, ipsa eadem, quam penitùs uictam, atque exterritā extimabat Ianuensiū classis accessit, cui tumultui

Dux ipse præter morem armatus interfuit. Nec post eum diem, ferè aliquid gessit, quasi festinans, impendentibus caput malis, matura morte subducere. Etsi quidam ferant, respondisse eum, nescio quid, quod nequaquam ad me morte forsan interueniente peruenit. Post quæ statim apud Achaiæ insulam cui Sapientiæ nomê est, Veneti ab eadem illa uaga classe Ianuensium deprehensi, ingentiq; prælio fusi sunt, eum honorem Duci optimo differente fortuna (ut sicut dixi) dilatam patriæ suæ cladem in earne positus non uideret. Certè ut ubi potissimum uinceretur, diuinitùs euenisse crediderim, quo scilicet uocabulo loci, saltè reliqui duces admonerentur, ut sapientiam quàm fortunam sequi mallent, & à ratione abeuntibus rerum elicerent argumenta. Sed nonne fidifragus sum, qui noua pollicitus antiqua persoluo? Expecta autem in fundo est, unde promissi mihi fides constet. Hactenus audieras, quod sequitur nouum audis. Huic equidem tali duci iuueni, senior successerat, & ad patriæ gubernaculum serò licet, ante tamen quàm uel sibi, uel patriæ opus esset accesserat, uir ab olim mihi familiariter notus, sed in quo fallebat opinio, animi quàm consilij maioris, Marinus Phalerius, uiro nomen. Explere animum in summa dignitate non potuit, sinistro pede palatium ingressus: namq; hunc Veneti ducem suum sacrosanctũ, omnibus seculis magistratum, quem in illa urbe semper, ut numen aliquod antiquitas coluit, nudiustertius in ipsius palatij uestibulo decollarunt, causas rerum ut Poëtæ solent, in primordijs suorũ operum explicarem, nisi comperta loqui uelim, nequeo, tàm ambiguè, & tàm uanè referuntur. Nemo illum excusat, omnes autem uoluisse eum in statu Reip. à maioribus tradito, nescio quid mutare, atq; ita cuncta conueniunt, ut quòd ait Flaccus:

Primóne medium, medio'ne discrepet imum.

Nam quod nulli unquam arbitror euenisse, dum ad ripam Rhodani pro negotio pacis, per te primum, & mox per eum frustrà tentato, apud Romanum Pontificem legationis officio fungitur, Ducatus honor non petenti, imò quidem ignaro sibi obtigit. Reuersus in patriam, cogitauit quòd ut puto nemo unquam cogitarat, passus est, quod nemo unquàm in loco celeberrimo, omniumq; clarissimo atq; pulcherrimo, eorum quæ ego uiderim, ubi maiores sui, sæpe lætissimos honores pompis triumphalibus deduxerunt, illic ipse seruilem in modum, concursu populi tractus, & capite truncus occubuit, templiq; fores, & palatij aditum, scalasq; marmoreas sæpè uel festis insignibus, uel hostium spolijs honestatas, sanguine fœdauit proprio. Locum signaui, tempus signo. Annus est ab ortu CHRISTI M. CCC. LV. dies fuit ut ferunt XIIII. Cal. Maij, rumor est tantus, ut siquis urbis illius disciplinã, moresq; prospexerit, quantaúe rerum mutationem unius hominis mors minetur, quanquã alij plures, ut perhibent complicum ex numero, idem supplicitũ uel pertulerint, uel expectent, uix maior in Italia temporibus nostris emerserit. Hic forte meum iuditium expectes. Populum si famæ creditur absoluo, quamuis & lenius sæuire, & dolorem suum mitiùs uindicare potuerint, sed non facilè iusta simul atq; ingens ira comprimitur, magno præsertim in populo, ubi iracundiæ stimulos rapidis, inconsultisq; clamoribus præceps atq; multiuolum uulgus exacuit. Infœlici homini, & compatior, & indignor, qui honore auctus insolito, quid sibi sub extremum uitæ tempus uellet ignoro, cuius illud quoq; calamitatem prægrauat, quòd præscripto publici more iudicij, non modò miser fuisse, sed insanus, amensq; uidebitur, & tot iam per annos sapientiæ falsam famam, uanis artibus usurpasse. Ducibus qui per tempora fuerint edico, positum sibi præ oculis sciant, ubi se uideant duces esse non dominos, imò uerò nec duces, sed honoratos Reipub. seruos esse. Tu uale & quoniam publica fluctuant, demus operam, ut priuatas nostras res, quàm modestissimè gubernemus. Mediolani, IX. Cal. Maias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA MODIO PARMENSI, S. Epist. XIX.

Scripsit adolescens noster, tibi nescio quid, imò uerò nescio quibus uerbis aut qualiter. Quid autem scio, scripsit autem non ut precibus te grauiter sed ut animum exploraret tuum, quàm pronus esset ad conuictum nostrum. Cæterum quæ ex illo au disti, quo dubij nihil, ætas infirmior, & adoptata consequendum præceps pariat, ex te forsan cupis audire. Accipe igitur, & ex paucis multa comprehendens, hoc uelut sociatum pactorum chirographum habeo. Cupio equidem te, non ignarus magnorum tibi, ac sæpo tentum hominum aulas patère, sed ita mihi persuasi, melius tibi futurum nostra cum paupertare, quam cum illorum diuitijs, si bene animum tuum noui. Dulcior est enim honesta paupertas, eũ amico, quàm sub domino diuitiæ ingentes, præsertim libertatis, quietis,

 & fruga-

& frugalitatis auido, qualem te si natura non fecisset, ut auguror studium fecit. Neue paupertatis nomen suspectum sit, scito ut nihil hic sordidi, nullum mœstæ indigentiæ locũ esse, sic sollicitas, & graues huic abesse diuitias. Comparatio sola est, quæ uulgo diuitias & pauperiem facit, quemlibet ex his querulis, qui perpetuis sortẽ suam inutilibusq; conuitijs ac lamentis exagitant. Amiclę illi Cęsareo comparatum diuitem extimabis, quemlibet ex his beatis, qui non suis bonis auro, purpuraq; superbiunt, si Marco Crasso illi diuiti, aut Lidorum regi Crœso admoueas, pauper erit. Sanè uerum diuitem non uulgaris opinio, sed solus animus facit. Hunc tu qualem afferas ipse uideris, hic tibi rerũ optima præstò sunt, mediocritas & libertas. Non ego te ad seruitium, sed amicitiam uoco, aut nunquam pariter, ac nusquam, aut nunc mecum, si uocanti obsequeris, liber eris. Si quæris igitur ad quid te uocem, iam respondi, ad amicitiam, ad conuictum. Ac ne ad torporẽ uocari metuas, agere aliquid te uolo, ita tamen ut actionis modus, ex arbitrio tuo pendeat, an incipere, quorsumue progredi libeat. Nemo te calcaribus aut clamoribus urgebit, nemo tibi frena substringet, ipse uitæ tuæ cursum, regemq; moderabere. Hunc ipsum adolescentem, si sedulum exhibuerit, meliorem & doctiorẽ facies. Aut enim ex te discet, aut ex nemine, te ab infantia mirari didicit, teq; ante alios amare. Multum uerò doctrinæ conferunt, familiaritas, amor, admiratio. Ad hæc & nugarum aliquid mearum, non nisi quantum libuerit, & si libuerit scribes, tuum erit iuditium an dignę sint, quæ tuum, rebus proprijs, non ociosum, calamum fatigent. In studij mei partẽ ueni, mea mihi magis probabuntur, si tuo scripta sint digito. Sperabo siquid mihi, uel obliuione, uel incuria sit elapsum, subterfugere manus tuas, ingeniumq; non posse. Pro his tibi non montes auri, non purpureas togas, non marmorea atq; ebore & hebano crustata palatia, sed quæ tibi gratiora conijcio? Victum non inopem, sed modestum, & philosophico non audeo parem dicere, sed proximum. Ocium præterea, solitudinem, libertatemq; polliceor, mirum quàm præstare mihi ipse non possum, hanc tibi spondeo. Sed sæpè pallens Medicus, salutem alteri tribuit, quã non habet. Ego quidem importunæ, & inutilis, & molestę famæ cõpedibus, sonituq; nominis ac fulgore superuacuo, uerumq; ut ingenuè fatear indigno, nec liber esse possum, nec latere. Tibi in terra aliena, donec saltẽ nosci cœperis, & ociũ, & libertas, & latebræ iucundissimæ non deerunt. Hæc sunt quæ in præsens sese afferunt, aduentus tui præmia. Vellem addere posse, aliquam te fortẽ dulcedinem in scribendo ex nostrorum studiorum participatione sumpturum. Sed & de hoc uideris. Vnum tibi præterea, quod non in ultimis licet, in ultima parte epistolæ posuerim, erit uicinus Ambrosius. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NICOLAO SYOCERO CONstantinopolitano, s. Epist. XX.

CLari animi, clarum munus ut decuit, fuit, operationes enim hominum animum imitantur, & qualis quisq; sit, ex actuum qualitate conspicitur, singulare aliquid te decebat: nempè singularis es uir, & ab acie uulgari tota inientione remotissimus, si esses unus è populo, fecisses ut reliqui, nunc aũt implesti magnificè quod tuum erat, unoq; actu, & amicitiam, & ingenium aptissimè declarasti. Misisti enim ad me, de Europæ ultimis, donum, quo nullum uel te dignius, uel mihi gratius, uel re ipsa nobilius mittere potuisses. Magnus ille rex Syriæ Antiochus, ut quidã putant, siue ut Ciceroni placet, rex Pergameorum Attali, G.P. Scipioni, magnificentissima dona, usq; ad Numantiam misit, ex Asia, quæ ille uir clarissimus non abscondidit, sed ut ait idem, inspectante suscepit exercitum, cuius auus Africanus ille superior, insignia munera Masinissæ regi legitur donasse, uirtutis ob meritum, qua Romanũ exercitum enixè admodũ, in bello iuuerat. Fecêre idem sæpè alij. Neq; enim modò sæpè publicas, priuatasq; munificentias enumero: sed attingo aliquas quarum relatu facile quid sim dicturus intelligas. Donant aurum quidam, uel argentum concupiscibilem forte, sed certè periculosissimam terræ fecem. Donant spolia rubri maris, & algæ ditioris exuuias, lapillos, gemmasq;, cometarum in morem sæpè lugubre, prorsus ac sanguineum rutilantes. Donant monilia & baltheos fuliginosorũ decus artificum. Donant squallentium opus architectorum, arces & mœnia. Tu uerò uir optime, nihil horum, quæ & opulentiam largientis, ostenderent, & accipientis auaritiam irritarent. Quid igitur? Rarum munus & iucundum, meq; utinam, te profectò dignissimum, ut dixi. Quid enim ingeniosissimus atq; eloquentissimus, nisi ipsum ingenij & eloquẽtiæ fontem daret? Donasti Homerum, quem benè diuinæ omnis inuentionis fontem, & originem

uocat

uocat Ambrosius, Macrobius, & si omnes tacerent res ipsa testatur, sed fatentur omnes. Ego autem ex omnibus sciens, unum tibi testem protuli, quem ex omnibus Latinis tibi familiarissimum esse perpendi. Illis enim facile credimus quos amamus. Sed redeo ad Homerum. Hunc tu mihi uir amicissime donasti, eum non in alienum sermonem uiolento alueo deriuatum, sed ex ipsis Græci eloquij scatebris purum & incorruptum, & qualis primum diuino illi profluxit ingenio. Summum utique, & si uerum rei pretium exquiritur, inextimabile munus habeo, cuique nil possit accedere, si cum Homero, tui quoque præsentia largireris, qua duce peregrinæ linguæ ingressus angustias, lætus & uoti compos, dono tuo fruerer, attonitusque conspicerem lucem illam, & speciosa miracula, de quibus in arte poëtica Flaccus ait:

Antiphatem, Scyllamque, & cum Ciclope Charybdim.

Sed nunc quid agam? Tu mihi nimium procul abes, fœlix utriusque linguæ notitia singularis Barlaam nostrum mihi mors abstulit, & ut uerum fatear, illũ ego mihi prius abstuleram, iacturam meam, dum honori eius consulerem non aspexi. Itaque dum ad Episcopium scandentem subleuo, magistrum perdidi, sub quo militare cœperam, magna cum spe. Longè impar fateor, tui & illius ratio. Tu mihi multa, ego tibi quid conferre possim, nõ intelligo, ille autem, cum multa mihi quotidiano magisterio cœpisset impendere, nõ pauciora quidem, sæpè etiam lucrum ingens ex conuictu nostro sese percipere fatebatur. Vrbanè nescio an uere, sed erat, ille uir, ut locupletissimus Græcæ, sic Romanæ facundiæ paupertimus, & qui ingenio agilis, enunciandis tamen affectibus laboraret. Itaque uicissim, & ego fines suos, illo ... uc e trepidè subibam, & ille post me, sæpè nostris in finibus oberrabat, quanquã stabiliore uestigio. Nam & hic quoque ratio. Illi enim plus multò Latini, quã mihi Græci erat eloquij, ... orum primum inchoabam, aliquantulũ ille processerat, ut qui Italicè natus esset in Græcia, & qui licet ætate prouectior, Latinorum conuersationem, magisteriumque sortitus, ad ... uram propriam faciliùs remearet, illum mors, ut paulò ante questus sum, te mihi, mors non absimilis rapit absentia. & si enim ubicunque sis, de tanto gaudeam amico, uiua tamen ... a uox, quæ dicendi sitim, qua me teneri non dissimulo, posset uel accendere, uel lenire ... minimè aures meas ferit, sine qua Homerus tuus apud me mutus, imò uerò ego apud illum surdus sum. Gaudeo tamen uel aspectu solo, & sæpè illum amplexus ac suspirãs dico. ... magne uir, quam cupidè te audirem, sed aurium mearum aliam, mors obstruxit, aliam ... iniquitas inuisa terrarum. Tibi quidem pro eximia libertate gratias ago, erat mihi do... ... ctu mirum, ab occasu ueniens olim Plato Philosophorum princeps, ut nosti, (neque enim uereor ne tu tantus uir, quod scholastici quidam solent, huic præconio obstrepis, cui ... Cicero ipse, non Seneca, non Apuleius, non Plotinus magnus ille Platonicus, postremò non Ambrosius, non Augustinus noster obstreperet) nunc tandem tuo munere, uir in... ... s Philosophorum principi Poëtarum princeps asserit. Quis tantis non gaudeat, & glo... ... r hospitibus? Habeo quidem ex utroque, quantum Latinitas habet, in sermone patrio, sed Græcos spectare, & si nihil aliud, certè iuuat. Neque præterea mihi spes eripitur, ætate hac profectus in literis uestris, in quibus ætate ultima profecisse adeò cernimus Catonem. ... quid forsan ex me cupis, redde mihi fiduciæ tuæ uicem, & in me iure tuo utere. Ego ... uides, iure meo utor in te, & quoniam petitionis successus, petendi nutrit audaciam, mitte ... uacat Hesiodum, mitte precor Euripidem. Vale uir egregie, nomenque meum ... sine ullis meritis, nescio qua indulgentia, uel hominum, uel fortunæ satis in occidente cognoscitur, in orientali aula si uidetur, & inter uestros heroas notum facito, ut quod ... nus Cæsar amplectitur, Constantinopolitanus non fastidiat Imperator. Mediolani ... Idus Ianuarij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI ARETINO, S. Epist. XXI.

ROgas, imò uerò debiti mei admones, ut huius iunioris Iacobi de Cararia, uiri optimi, optimeque de nobis meriti, qui nuper Pataui dominus dictus est, re autem ipsa, nihil minus dominus magis, quàm uerissimus Patriæ pater fuit, laudes atque fortunam stylo amplexus, hinc aliquid ad te scribã, amoris scilicet mœrorisque par... ...m. Parua quidẽ res si superficie tenus metiare, sin altius foderis, operosior forte quàm ... s. Quoniam & panegyricũ uiri uirtus, & mors exigit Tragœdiam, præclarissima duo ... laboris opera. Latam igitur atque uberẽ dicendi materiam affers, sed in qua disertum ... eru potiùs, quàm ingenij laus sit. Quid enim illi defuit, quod claro præconio dignum

esset? Quid dolori aut desiderio nostro deest? & natura facundus est dolor, & desiderium ultimæ relationis accenditur. Pronum opus, & de illo ad te scribere, & e duabus uitandis, styli metis alteram non timere, ne quid nimis, quin etiam plaudente Italia concordi testimonio bonorum, ne obstrepentibus quidem malis, apud amicas aures laudare, quem diligas. Accedit indignæ atq; insolitæ genus mortis, & in qua fides, apertissima uulgato illi prouerbio quæreretur. Alienæ dominũ fieri quemlibet, uitæ propriæ contemptorem. Tam repentè enim, medijs licet in penetralibus, angustissimæ domus suæ, ingenti procerum ac nobilium amicorum, custodumq; sui corporis circumuallatus agmine, luce media, die festo, securus & incautus, in obscœni ac desperati Canis, & ne quid immanitatis abforet, eius Canis, quem ad mensam suam, illo die pauerat, assiduéq; pascebat, rabiem, cruentosq; risus incidit, ut nullo unquam indigniori spectaculo, oculos hominum pollutos rear. Cum enim ipsi qui scelus audiuimus, sic affecti sumus, quam miseri sunt, quibus uidere contigit, mitissimum atq; alio fine dignissimum illum uirum, belluamq; infamem ac pestiferam [illegible] momento temporis, unoq; uelut turbine corruentes. Tam præceps enim, inopin[illegible] malum fuit, tamq; incredibilis astantium stupor, ut fidissima pectora, pro dilecti capitis salute, mortem æquo animo subitura, nihil illi pereunti tempestiuæ opis afferre potuerint, nisi ut pars expirantem attolleret, pars infandum carnificem, excarnificatum mille uulneribus conficeret. Heu impar sceleri uindicta, heu nimium par exitus impatium spirituum, & in diuersa pergentium, quæ cùm ita sint, precibus tamen hactenus obluctor tuis, non laborum fuga, non occupationum mole, quamuis illa sæpè adsit, hæc autem nunquam desit. Demum non aliam ob causam, nisi nec semel absumpto doloris impetu, frigescat fortasse animus, qui tanti amici memoria & indeficienti lachrymarũ materia delectatur, exhaurire oculos metuit, quotidieq; sibi aliquid reseruat. O' flebilem parsimoniam, quid de illo loquatur? Quid meminerit? Quid deploret? Postremò cui propositum est illius uiri faciem ac mores, illius uirtutem ac fortunam semper ante oculos habere, & cum cuncta suspiciat, nihil præter exitum lamentari, quanquam hoc ipsum humani potius affectus, quam physici profectus esse non negem. Quotiens enim rationis passibus ad altissimam illam arcem æthereæ mentis ascendo, unde non minus, quàm e summis olympi iugis nubes sub pedibus cernuntur, uideo qua hinc rerum caligine, qua errorum nube circundati, quãtis in tenebris ambulemus, uideo nihil esse, quo passim gaudemus, aut dolemus, in hac uita nihil quod tantopere uel cupimus, uel horremus. Nugas meras quibus angimur, laruas quas pueri senes expauescimus, auramq; leuissimam qua deijcimur, aut leuamur, prorsus arundinea leuitate. Video eam ipsam, quæ mortalium fœlicitas dicitur, præter uirtutem solidi nihil esse, eam solam beatos facere, quos amplectitur, miserosq; quos deserit, & pedibus, ut aiunt, in hanc Stoicorum sententiam totus eo. Ita quidem, ut definitionem illam, omniũ Philosophorum definitionibus anteponam, quæ uirtutem esse ait, rectè sentire de Deo, & rectè inter homines agere. Profectò autem, cui talis animus contigerit, nulli unquam lamentabili poterit esse fortuna, sed optanda potius, & inuidiosa fœlicitas. Sane nos imbecille, caducumq; genus homines, imis in uallibus habitantes, graui premente sarcina, ratione quidem ad excelsa conscendimus, ideoq; uulgo, quam uero proximiora sentimus ac loquimur. Hic meæ, multorumq; querimoniæ, de rebus interdum friuolis, interdum nullis, nonnunquàm uerò fœlicibus, tanta uotorum peruersitas, tanta est cæcitas animorum. Sed ecce iam sensim aberrauimus ab incœpto, ad primordium reuertamur. Nondum itaq; de oblata mihi materia texere cõtinuum aliquid ausus sum, & causam audisti. Cæterum omnis dies hom[illegible], etiam nunc morbis obnoxio, nouum aliquod de ipsius morte suspirium parit, ut si cuncta literis mandare uelim, nil fere aliud acturus sim, ideoq; mentis mandare [illegible] consultiùs sit. Interdum tamen & literis, quale est illud, quod cum nudiustertius digressurus Patauio, ad memoriam reuocassem, rogatũ me, ut quod sine precibus debeo, illi charo & amato cineri, aliquod epigramma subscriberem, sed diem de die trahentem neglexisse, dolui mecum & erubui quicquam omninò tàm pio, & tam debito obsequio prælatum. Cumq; iam frequentes afforent, qui me prosequerentur, & in primis promissa reposcerent, quæ nec negari pudor sineret, nec tempus impleri. Quid facerem? Cœpi im[illegible]ctu, si quo modo possem addere calcar [illegible]nio, profectusq; cum paucis ad sepulcri loc[illegible], quasi licentiam, quam à u[illegible] consueueram, ab exanimi percepturus. Intempestiua hora diei erat, ob[illegible]eratisq; templi foribus, & meridiantibus æditiuis uix admissus, iussis expectare comi[illegible] [illegible]lus ad tum[illegible], sed [illegible] iuxta, & non responsuris ossibus uerba dedi. Illic ergo pr[illegible] [illegible]

tendens,

trahens, non sine lachrymis, sexdecim Elegos dictaui, ardore magis animi, quàm studio, aut ratione arctius adiutus, tradidiq; expectantibus amicis, uix ad exitum perductos atque abij, hortatus, ut si nihil, aut illis, aut mihi interim melius occurrisset, ex his si quid placeret eligerent, arbitratu suo, incidendum marmori, ad quod poliendum, insignis nunc artificum desudat industria. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA IOANNI BOCCATIO SVO, S. Epist. XXII.

Beasti me munere magnifico & insigni, iam Dauidicum pelagus securior nauigabo. Vitabo scopulos, neq; uerborum fluctibus, neq; fractarum sententiarum collisione terrebor. Solebam ipsis meis uiribus in altum niti, & nunc altius brachia iactando, nunc posse fortuito subnixus, per obstantes fluctus fessum ingenium laborare, ita quidem, ut sæpe cum Petro mergi incipiens, exclamarem: Domine saluum me fac, & sæpe secum CHRISTO manum supplicibus porrigente, consurgerem. Hos inter æstus, ...pim tu mihi præualidam, & nauclerum industrium destinasti, diuini ingenij Augustinum, cu...s opus immensum, quod uulgo tres in partes, apud quosdam pluriuariam diuisum, multis & magnis uoluminibus continetur, totum uno uolumine comprehensum, & ate mihi transmissum, lætus, stupensq; suscepi. Et dixi mecum. Non est ine...tiæ locus, si quid oc... supererit, iste discutiet. Magnus adest hospes, & magno curandus impendio. Dormire totis noctibus non sinet, frustra palpebris in oculis coniunctis, uigilandū est, lucubrandum est, frustrà quidem meditamini, laborandum est, uerum dicam. Nemo ex amicis illum sine ...dmiratione respexit, cunctis una uoce testantibus, nunquam se librum tanti corporis ui...sset, quòd de me ipse profiteor, rerum talīū haud ultimus inquisitor, nec mole literarum, ...am sensuum ubertate, maius opus. Monstrū est cogitare, quantus ille uir ingenio, quan... studio fuit, unde ille feruor, impetusq; scribendi, sancto uiro illa rerum diuinarum no...a, terrenis diu primum, illecebris capto, illa demum laborum patientia seni, illud otium ...iscopo, illa Romani eloquij facultas Afro homini, de quo propriè dictum putes: quod ...pse de Marco Varrone dixit Terentianum secutus. Vir (inquit) doctissimus, undecunque Varro, qui tàm multa legit, ut aliquid ei scribere uacauisse miremur, & tàm multa scripsit, q...àm multa uix quenquam legere posse credamus. Sed ut alia omittam, eiusdem ingenij ...numenta, seu quæ multa sunt mihi, seu quibus adhuc careo. Et rursum seu qui Retra...tionum suarum libris, ipse idem commemorat, seu quæ ibi uel oblita fortè, uel neglecta, ...el nondum scripta præterijt, ad quæ omnia relegendū, uita humana uix sufficit quis eum, ...l aliud egisset, unum hoc scribere potuisse nō stupeat? nullum unum, & unius opus ho...is Latinis editum literis, huic magnitudini cōferendum scio, nisi fortè sit alter eiusdem ...er in epistolas Pauli, quod nisi fallit extimatio, frustraturq; memoria, propè ad eandem literarum uidetur accedere, uel T. Liuij Romanarum rerum liber ingens, quem in partes, ...as Decades uocant, nō ipse qui scripsit, sed fastidiosa legentium scindit ignauia, huic tali ...mic...tiæ tuæ dono, præter eam, quam loquor magnitudinem, & libri decor, & uetustioris ...eræ maiestas, & omnis sobrius accedit ornatus, ut cùm oculos ibi figere cœperim, sitic... hirudinis in morem, nequeam nisi plenus auellere. Ita mihi sæpe dies impransus præ...bitur, nox insomnis, in quo quidem delectationi meæ, quam iam ferè unicam, nec nisi ...erarum lectione percipio, quantum hac tua liberalitate sit additum, nō facilè uulgus ...imet, cui extra corporeos sensus, nulla uoluptas est. Tu uerò perfacile, neq; mirabere, huius aduentum me sciente, atq; anxiè expectasse. Scis ut cupiditati longa breuitas ...a...o tarda est, quod si apud Nasonem, amantis insani uerbum est.

Septima nox agitur, spatium mihi longius anno:

...od mihi uisum putas, cui inter expectandum, ut ex persona alterius, ut idem.

Luna quater latuit, toto quater orbe recreuit?

...et honesta cupientium flamma, serenior esse non segnior, consulto tamen actum rear. ...on quidem abs te qui in mittendo multam sollicitudinem habuisti, sed ad formam po...ut ipsa dilatio desiderio meo calcar, munerique tuo gratiam cumularet. Pro quo tibi gratas meritas agendi, ne forte putes, quod huius epistolæ contextus, aut dies unus modum statuat, non alium scio quàm legendi, uiuendiq; finem fore. Vale nostri memor.

Mediolani v. Idus Marij.

FRAN. PETRARCHA BENEDICTO DE COLVMNA, ROMANO, Epiſcopo Theatino, s. Epiſt. XXIII.

NOn aliter literas tuas legi, quàm frontem, oculosq; tuos ſpectare conſueueram. Quid tibi uis dicam pater? Conſcientiam meam teſtor, ſemper ego tecum ſum, & cupidè tecum uerſor, quantum ſinor, interiecto tanto maris, ac terrarum ſpatio. Cæterùm illo die, multisq; ſequentibus, dum alternis epiſtolam tuam pono, & poſitam reſumo, dumq; illam nunc lego, nunc cogito, diu toto animo tecum fui. Tibi ſanè in præſens, occupatior etiam, fragiliorq; quàm ſoleo, quod & loci mutatio curas auxit, & uires corporeas morbus imminuit, hoc unum pro reſponſione reddiderim. Gaudeo mediusfidius te ad proprias ſedes, incolumem perueniſſe, atq; fœliciter Thirrenũ littus Adriatico permutaſſe. Gaudeo atq; utinam propediem locum hunc, fœliciore aliquo, ad extremum uerò permutatione fœliciſsima, terram cœleſtibus permutemus. Quid autem uetat augurari? Citò te Tirrheni maris oram reuiſurum, ac propè Theanum tuum antiquum, uel Parthenopeo littori, uel Caſillinis collibus præfuturum, Romuleis mallem, idq; magis uel origini tuo debitum, uel uirtuti. Sed tam alta ſpectare prohibet durior nunc Italis fortuna, haud equidem prorſus immeritò, neq; enim iniuſtum eſt, ut eo diu careant, quo ſe ultrò per inſolentiam, atq; impatientiam ſpoliarunt, quanquam quid nos meriti, quos nondum ad uitæ finem ſors uiolenta proiecerat? Sed neq; id nouum eſt Paternæ culpæ ſupplicium, inſontem ferre progeniem. Comederunt acerbas uuas patres noſtri, & ecce filiorum dentes obſtupeſcunt. Et iterum: Patres noſtri peccauerunt & non ſunt, & nos iniquitates eorum portauimus. Itaq; Tyberinos honores, cuncta rodens Rhodanus uorax, & quæ ſpectacula bone IESV? ſed ne congratulatoriam epiſtolam querelis impleam, ad te reuertor. Gratulor quidem tibi, & ſpero dignitatis tuæ gradum hunc eſſe, non terminum. Cæterum quocunq; pedem moueris, animo conſequar, & ubicunq; fueris tecum ero. Quod ſi imaginariæ præſentiæ forſan uera ſucceſſerit, te pater optime, Barbatumq; meum eximiè gauiſuros, tacentibus licet uobis, certè ſcio. Non opus erat huic rei aſſerendæ, multum tempus impendere, animos ueſtros noui. Verum id hac tempeſtate, uerum fatear, occupationes meas circumſpiciens, non tàm ſpero quàm cupio. O' ſi quotiens uellem, poſſem ut animum, ſic corpus hoc in longinqua tranſmittere, quàm ſæpe me hoſpitem haberetis. Sed enim id non ante futurum credimus, quàm corruptibile hoc in corruptionem, & mortale iſtud naturam induerit immortalem. Vale. IIII. Nonas Octobris.

FRAN. PETRARCHA EPISCOPO CAVALLICENSI, S. Epiſt. XXIIII.

VTcunq; alijs, quorum uel libertate, uel opera fretus eram, quid dicerem inueni, ad te ſcribere cogitanti, mirum ut ſæpè uerba defuerunt. Quid enim dicerem? Ita mihi perſuaſum, profundeq; inſitum eſt, tuum te negotiũ agere, dum meum agis, idq; non emolumenti conſideratione uulgaris, ſed alia quadam generoſa & ingenua expectatione paucorum, & in primis tua. Sunt enim qui nihil niſi pecuniario pretio extimare didicerunt, tempus amicitijs impendunt, quo nihil eſt charius, tamen nil ſibi uidentur impendiſſe, niſi forſitan quantum lucri idipſum tempus, intentis ad alia, collaturum fuiſſe uidebitur. Dant conſilium, dant auxilium, dant animam, dant ſeipſos, nihil [illegible] dediſſe putant, forte etiam nec falluntur, at ſiquid pecuniæ impenſum eſt, id extimatiõne tacita, id importunis uerbis exaggerant. Haud immeritò, quando eis pecunia pret[illegible]oſi[illegible]s nihil eſt, non tempus, non fama, non ſanguis, non uita, non anima tantùm imperij inter miſeros mortales, auro, argentoq; dedit inſana cupiditas. Tibi uerò mens alia, diuerſi more[illegible], iudiciumq; diſsimile, non te ſuperficies rerum fallit, ſolerter introſpicis, & ſuum pretium rebus ponis. Non tu ex me aurum ſperas, non ambitioſi ſuffragia, ſed animum meum, & ob[illegible]des, animi effectus tenes potius quàm ſperas, de futuro etenim ſpes eſt, itaq; quòd habet, ſperat nemo. Tu quidem pleno iure animum meum habes, ubicunq; ſim, ille tecum eſt, quem tibi pulchra negociatione mercatus es. Pietas, fides, humanitas, ſapientia, eloquentia, literarum amor, charitas mei, conuerſatio ſuauis, & ſeruata dignitate familiaritas inaudita. Hæc ſunt pretia, quibus me hominem liberum comparaſti. Poſſes, non inficior, contrac[illegible]m com[illegible] ni[illegible] reſc[illegible]ndere, ul[illegible] adim[illegible]diam iuſti preti[illegible] deceptus, non [illegible]amen id [illegible]erer, nam & p[illegible] piares eſt, & multa prætereа licet exigua, in ſe adeò poſteri[illegible]ribus chara ſunt, ut ea uix [illegible]is pretijs commutaſſe uel[illegible]nt. Innumerabiles ſunt affectuum human[illegible]m cauſæ, & inextima-

[illegible]es [illegible] m uoluntates, [illegible]uestigabil[illegible] respe[illegible]s. Quidam uasti animi sunt, & ap[illegible] ab immensa tra[illegible] [illegible] citrarum carcer [illegible], & angu[illegible] Alexan[illegible] Mace[illegible]e, ac [illegible] re[illegible]m est. [illegible] alij minimis de[illegible]. Magna [illegible] re[illegible] est, ampla domus ergastulum, tales puto [illegible]e [illegible], & Amicl[illegible] Cæsareum prius [illegible] uector sibi permaximus obii[illegible] [illegible] multos quoque alios præ[illegible] & nostr[illegible], qui pauperem ducem nacti, omni [illegible] [illegible]mam paupertatem, in [illegible] lapi[illegible] atque in desertis specul[illegible] [illegible] Quidem p[illegible]uras [illegible], & quicquid supra huma[illegible] [illegible]dum a[illegible]ur, attoniti & hiantes aspiciunt. [illegible] regnare fœlicitas prima est, [illegible] nega[illegible]ent, at saltem amicitijs regum student, & proximum regno putant esse [illegible]. A[illegible]em [illegible]testatem pe[illegible], ferre nequeunt regis oc[illegible]um, qui[illegible]dam [illegible] xi, a[illegible] r [illegible]e pe[illegible] el[illegible], itaque [illegible]os alij, non quasi fallax, [illegible] præ[illegible]um, [illegible]uasi fratres a[illegible] amant, sæpe plus etiam quam se [illegible]os, q[illegible]um [illegible] parcant [illegible] pereant. Horum alij c[illegible]tactum ceu c[illegible]ntagio[illegible]um aliquid [illegible] & [illegible] non sufficiat auaritiam declinasse, nisi in contrarium relab[illegible]antur, [illegible]um [illegible], quas ut ualdè optare imbecillis, sic non posse pati eneruati animi, [illegible]ce[illegible] ap[illegible]m ex[illegible]ema [illegible] ri[illegible]cula, procul à uirtute distantia Sabe[illegible] & Aristippi, [illegible] pri[illegible]s [illegible]p[illegible] p[illegible] a hæredibus apposi[illegible]a, ni paru[illegible]nt o[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible]ri[illegible] [illegible] s[illegible] h[illegible] laxo iussit insculpi, quo scilicet po[illegible] [illegible] nota fœlicitas sua [illegible]ebat. Alter in Lybia seruos, aurum suum, quo grauati [illegible] [illegible]n[illegible]quasi [illegible] iussi abijcere. Cùm ille posset [illegible] caducam peritus uenerari & [illegible]es u[illegible] [illegible] proijcien[illegible] uertere. Sunt qui[illegible] in rebu[illegible] om[illegible] [illegible]c[illegible] placet [illegible] ex nu[illegible] esse [illegible], nec uerebor pusillanimitas [illegible] [illegible]o [illegible] [illegible]mo tuebor. Magni (inqui[illegible]) animi est magna contemnere, [illegible] in[illegible] quàm nimia. Sed omissa uot[illegible]um uarietate mortalium, ad nos & rem [illegible]o. Tu quidem, quam ind[illegible]strie amicitias regum colas, insigni [illegible] experi[illegible] præclara usque ad ex[illegible] de monstra[illegible], adeò ut te, & amicum [illegible] ex d[illegible] uixit, [illegible] re[illegible] ipsum [illegible] patrem uocet. Nec ideo qu[illegible]d in more [illegible] [illegible] modis, doctus & suspicere, & æqua conspicere, n[illegible] ta[illegible] ima despicere [illegible]um agere uirt[illegible]s docet, & diuersissima licet uno [illegible] imp[illegible] administ[illegible]at. [illegible]m Rex. Quid refert [illegible] apud eum, cuius sum, quanti [illegible]uscunque sim, in pretio sum? [illegible]me [illegible] ges a[illegible] dem[illegible]s am[illegible]re. Sæpè quò minor fi[illegible]iorum indoles, eo paren[illegible] [illegible]er. Scipio Af[illegible]anus, sum[illegible]us hominum, [illegible] usqueadeo d[illegible] [illegible], ut h[illegible]is no[illegible]us uideretur, pl[illegible] q[illegible]m patern[illegible] dil[illegible] [illegible]ur. M[illegible], sed [illegible]quid latet quod amorem excitet, amantemque sollicitet. Sine causa enim nullus amat, [illegible]anqu[illegible]m a[illegible]is non t[illegible]mp[illegible]nis ad amandum, eadem causa tanto impar forsitan [illegible] amoti. [illegible] d[illegible]meme [illegible] qu[illegible] me[illegible]so sentiam, in dubio sum. Fateor enim, ipse mihi [illegible] placeo, ne[illegible] [illegible] est [illegible], quod clarissimis uiris, neque enim uereor ne ua[illegible] d[illegible], [illegible] immeritæ gloriæ partem sumo: cl[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible] [illegible]m [illegible]ixe[illegible] [illegible]harum fecit. D[illegible]um equidem, ipse [illegible] meas [illegible]s ex [illegible] uer[illegible] q[illegible] bon[illegible] amabile suspicer, præter unum hoc, quod ipse et[illegible]m, [illegible] amaui & [illegible]olui, semperque ab his amari & uolui, & optaui, nec [illegible] ma[illegible] opes posse conti[illegible]gere [illegible] sum, quam beneuolen[illegible]m b[illegible]o[illegible] [illegible] quor[illegible] quò m[illegible]or [illegible] copia, [illegible]or est gra[illegible]a, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] utros haud facilè in eo simul om[illegible]es errore uersa[illegible] nes[illegible]o [illegible] me mi[illegible] [illegible]ta ut dixi dubius sum nec scio quid mihi, q[illegible]id a[illegible] [illegible]e [illegible]ideri[illegible] [illegible] uo[illegible] aman[illegible]um, nul[illegible]s [illegible]usis ap[illegible]arent[illegible]bus delegistis. [illegible] a pr[illegible]io [illegible]bus [illegible]ationibu[illegible] di[illegible] [illegible] Augustinus & A[illegible] epi[illegible] [illegible]n [illegible] epir me [illegible] te[illegible] omo D[illegible], [illegible] p[illegible] [illegible]m m[illegible] Quid [illegible]ibi? Quid mihi conue[illegible] di[illegible] [illegible] d[illegible]um, in [illegible] m[illegible]n hæc [illegible] qu[illegible] pridem à te corpore di[illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible]e[illegible], sed in [illegible] i se[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]em a[illegible]a [illegible]e[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

ualé

ualde bene [illegible] cis inc [illegible] s c [illegible] scar. Vt me se [illegible] tantem excita [illegible] seris, sæpè cc stim [illegible] p [illegible] præsentia, te [illegible] amor attraxerit, [illegible] nas [illegible] trahebat. M [illegible] ut cæteras [illegible], illius [illegible] a [illegible] Duo [illegible] actis sa [illegible] repetens, [illegible] ad te pro benedictione [illegible] transiturus, ut te grauiter [illegible] ntem qu [illegible] lori me [illegible] ens me c [illegible] aueras, [illegible] & admirans reperi. Vt ubi [illegible] actus ala [illegible] penate [illegible] læto quidem sed mode [illegible] re complexi, te salutat [illegible], a [illegible] m [illegible] æ [illegible] ca [illegible], ot in e [illegible] regium fratrem [illegible] uersus, nihil iam te [illegible] salut [illegible] d [illegible] xiii qua [illegible] inuen [illegible] ego dolens quidem, & inuitus [illegible] gente [illegible] ad transituri [illegible] iam tardior uidebatur, pro [illegible] mei summam & a [illegible] quid uen [illegible] q [illegible] in [illegible] a [illegible] m [illegible], rep [illegible] & [illegible] ene [illegible] term [illegible] alis, [illegible] Attuo [illegible] rum enim Deum & al [illegible] remedij mo [illegible] ple [illegible] a ui [illegible] annuissem, meruit, ut precibus credo tuis quò [illegible] Schol [illegible] iam [illegible] pro Benedicto fratre promeruit, ingens & inou [illegible] a [illegible], cum to [illegible] æ [illegible]. Cæt [illegible] usus, seu naturæ [illegible], iam [illegible] a [illegible] & [illegible] & æ [illegible] us, & p [illegible] du [illegible] e, uideor uni fortè ce [illegible] quod e [illegible] quo mec [illegible] m ferend [illegible] s a [illegible] um [illegible] feram, amore tangebar ac [illegible] em [illegible] retrah [illegible] ar [illegible] m [illegible] cn ill [illegible] s [illegible] ere non uet [illegible] bar, & [illegible] erg [illegible] dare obstac [illegible] te [illegible] ore de [illegible] c [illegible]. Siquidem nocte illa, p [illegible] c [illegible] transissem, rumor ad nos incredibilis peruenit te ga [illegible] ei mi [illegible] à te fabulam opinatæ. Iter quod deli [illegible] nauci [illegible] am bello [illegible] nec [illegible] tra [illegible] nec au [illegible] m [illegible] tas au [illegible] uerat, qui cum [illegible] e p [illegible] his caussis in unum [illegible] bus effectum est, ut [illegible] ia [illegible] næ moræ, sic tu pius Pater moræ meæ propè integrum anni temp [illegible] tum, ut quicquid id est uitæ reliquū adiungere [illegible] tu [illegible] es [illegible] te [illegible] s [illegible] mente diuellerer, sed quod nunc requiui [illegible], n [illegible] lere [illegible] s, id [illegible] fidei plurimum inesset, sed hic quæ menti [illegible] nesc [illegible] t, rebus [illegible] as. Ta [illegible] tas tua loquitur, clamant actus, pro quo gratias a [illegible] clamat [illegible] meus, [illegible] olet, cui paria meritis tuis uerba non suppetunt. Id c [illegible] a [illegible] supre [illegible] a uitæ gaudia, [illegible] ertatem, solitudinem, oc [illegible] e [illegible] labor [illegible] ut tra [illegible] men [illegible] tum, ut te postrem [illegible] t me n [illegible] re [illegible] a [illegible] te adeò p [illegible] probes, quasi rerum immemor maximarum, hu [illegible] un [illegible] curamq; d [illegible] quod mihi stupens [illegible] crates meus scrib [illegible] & st [illegible] es [illegible] Pe [illegible] ut spe [illegible] o, quod sæpe [illegible] & inde [illegible] diligent [illegible] a fatigasti uicta iam n [illegible] quo [illegible] prope te uiuam, prope te moriar, quod [illegible] ita est. ut au [illegible] la mihi gratior fieri posset. Cæterum ut pr [illegible] g [illegible] illa [illegible] e quoq; negocium f [illegible] e [illegible], u [illegible] [illegible] s age, quod [illegible] et à nemine fieri [illegible] e [illegible] patrino [illegible] e [illegible] aci [illegible] nam, uberrimamq; [illegible] mnium [illegible] erris est [illegible] in silentio refert [illegible]. Viue & uale, [illegible] le [illegible] lani [illegible]

[illegible]

IN [illegible] lef [illegible] a [illegible] c [illegible] p [illegible] m commer [illegible] er [illegible] m, extrem [illegible] m [illegible] sit oc [illegible] m u [illegible] nquam nun [illegible] Vbi [illegible] s [illegible] et [illegible] tum [illegible] e [illegible] per [illegible] rc [illegible] mo [illegible] tr [illegible] de a [illegible] s st [illegible] u [illegible] e [illegible] mi [illegible] m [illegible] m a [illegible] h [illegible] rem [illegible] m [illegible] e [illegible] m [illegible] incert [illegible] ut [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] quod [illegible] tempus [illegible] ero, dum me leges, mecum [illegible] dum [illegible] mpcr [illegible] es. [illegible] proule [illegible] amantium & absente ab [illegible] audio [illegible] uideo. [illegible] Alpes fas [illegible] Caucasum, & Ath[illegible] [illegible] denique Orc[illegible]um incipone. Congrediemur [illegible] deambulabimus simul cœn[illegible] bi[illegible] simul [illegible] nostra uentis allata qualem Tiberi [illegible] Amo[illegible] odi[illegible] mi[illegible] fingit, sed præsentibus ac notis affectibus, importunam [illegible] & licet ob stantibus elementis conuenieri [illegible] quoti suu [illegible] Nec[illegible] do discessem, ex quo pri[illegible] meus esse [illegible], tamen in [illegible] atque [illegible] facies tua est [illegible] intelligendum [illegible] post diebus, præter soli[illegible] tuas uoces a[illegible], frontemque quodamm[illegible], & ipsos amici [illegible] los asp[illegible] xe[illegible] pau[illegible] eminebas. Totus ut dicerem: o fœmineum [illegible] inter al[illegible] sentes remedium meditata es. Fecerat idem [illegible] [illegible] eos Moyses, apud Græcos Cadmus, Aeg[illegible] & Latinis m[illegible] [illegible] Aegyptiis, et nobis. Hoc [illegible] ut postliminio redeuntem lætus amplector. Nunc [illegible] breuior sum quàm uelis, ueniam dabis. Nam & hos[illegible] familiaris hostis meus, sic in me nuper coniurati exarserunt [illegible] [illegible] or fuisset oppressi fuerint haud dubie. A primo [illegible] extremum [illegible] abaculo meo [illegible] ac semi[illegible] em prope te [illegible] uere. Tem[illegible] ut, & aer blan[illegible] amicior. Sensim redeo, unde [illegible], tamque nullarum adhuc uirium [illegible] ad scribendum digitos explodam, uix papyrum ex[illegible] em, uix calamum uersem [illegible] ingenium, [illegible] concussione deiectum. Sed al[illegible] [illegible] termi[illegible] [illegible]. Interea tamen has no[illegible] quales [illegible] [illegible] pal[illegible], manus imbecillis & tremula, æquo a[illegible] amicitiæ [illegible] compellet [illegible] adeò sollicitum, ardentem pro coaceruandis opu[illegible] [illegible] ut memoras ab innumeris, & mutuum in modum patiamoribus, ac [illegible] mendicali. Stupui audiens [illegible] licet, beneu[illegible] [illegible] propter per senectutem admirat[illegible] est, q[illegible] [illegible] detrahebat [illegible] ætas. Q[illegible] autem annis, amor, [illegible] ureretur, quem [illegible] uincere, seu ur[illegible] omnia, secretorum naturæ [illegible] [illegible] confirmat. Quintusdecimus [illegible] annus agitur, ex quo immortalem ami[illegible] & [illegible] nostræ finibus non [illegible] ad umbram [illegible] dominos [illegible] Argo dextras iungente contraximus, ecce idem ho[illegible] [illegible] qui tunc fueras. Mirum [illegible] impossibile, [illegible] [illegible] plus amares. Minus enim scipsos amant [illegible] omni [illegible] animus idem atque uniformis est, semper [illegible] [illegible] mei humilitas magnus amor, adama[illegible] [illegible] es, [illegible] En ut anxie quam magnas spes, non etiam [illegible] meas [illegible]. Vi[illegible] ingenij mei, [illegible] quiesceret [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] omnis amans, [illegible] amicus oculos laud[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] frontem, genas aridas, squallidam comam. Quid enim in [illegible] interest, nisi quod ille falli [illegible] fallitur. Ille persuadere uult [illegible] [illegible]. Vidi eg[illegible] & quem [illegible] hum[illegible] quem [illegible] [illegible] Quid enim flag[illegible] [illegible] ad h[illegible] [illegible] iudices. Vi[illegible] balb[illegible] [illegible] tam [illegible]. Sit tamen [illegible]. [illegible] enim tuo gratulor, nam & ex a[illegible] [illegible] pulcherrima, & [illegible] quàm suspiceris nomini tuo [illegible] fert, [illegible] tare sententiam [illegible]. Vt [illegible] earum, [illegible] [illegible] tomices, p[illegible] [illegible] co[illegible] [illegible] multa pa[illegible] [illegible] undeunque m[illegible] [illegible]

L[illegible] q[illegible]

quo [illegible] per [illegible] ad [illegible] [illegible] pa[illegible]rum [illegible] non ultima [illegible] pa[illegible] re ar[illegible], & ad [illegible] longe [illegible] endorum [illegible] uigiliæ labores nec promi[illegible] uelim, nec ne[illegible] [illegible]imum [illegible] senti[illegible] meam hac in pa[illegible] eo quod dub[illegible] pro[illegible] d[illegible] qu[illegible]d nec u[illegible] n[illegible], ar[illegible] uter, quā [illegible] habeas [illegible] esse noluer[illegible] am de [illegible]pendis amoris effec[illegible]us sermo susceptus e[illegible] me, qu[illegible] rum [illegible] est, quod mi[illegible] tam facile Poetarum reg[illegible] titulum [illegible] inexhau[illegible] cha[illegible] & [illegible] [illegible]entiæ tuæ [illegible]te largius, cuius rei [illegible] atque [illegible] inem [illegible], quod mihi [illegible]gnomen his in locis esse narrauer[illegible]. Idq; quam [illegible] epistolæ tuæ superscriptio, & finis indicant, quā uero non cu[illegible] idem narran[illegible] pa[illegible] facil tate credit[illegible]rus fueris. Enim [illegible]primu[illegible] am[illegible]e, q[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible] nulli secund[illegible] fac[illegible], me[illegible] q[illegible] fit, ad [illegible] intelliges. Deinde hunc testem, de re [illegible]bi incog[illegible] [illegible]utum sc[illegible] debueras & [illegible]es, persuas[illegible] potentissimus amor obstreperet. Non equidem tantum piona, sed pr[illegible] ad delectationem [illegible] est h[illegible]a crudelitas, cum ad [illegible] Cer[illegible]is [illegible] tans, qu[illegible] tam dulci aliquis rumor uocat, uento uelocior [illegible] ed oro te [illegible] ius testimonium audienti, primum illud occurrit, ut [illegible]atorem de aquis interro[illegible] nem[illegible] b[illegible] uenatorem, pastorem de gregibus, de u[illegible] na[illegible], de [illegible]ibus agric[illegible] & de a[illegible] te[illegible], & de bell[illegible] ducem, [illegible] Poet[illegible] de Mu[illegible] O[illegible] de ca[illegible]s, den[illegible] rerum & u[illegible]æ ratione P[illegible]um. Extra [illegible] minos eduxi[illegible], dum coegisti ut de Poetica sententiam [illegible] ed dices: Nihil est de p[illegible] prio [illegible] rebat. Sen[illegible]is ut pedete[illegible] a[illegible] p[illegible] iudicis tri[illegible] [illegible] am [illegible] de proprio loqueretur. Co[illegible] te a[illegible] quanto [illegible] bus nostris, aut fœl[illegible], aut certe facilior ætas fuit, pri[illegible] d[illegible]co, quam Pierides ex Græcia in Italiam commigrarent, ea scilicet tempestate, quando ut Sulmonensis tuus ai[illegible]

> *Qui bene pugnabat, Romanam nouerat ar[illegible],*
> *Mittere qui poterat tela disertus erat.*

H[illegible]d magni ne[illegible] tunc fuit esse Poetarum re[illegible]em. Vt sileam rel[illegible]os quantu[illegible] [illegible]ius est h[illegible], quem tu in [illegible]quo repreh[illegible]d[illegible] prope sacrile[illegible] u[illegible]deret[illegible]r, cum [illegible] tis impune reprehendatur Maro. Quantus alijs, quantusq; [illegible]bimet uisus est Næuiu[illegible], [illegible] [illegible] Plaut[illegible]s, & qui fuerint scimus, ars exigua, mediocre ing[illegible] [illegible]ax fama, magnu[illegible] p[illegible]rum f[illegible], r[illegible]um sua[illegible] extimat[illegible] immensa. Le[illegible]e epigram[illegible]ata [illegible] pulchr[illegible] hi[illegible] ed[illegible]a, satis s[illegible]per[illegible] fateberis, & [illegible]b al[illegible] d[illegible]ta essent, & si al[illegible]er h[illegible]rum Homerus, alter Vi[illegible]lius fu[illegible]et. Blanda (inquam) ætas & fauorabilis Poetis, quæ de tam paruis radi[illegible]ibus, t[illegible]m [illegible]g[illegible]cas opiniones eliceret, nobis durior nostra est ætas, à quibus ex[illegible] om[illegible] re[illegible] [illegible]matiori sæculo s[illegible]ccessimus. A[illegible]a sa[illegible]re non s[illegible]nimur, cul[illegible]ior[illegible] c[illegible] cum sep[illegible] sumus, quorum admiratio insolentiam nostram frenat. [illegible]aue igitur, ne me am[illegible]n-do prægraues, obiuasq; non mei mole cognominis. Ingenue quidem re[illegible]is Poetarum ap-pellat[illegible]nem respuo, ubi enim reg[illegible]m, hoc ex[illegible]rce[illegible]m q[illegible] Q[illegible] [illegible] nes? Occupata utraq; sedes est, cognomen [illegible] istud apud [illegible] nex [illegible] apud nos [illegible]etus pastor tenet. Vbi sedere, quoue ire iubes, ut sim uatum rex, n[illegible]i fo[illegible] [illegible]nem meam transal[illegible]m, atq; ad fo[illegible]tem [illegible] me restring[illegible] [illegible] uocari enim [illegible] ce est [illegible] a[illegible] rei [illegible] ce[illegible] e c[illegible] Nas[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible]orari s[illegible]lit[illegible]s sum, f[illegible] a[illegible]la [illegible]e ait Sed [illegible] itin[illegible] io [illegible] o exi[illegible]io l[illegible] mille [illegible]n meo peregrino [illegible]io Sorgiam e[illegible]

> *[illegible] nu[illegible]m meum [illegible]bere me.*

L[illegible]do equidem am[illegible]e[illegible] uel sic intelligas omnibus me modi[illegible]d a[illegible]ere, ne titulo premat[illegible]m [illegible]ortab[illegible] ne[illegible] [illegible]n [illegible] re[illegible] s, læs[illegible] M[illegible]estat[illegible].

e[illegible] in [illegible]es magis ac magis, [illegible]ongre[illegible]us [illegible] al[illegible] c[illegible] lexu tu[illegible]

op[illegible]are quod utinam uel semel [illegible] contin[illegible]at a[illegible] e[illegible] [illegible]m moriar

Et u[illegible]le Bar[illegible]ati fidissi[illegible]e [illegible] m[illegible]

IIII. Id[illegible] Octob[illegible] [illegible]r[illegible] q[illegible]m

ter[illegible]s tuas a[illegible]ram.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO, S. Epist. XXVI.

Miratur ille uir doctus, sed docendus adhuc, quid est, quòd in epistola quadam, nuper Senecam ac Tullium, quodq; Christiana ingenio maius est, ipsum quoq; Hieronymum notare non sim ueritus. Vltimum nego, de reliquis rationẽ cum illo communicandam accipe. Nemo ferè est, cuius aliqua non reprehendantur, non tàm subtile, quàm laboriosum fuerit, rem exemplis asserere, uerte Philosophorum libros, ac sanctorum quorundam, quorum celebrior fama est, multa passim apud illos, uel ab ipsis, uel ab alijs retractata, seu certè retractanda comperias. Notaui ego aliquot Senecæ sententias, sed ut arbitror non iniustè, notaui aliquas, et crede mihi, plures poteram, & tamen Senecam ipsum miror ac ueneror. Notaui Ciceronis mei unicam, uerum id non sic accipi uelim, ut quasi alienæ famæ delatoris titulo gloriabundus, insultem, sed ut ex unius hominis, duabus inuicem contrarijs sententijs, perferam ueriorem, idq; non arrogãter, ut qui me non modò non inferre maioribus, sed nec paribus conferre, nec minoribus præferre cõsueuerim, nec iniuriosè quidem, ut, cui, fateor, Cicerone ipso, scriptorum nullus acceptior sit. Iam itaq; sententiarum repugnantiam, quamuis ab ineunte ætate perpenderem, tamen uerecundius asserebam, donec ciuitatem Dei Augustino duce ingressus, animaduerti opinionem meam illius auctoritate firmari. Leges illum Augustini locum. Est autem magni operis Liber primus, haud procul à fine. Videbis illic Catonis uoluntariam mortem improbari quam Seneca ante omnia uiri illius egregia facta collaudat. Cicero autem excusat, & licet aliquanto modestius, non negem excusare culpam, quàm laudare, tamen si Augustini ones dicto conferas, intelliges nec metu imminentis mali, nec præsentis odio, nec spe uimelioris arcessendam mortem, nec iniussu eius à quo corpus illud accepimus emigran-. Nec Catonis in morte ne dicam laudem, sed excusationem ullam esse, & quamuis formiter, utrinq; suppresso Ciceronis nomine, conijcies tamen Ciceronicam Catonis excusationem eiusdem Ciceronis sententia meliore damnari. De me autem sic habeto breiter. Mihi quidem nomina uirorum illustrium si dici phas est, totidem prope numinum lo unt, & tamen in his ipsis, cum multa delectent, ueritas primæ reuerentiæ causa est, quæ i cultoribus etiam suis neglecta uidebitur. Quis enim tantus amicus ueri est, qui non interdum a ueritate deuiet, seu illa segnities sit, seu rerum obscuritas, seu ingenij hebetudo. m oculdubiò rem solidam, umbris inanibus, & ueritatem ipsam, quantorumlibet noin gloriæ anteponam, nec metuam hoc meo iuditio, uel hostes, uel amicos ueritatis offendere, quod illos oderim, hos certè sciam mecum esse sensuros, atq; illam semper proæ sententiæ prælaturos. Denique sic animum institui, ut cuius benedicta laudare ausim, eiusdem errores improbare non uerear, quamuis illud uolens, faciam hoc inuitus. Si enim uerè fit, utrunque permissum, alioquin & alterum honestius, utrobique par mendacium. Vale, & iterum Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GERARDO FRATRI GERMAno suo, S. Epist. XXVII.

Subit animum, luce mihi charior Germane, longæuo silentio finem ponere, quòd si forsan obliuioli animi iuditium arbitraris, fallens. Non, prius te quàm meipsum obliuiscar, timui hactenus tyrocinij tui quietem interrumpere, fugere te strepitũ, amare silentium sciebam. Me uerò, si semel inciperem, haud facilè desiturum. Is amor tui e rerum tuarum admiratio. E duobus igitur extremis, non quidẽ mihi gratius sed tibi llius eligebam. Nunc ut uerum fatear, non tàm tibi quàm mihi consulturus, ad scrienio. Quid enim tu sermunculis meis eges, qui cœleste iter ingressus, angelicis aisi coloquijs recrearis? Fœlix animi, fortunatusq; propositi, qui mundũ tàm maximè lanentem, medio ætatis flore, sic spernere potuisti, interq; Syrenum uoces obstructa tutus ure transire. Dum ego te alloquor, ipse res meas ago, si forte uel sic sacro ardori tuo, ad mo ũ torpens, & longo gelatũ situ pectusculũ meũ incalescerer. Tibi aũt clamor meus, ut mi é utilis, sic minimè importunus esse debebit. Neq; enim Tyro ut olim, sed CHRISTI iam s es, longa militia probatus. Gratias illi, qui tanto honore dignatus, & ut sæpè aliàs, ex e medio aduersarum partium insignem transfugam, ad sua signa conuertit. Prius erebar intempestiuas tibi uoces ingerere, deinceps securus te securum, ipse compello, entibus formidolosa sunt omnia. Quæ timuimus pueri, adolescẽtes risimus. Militem ttum strepitus omnis exanimat, duratus bellis nullo fragore cõcutitur, rudis nauta,

primo

primo uentorum murmure terretur, gubernator antiquus, qui totiens fatiſcentem & exarmatam puppim perduxit in portum, ex alto deſpicit iratum mare. Spero autem in illo, qui te ab utero matris tuæ, ad hoc laborioſum certè, ſed glorioſum iter aſſumpſit, ut per uarias difficultates tutus in patriam perueniresꝗ, quòd nulla te amplius rerum facies mouebit, non luctus, non curæ, non morbi, non ſenectus, non metus, non fames, non egeſtas, terribilis uiſu formæ, lætumꝗ, laborꝗ:

—poſtremo non ingens ianitor Orci,
Oſſa ſuper recubans antro ſemeſa cruento.

Et quicquid illud ad exterrenda corda mortalium, Poëtarum ingenijs cogitatum eſt, neꝗ plus conſtantiæ tribuerit aduerſus omne terrificum, Herculi ſuo Iuppiter adulterio pater, quam tibi natus Virgine, pater omnium æternus, qui rectas in ſe ſperantium reſpicit, & adiuuat uoluntates. Quæ cùm ita ſint, ſine metu iam tuorū uoces audire, & ſiquid uacui temporis inter occupationes optimas affulſerit, & reſpondere breue aliquid potes. Patere autem me ſecularibus tecum uti teſtimonijs, quibus non ſolùm Ambroſius, & Auguſtinus noſter, ac Hieronymus abundant, ſed & Apoſtolus uti interdum non erubuit. Neꝗ cellulę tuæ, aditū prohibeas, quæ & ore meo digna ſunt, & tuis auribus non indigna. Pythagoras peracuti uir ingenij fuit, ſed eius acumen longè relicta ueritate, ſæpè uſꝗ ad aniles ineptias penetrauit. Hinc illa ridicula, & permulta uaria corpora uolutatio animarum & renaſcens, de bellatore Philoſophus, Iliaci belli teſtis, Euphorbius, deniꝗ famoſa μετεμψύχωσις quam miror ſequi uel Platonem, uel Ariſtotelem potuiſſe, ſed magis miror Originem, qui eandem complecti uiſus inſaniam, ab ipſo miratore ſuo, & laudatore Hieronymo, & à reliquis ueri ſectatoribus meruit in finem damnari. Verum ne Pythagoræ occurſus, me deuiare coëgerit, uir ille cuiuſcunque ingenij, morum illa ætate grauiſsimorum fuit, clariſsimæꝗ modeſtiæ, unde & uiuenti ſummus honor impenſus, & ipſe poſt mortem Deorum conſilio aſcriptus eſt, & domus eius apud poſteros pro templo habita. Huius ergo prima inſtitutio quænam fuit? Nempè ut diſcipuli ſui quinquennio ſilerent præclarè. Stultum eſt enim prius uelle loqui quàm diſcas. Cæterùm amouendum ori non dico cuſtodiam, quæ amouenda nunquam eſt, ſed repagulum quinꝗ tempus annorum ſufficiens extimauit. Tu uerò ſi ritè computo, in ſeruitio IESV CHRISTI: & in ſchola eius, iam ſeptimum annum ſiles, tempus eſt, ut loqui poſſe aliquid incipias, uel ſi præ omnibus ſilentium dulce eſt, mihi uel in ſilentio reſpondeas. Meminiſti frater qualis olim rerum noſtrarū ſtatus erat, & animos noſtros quam laborioſa dulcedo, & quantis amaritudinibus conſperſa torquebat. Meminiſti puto ut nunc & libertati tuæ congaudeas, & fraternæ condoleas ſeruituti, quæ me adhuc ſolitis compedibus arctatum tenens, iam cultrum lateri, iam laqueum collo parat, peregiſſetꝗ iam pridem ni liberatoris, in dextera, quæ tè ſeruitio exemit, me ab interitu defendiſſet. Orabis frater, ut me quoque iam tandem libertati reſtituat, & uno uentre progreſſos, pari fine fœlicitet, & ſi præire debueram, non pudebit ſequi. Meminiſti (inquam) quis ille, & quàm ſuperuacuus exquiſitiſsimæ ueſtis nitor, qui me hactenus fateor, ſed in dies ſolito minus attonitum habet, quod illud induendi, exuendiꝗ faſtidium, & mane ac ueſperi repetitus labor, quis ille metus, ne dato ordine capillus efflueret, ne complicitos comarum globos, leuis aura confunderet, quæ illa contrà, retroꝗ uenientium fuga, quamdiù pedum, ne quid aduentitiæ ſordis redolens, ac fulgida toga ſuſciperet, neu in præmiſſas rugas colliſa remitteret. Verè inanes hominum, ſed præcipuè adoleſcentium curas, quorſum enim ea mentis anxietas, ut placeremus ſcilicet oculis alienis? & quorum oculis quæſo? Profectò multorum, qui noſtris oculis diſplicebant. Seneca in quadam ad Lucilium epiſtola. Quis eam (inquit) quam nulli oſtenderet induit purpuram? Mira quidem dementia, [illegible]m noſtrum non animi ratione, ſed uulgi furore moderari, & in conſilium uitæ noſtræ illos admittere, quorum nobis uita contemptui eſt. Nemo cicatricoſum tergo ducem, nemo gubernatorem naufragijs inſignem eligit, illos legimus quos miramur, illis ſolemus noſtra committere, quos rerum ſuarum adminiſtratio claros facit. Itaꝗ uulgus inſanum, cuius mores rideas, cuius omnem opinionem, uitamꝗ deſpicias, in moribus tuis, ſequi pluſquàm uulgariter inſanientis eſt. Vt enim cœptum ſequar, ceſſet ambitio, & uulgus procul exulet, quanto uilior, atꝗ ad omnes opportunitates aptior, quantoꝗ tractabilior eſt ueſtis plebeia, quam regia? Nobis tamen, eo tempore longè aliter uidebatur, quorum ſtudij, laboriſꝗ pretium erat conſpici, & ut ait ille,

—digito monſtrari & dicier hic eſt.

Quàm

[illegible]àm Hortensius orator fuit clarus, sed delicatior, quàm deceat uirum, & formæ non mi-
[illegible]us quàm eloquentiæ studiosus? Nunquam speculo inconsulto in publicũ processit, in
[illegible] se comere, in illo se mirari, in illo uultum, [illegible]amq; componere consueuerat. Multa sunt
[illegible]s uiri muliebria, sed illud in primis. Colle[illegible]tum, quòd is casu obuius arcto quodam
l[illegible]co, in eum impegisset, & artificiosum ex [illegible] togæ sinum turbasset, collisione fortui-
t[illegible], iniuriarum accusare sustinuit, prorsus fœminea uanitate, quasi capitale crimen esset, tam
[illegible]mpositi habitus, qualis offensio. Nos frater, etsi nulli diem diximus, ob eiusdem iniuriam
[illegible]mo tamen haud absimiles fuimus, sed te de tantis erroiũ tenebris eduxit, repentina mu-
[illegible]o dexteræ excelsi. Ego sensim, multisq; laboribus assurgo, credo ut intelligi detur, nullũ
[illegible]dminiculum literarum, nullum opus ingenij, sed totũ Dei munus esse, qui fortè mihi
manum porriget, imbecillitatem meam ingenuè confitenti. Id sanè si ratio non persuaserit,
[illegible]nectus coget, quam magis, magisq; indies aduentare, & iam finibus meis obequitare sen-
[illegible]. Q[illegible] de calceis loquar, pedes quos protegere, uidebantur, quam graui, & quam conti-
[illegible]uo be[illegible] premebant? meos fateor inutiles reddidissent, nisi extremis necessitatibus admo
nit[illegible]s [illegible]e[illegible]dere paululum aliorum lumina, quàm neruos, & articulos meos conterere ma-
luissem. Quid de calamistris, & comæ studio dixerim? Quotiens somnum, quem labor ille
distulerat, labor ille abrupit? Quis pyraticus tortor, crudelius arctasse, quàm proprij ipsius
manibus arctabamur? Quos malè nocturnos sulcos, in speculo uid[illegible]mus, rubenti fronte
[illegible]nsuersos, ut qui capillum ostentare uolebamus, faciẽ tegere cogeremur? Dulcia sunt hęc
p[illegible]bus, passis uel memoratu horrida, incredibilia inexpertis. Quan[illegible]ũ uerò te nunc illa
p[illegible]terita memorantem, præsentia ista delectant calceus laxus, pedis nõ uinculum, sed mu-
n[illegible]men, coma alterè resecata, & capillorum sepes, nõ iam auribus importuna, nec oculis, toga
[illegible]cior, & quæsitu, & custodia facilis, nec egressu laboriosior, quàm ingressu, tanquàm
[illegible]m ab insania defendens, sic corpus defendit à frigore. O te fœlicem, qui ut hæc dul-
[illegible]perent, illas amaritudines prægustasti, & ut hæc leuiora prætercam, recordare etiam,
[illegible]mptius è tanta Charybdi liberatus dignas Deo gratias a[illegible]a[illegible], quanta nobis fuerat
[illegible]antæq; uigiliæ, ut furor noster latè notus, & nos essemus po[illegible]lorum fabula. Quo-
[illegible]abas contorsimus? Quotiens uerba transtulimus? Denique quid non fecimus ut
a[illegible], quem si extinguere non erat, at saltem tegi uerecundia iubebat, plausibil[illegible]ter ca-
ne[illegible]. Laudabamur in studijs nostris, & capita delirantium peccatoris oleum impinguá-
bat [illegible] inefficabilis Dei pietas, gressus tuos interea, pedeten[illegible]im reuocabat ad rectum iter,
& satietate rerum pereuntium, præceps illud desiderium castigabat, ut scilicet diuersis æta-
[illegible]bus utrobiq; incola, quid interesset inter Babylonem atque Hierusalem expertus agno-
[illegible]eres. O misericors Deus, quàm tacitè consulis, quam occultè subuenis, quam insensibi-
l[illegible]r mederis. Quid enim tantis laboribus bone IESV? quid aliud nisi amorem mortalem,
imò uerò mortiferum petebamus? Cuius nos fallacem & multis sentibus obsitam suauita-
tem attingere summotenus permisisti, ne grande aliquid inexpertis uideretur, & ne tam a
[illegible]ec[illegible]t opprimeret misericorditer prouidisti, delitijs nostris è medio sublatis, cum quibus
dextera tua, spes nostras è terra penè radicitùs extirpauit. Iuuenili ętate reuocasti eas, morte
[illegible]idem ut spero illis utili, nobis necessaria, & abstulisti à nobis animarum nostrarum u[illegible]ctt
[illegible]t tamen ó cæca mens mortalium, quotiens quæsti sumus, quasi ante tempus acci[illegible]et,
[illegible]d cũ summo uitæ nostræ discrimine trahebatur, aut quasi salutare aliquid intempestiuũ
Q[illegible]t s[illegible]spiria, quot lamenta, quot lachrymas in uentos effudimus, & morem phrenetici
[illegible] medico nostro insultantes, manum tuam repulimus, lenimem optimum, nostris uul
[illegible]bu[illegible] adhibẽtem. Nunc ergo dic mihi uir Deo ex hoste familiaris, ex aduersario c[illegible] dic
[illegible] quoniã & ista pertractas, & illa retractas, quid similis sint cantiunculæ inanes, fal[illegible]is &
[illegible]fcœnis mulierculàrũ laudibus, & sacris excubijs, in quibus modò per mœnia, & propu-
gnacula ciuitatis Dei mira ordinatione dispositi CHRISTI uigiles, aduersus antiqui homi-
nis insidias intẽtissimè pernoctatis? Fœlix & inuidiosa militia, magnusq; lateor, & durus la-
[illegible] sed breuis & æterno pensandus præmio. Mihi aũt adhuc restat de quo tecum si pateris
Deus meus, disceptare uelim. Quid est enim responde mihi, quòd cũ ego & frater meus, ge
[illegible]no laqueo teneremur, utrunq; conteruit manus tua, sed nõ ambo pariter liberati sumus?
[illegible]e quidẽ euolauit, ego nullo iam laqueo tentus, sed uisco cõsuetudinis pessimè delinitus,
[illegible]las explicare nequeo, & ubi uinctus fuerã solutus hæreo. Quid causę est, nisi quòd cõtritis
[illegible] ratione laqueis nequaquã q; sequitur par fuit. Adiutoriũ nostrum in nomine Domini.
[illegible]r a[illegible]t hãc Dauidicã cantilenã tanto cõceptu cœptã, tã dissona uoce cõpleuimus? Nulla

Dei

Deiuoluntas sine causa est. Quippe omnes inde dependent, & illa fit omnium fons causarum. Frater ergo ritè cecinit, erecto ad cœlum animo. Ego terrena cogitans, & curuatus in terram, & fortè liberatricē dexteram, non [illegible]oui, fortè de proprijs uiribus speraui, aut hoc, aut illud causæ fuit, cur effracto laqueo n[illegible] [illegible]m liber: Misereberis Domine ut dignus sim, cui amplius miserearis. Sine enim gratuita [illegible]sericordia tua. Nullatenus potest humana miseria misericordiam promereri. Nunc ad te frater redeo, & sensim ad grauiora cōscendo, ut gradatim te tibi fœlicissimum ostendam. Recordare quis ille hominū concursus, quæ'nam prælia salutantium, quanta concursantiū offensio, quantumue sud[illegible]tis ac laborū ut compti, & elaborati nunc hic, nunc illic in publico cerneremur. Et Deus optime, qui cæcos illuminas, claudos erigis, mortuos suscitas, qualis illa iactatio est, postquàm enim omnibus uicis, omnibusq; noti erimus, omnibus scænis circumacti, restat iter patrum nostrorum agere, & formidatum sepulchri limen irrediturо pede transcendere. Adde nunc conuiuiorum gloriosa fastidia, quæ sine magno ut aiunt famæ discrimine non uitentur, & epularum uariam procellam, concusso stomachulo fluctuantem. Quæ si ab amicis patimur incommoda, quid expectet ab hostibus? Quorum multa sunt genera, domestici, externi, horumq; alij clandestini, alijs ex professo inimicitias agunt, & rursum alij lingua, alij fraudibus, alij gladio decertant. Breuius loquor, omne genus experto. Ad hæc, quid quæso, non iniuriatū à seruis, contumeliarumq; perpetimur? Excusat eos Seneca multis quidem uerbis, & omnem culpam reflectit in Dominos. Luciliumq; suum laudat seruis familiariter conuiuentem. Quid dicam? Vereor tanti uiri uilicare sententiam, & tamen quod perhibet longè mihi aliter uidetur. Potuit illis fortè uel prudentia, ut bonos seruos faceret, uel fortuna ut inuenirent præstitisse, mihi fateor, neutrum fuit, cum utriusq; studium semper fuerit. Itaq; de se alij uideantur, ego quod nescio, laudare non possum. Apud me & iniquissimum est, seruorum gen[illegible] & prouerbium illud uetus à Seneca reprehensum ueri locum habet, Totidem hostes esse quot seruos. At de bonis seruis epistola illa est, mali enim eodem auctore, à dominor[illegible] fortio excluduntur? Credo, sic enim sonant uerba, & bonorum exempla, de liberis n[illegible] ca colligimus, hæc id quidem ignoro, neq; scriptoribus fidem nego, sed siue temporu[illegible] tatio, siue sors, siue impatientia mea est, ego bonum seruum nunquam uidi: quæro tam[illegible] & si fortè obuius fuerit, uelut occursu bicipitis hominis obstupescam. At ne quis ho[illegible] [illegible]el seuitiæ, uel desidiæ meæ imputet, omnia tentaui, neq; minùs ego, quam Lucilius fam[illegible]ter eum seruis meis uixi, & ad consilium, & ad confabulationem, & ad cœnā illos admisi, meq; ipsum, & res meas illorum fidei commisi, fideles q; ut facerem credidi, nec credendo profeci, quin potiùs ars omnis in contrarium uersa est. Seruorum enim à colloquio meo, nemo non procacior discessit, nemo non contumacior à cœna surrexit, & ut familiaritas insolentes, sic fiducia fures esse docuit. Vt ergo Senecæ de suis, sic mihi de meis, & cunctorum seruis, omnes enim ferè nescio quomodo pares sunt, uera loqui liceat. Ego quidem fateor, seruili peruicacia nil molestius patior, in uita. Cætera enim bella, inducias habent, cum domesticis hostibus, sine intermissione pugnamus, quamuis non sim nescius, æquo animo ferendum esse, quod maximis uiris accidisse uideo. Nempè & Vlyssem illa prima ætate, quā heroicam uocant, intèr multos quos sustinuit labores, seruorum & ancillarum quoq; contumelijs affectum, clarissimi loquuntur auctores. Et hoc recentiori æuo, Fridericus Romanus Imperator, de seruorum iniurijs, ut fama fert, uiuens, moriensq; conquestus est. Cæterùm hæc seruorum incidens querela, hoc agit, ut te fœlicem scias, qui seruili tyran[illegible] [illegible]be ratus, leuissimo ac suauissimo CHRISTI iugo colla subieceris. Quid de alijs dic[illegible] [illegible]uod illud adulationis latens, inter dulcia uenenum coram arridentium, tergoq; mord[illegible]um. Quæ illa de transuerso famæ uulnera, incertis auctoribus, & e media uulgi acie, c[illegible]m[illegible]u lata conuitia? Quæ illa auaritiæ rabies, animos efferantis, omnisq; diuini, & humani iuris obliuionem pestiferam afferentis? Hæc de curatoribus prædones e[illegible]cit, extremum autem mali genus est, dum remedijs attonita miscentur. Eligis hominem cuius fide inter hominum fallacias sis tutus, ille te primùm fallit. Quid huic consilij capias? & ut Satyricus ait:

Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?

Hæc nos pestis ab infantia persequitur, seu fortuna, seu simplicitas nostra est adolescentes soli incurioſi, & apti iniuriæ uisi fumus. Tritum assiduitate prouerbium est: Occasio facit furem. Hæc nos Frater, ut semel expediam de diuitibus inopes facit, imò certè, quod diuini muneris recogn[illegible]scimus, de occupatissimis ociosos de impeditissimis expeditos. Accessit, quòd omnes qui se spolijs nostris onerauerint, breui quidem ip sius fortunæ ma-

n[illegible]us

nibus excussos, uel graui morbo consumptos, uel miseri senectutem languentes uidimus. Nec paruum iniuriæ solamen ultio est, Deo præsertim auctore contingens. Quid dicam de fori ac litium tempestate, quæ mihi non curiam modò, sed terrarum orbem odiosum facere potens est? Quid de alijs quæ præter mortem grauissima iudicantur? captiuitatis, insidiarumque periculis, qualia multa olim terra, pelagoque pertulimus? quorum cõmemoratio stuporem mihi renouat, & horrorem. Sed euasimus. Non id nostræ naturæ priuilegio accidit, sed diuina clementia euasimus, sed perire potuimus, & certè debuimus, nisi nos misericors pater uiuificis oculis aspexisset. Euasimus, sed eisdem periculorum generibus noti, & socij periere incendio, gladio, carcere, naufragio, alijsque innumerabilibus modis, quorũ propter ...ros & recentes amicorum casus, tristis & acerba narratio est. Inter hos laqueos ambulauimus, atque inter hos scopulos nauigauimus. Frater, quid loquor? Quasi æqua conditio sit amborum? Ego miser, inter eosdem uersor assiduè, tu iam Deo gratias, portum tenes, fœlix hora, qua natus es, fœlix omne periculum, quod te per multa experimenta formidabilium rerum, ad amorem securitatis adduxit. Confer oro, nunc ista cum illis, cum turbulentis opibus quietissimam paupertatem, cum amaris negotijs dulce ocium, cum iniquis hostibus optimos fratres. Denique cum litibus silentium, cum turbis solitudinem, cum urbibus syluas, cum comessationibus ieiunia, cum diuturnis choreis, nocturnos choros. Postremò cum Auinione Carthusiam, cum terrenis periculis cœlestem pacem, cum seruitute Diaboli amicitiam Dei, cum morte perpetua sempiternam uitam. Necesse erit te fœlicissimum fateare. Vrge propositum, præme quod cœpisti. Non te labor terreat, non frangat asperitas. Flacci uerbum est:

——nil sine magno
Vita labore dedit mortalibus.

Quod si in hac uita, de qua ille loquebatur minima, etiam magno constant, quòd totiens in ca...m aucupando probauimus, quis labor magnus uideri debet, quo ad æternam beatitu...em peruenitur? Absit segnities, languor abscedat. Dum matutino tempore excitaris, ad diuinum te colloquium euocari credito. Et heu quotiens nos mortalis domini iussus ...uit, quotiens periculis ac laboribus obiecit, & quis oro te fructus? Nempè non nisi amicitia humana, anceps, periculosa, difficilis. Tibi amicitia diuina proponitur, certa, secura, pa... Crede mihi, cadet ex animo tædium, somnus ex oculis, cum tibi proposueris, uocan... tem ...um, & optime tecũ agi senties, quòd uigilare uulgo circumstertente iubearis. Mos imperatorum est, probatis militibus difficilia committere, dum coci, piscatoresque, & (ut Horatiano sermone utar) Ambubaiarum collegia, circa forum cupedinarium oberrãt, illi inter gladios, ac tela uersantur, & periculum ingens tenui gloria consolantur. Cum autẽ orando colloqui cœperis, gaudium cum reuerẽtia certabit, ut insomnem te atque impigrum sub tanto præbeas spectatore. Audisti ex historijs M. Catonis, milites illo præsente, & sitim, & puluerem, & æstum, & serpentum morsus tolerare solitos, & sub illo teste, sine gemitu ac lamentis occumbere. Audisti Scæuam illum fortem, potiùs quàm iustum uirum, sub oculis sui ducis non modò pugnare, sed mori etiam exoptantem. Quòd si mortalis domini uenerario præstare potuit, quod CHRISTI præsentia posse debet? Is equidem non expectandus ...t ueniat, sicut Cæsarem suum infœlix ille bellator expectat, sed suscipiendus, colendusque ...nibus locis, omnibusque temporibus præsens est. Videt actus nostros, cogitationes in...spicit, ingens calcar animo, nisi funestæ consuetudinis torpor obsistat. Epicuri doctrina ...t, imaginarium uitæ testem quærere, amico scribens. Sic (inquis) fac omnia tanquam spe... ...curus. Seneca uerò ut illustrioris uiri præsentia, Lucilij sui uitã formet, monet ut Ca...em eligat, Scipionem, Lælium uel alium quemlibet spectatæ uirum famæ. Non potest ...n placere sententia à magnis uiris laudata. Nam & M. Tullio placuisse eam uideo, quam Q. Ciceroni Fratri suo scribens, licet alijs uerbis inseruit. Placet ergo consilium Epicuri, inter illos à quibus scriptum atque probatum est. Nobis hac arte nil est opus. Testem fictũ, non quærimus, cum uiuum atque uerum, præsentemque semper CHRISTVM habeamus. Nam etsi ascendero in cœlum illic est, & si descendero in infernum adest. Omnia igitur coram illo, quasi spectante, sed uerè spectante faciamus. Pudebit non modò actuum, sed arcanarum etiam uoluntatum, quas non tantùm uictus, sed etiam uerè præsens Epicurus testis, non posset agnoscere. Nouit autem eas ille, cuius oculis nihil est imperuium. Putemus illum ante oculos nostros positum clamare. Quid agitis ô cæci, & ingrati? Ego pro uobis mortem spontè sustinui, uos mihi laborem exiguũ negatis? Hęc uestra pietas? Hęc accepti beneficij memoria

memoria est, qui nutu cœlum, terrasq; & maria guberno, qui fulmina de nubibus iacio, qui alternis uicibus tempestates ac serenum reueho, qui diem, noctemq; suis luminibus exorno, & uario horarum numero, tenebras, lucemq; dimetior, qui perpetuum solis obsequium duodeno stellarum ordine, ad quaternas temporum uarietates adhibeo, & fastidio consulens grata rerum, & inaccessibili nouitate anni circulum circumuoluo, quam non modò calcabilem terram, labilem aquam, atq; auram spirabilem, sed innumerabilium rerum nobis præsidia, & oblationes, & ornamenta congessi. Denique qui ad imaginem meam, quamuis stulti obstrepent, de nihilo uos creaui, & quo me, quo quæri uellem, iter uobis ostendi. Ipse ego (inquam) ut post tot beneficia rebellantes ac deuios reuocarem, inter uos ex alto sub seruili habitu dissimulata maiestate descendens, pro salute uestra paupertatem, labores, insidias, conuitia, contumelias, carcerem, uerbera, flagella, mortem, crucemq; nō timui. Vos mihi quid redditis? Non dico partantis meritis, quod nec cogitare sufficitis, sed quod omninò signum ostenditis animo ingrati? Quid ad hæc Frater responsuri sumus? An hic quicquàm ambigui est? profectò si hæc intus in anima, loquentem dominum audire uoluerimus, surgemus nocte alacres, hoc enim agere cœperam, ut eo tempore deuotiùs CHRISTO laudes canamus, quo illum pro nobis opprobria, & iniurias passum esse meminerimus. Sed quia diù te iam Frater ab altitudine contemplationum tuarum distraxisse uereór, hæc summa est. CHRISTVS tibi totius uitæ testis assistat. Illū igitur intuere, si uis in illo labore, nullis omninò uigilijs fatigari. Ad hoc enim inaccessibili & inenarrabili trinitatis cō silio effectum est, ut æternus, & immortalis omnipotēs Dei filius, uestem nostræ immortalitatis indueret, ut scilicet, quoniam inter Deum & hominem nulla proportio erat, ipse Dei & hominum mediator, utramq; perfectissimæ in se uniens naturam, & ad Deum homines attolleret, & Deum ad homines inclinaret, possetq; mortalis acies, in Deum figi mortali carne uestitum. Quod si immortalitate recepta, in gloriam suæ diuinitatis ascendentem, sequi oculis & mente difficile est, & puri hominis testimonio delectaris, elige tibi aliquos, de professionis tuæ ducibus, Ioannem Baptistam, Antonium, Macharium, uel si rigidiores hi uidentur, elige Benedictum, elige ab erroribus seculi redeuntes Augustinum, & Arsenium, quos multum semper placuisse tibi scio, habes patrum uitas, illas perlege ut facis, ubi amicum inuenies, quem testem secretis consilijs non recuses, quo scio te ipsum, uitamq; modereris tuam, sine quo denique nil agas, nihil cogites. Lege Gregorij dialogum, Augustini Soliloquia, & scatentes lachrymis Confessionum libros, de quibus quidam ridiculi homines, ridere solent. Tu in eis solamen ac refugium non mediocre reperies. De Psalterio enim non dubito, te Hieronymi consilium sequi, ut è manibus tuis, nunquam excidat, de quo more meo, poëticum nescio quid pridem scripsi, quod quoniam placere tibi animaduerti, ne modò graueris, secuturo reseruatum nuncio excipies. Tu uerò, ut finem faciam, uitam omnem inter contemplationem ac Psalmodiam, & orationem, lectionemq; partire. Corpori tuo, tanquàm, rebellaturo si possit, & contumaci mancipio, nihil tribuas, nisi quod negare non potes, in uinculis habe, seruiliter tractari debet, ut intelligat unde sit. Suspectam pacem facit hostis infidus, nosti quorum insidias in seculo pertuleris, ab hijs in perpetuum caue. Cum fidifragis inimicis, non tuto reditur in gratiam, hæc inter gaude, spera, suspira, seruiens domino in timore & exultans ei cum tremore: ac gratias agens, quod tibi pennas dedit, tanquam columbæ, ut uolares & requiesceres, quibus non segniter usus es, sed elongasti fugiens, ut in solitudine constitutus, innumerabilia mundi mala de cætero non sentires, quæ ego miser sentio, quibus & obsideor, ac circunspiciens contremisco. Nec addo, dum adhuc de Babylone patet exitus effugio. Noli tamen desperare, obsecro te, ora potius, ut aliquando consurgam. Multum est fateor peccati mei pondus, sed finitum tamen, at eius unde auxilium expecto, infinita clementia est. Hæc tibi Germane unice, non meo, sed peregrino stylo, ac propè monastico dictaui, te potius, quàm me ipsum cogitans, leges dum ex commodo licebit, & si hinc perfectioni tuæ nihil accesserit, scito me mihi saltem profuisse, dum scriberem, quoniam mea me pericula meditantem, status tui fœlix interim torsit inuidia.

Vale memor mei. VII. Cal. Octobris,
ex oppido Carpensi.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO SVO, S. Epist. XXVIII.

SOlebant Romani Coss. legatos consulares ad exercitum ducere, quib. in bello cooperatoribus & consultoribus uterentur. Horum crebra Romanis in annalibus est mentio, Legatorum clarissimus, Africanus est meus ille superior, qui L. Scipioni Asiatico Fratri suo Legatus in Græciam atq; Asiam profectus, ut fraternæ pietatis præclarissimum exemplum, sic ingens magnæ uictoriæ causa fuit. Regũ quoq;, gentiumq; nuncios solennes, Legatos dici solitos scimus, horũ plena est omnis historia, qui reges, aut populi, siue hostes, siue fœderati, siue bello domiti, legatos uel auxilij poscendi, uel res ablatas reposcendi, uel misericordiæ implorandæ, gratia Romam miserunt, Romamq; transmissos acceperunt, siue harum aliqua, siue alijs causis. Clarissimè quidẽ hoc in genere habentur, & Fabij Maximi legatio, ad bellũ Carthaginensibus indicendũ, & Sulpitij ac Vilij ad bellum Scitiacum cõpescendum, & T. Flaminij in Bythiniã ad Hannibalem deposcendum. Externorũ uerò legatio insignis fuit, Hasdrubalis senis cognomento Hœdi, qui missus à Carthagine ad misericordiã excitandã, & poscendamq; à Romanis pacem, animos solo flexit aspectu nec minus illustris Africani iunioris, quolibet in genere numeranda Legatio, qui ut ait Cicero, obijt Legatus Aegyptũ, Syriã, Asiã, Græciã, atq; absens ad bellũ Maximum conficiendũ, conscidendamq; Numantiã Cos. iterum est directus Philosophorum quoq; legatio præclara, ad impetrandũ mulctæ remissionẽ ab Atheniensibus Romã missa, in qua & Academicus Carneades, & Stoicus Diogenes fuerunt, & Peripateticus Critolaus, quorũ quæ'nam in publicis ac celeberrimis Romæ locis ingenij atq; eloquentiæ ostentatio, quæ'nam Catonis Censorij, & quæ seuera sententia, de illis dico dimittẽdis, & tibi notum est, & locus iste non exigit. Quorsum enim hæc? Nempe non nisi ut aduertas hoc legati nomen apud maiores tritum atq; uulgatũ, nec omnibus ereptum. Longa quid non mutat dies? Romanã Ecclesiã sibi propriũ uendicasse, ne dicã usurpasse. Itaq; iam Legatos exercituũ suis quoq; nominib. uocat: at quibus mandata regum, aut urbium cõmittuntur, nuncios dicunt, siue aliter, aut uulgo, alius atq; alius sermo est. Soli igitur sunt Legati, quos ut aiunt Romanus Pontifex ad aliquas prouincias destinauit. E quibus quidã legati tãtum, quidã uerò de latere legati nuncupantur, quos uidelicet missos, collegio quid sacrum uocant Romulei Cardinis fulgor illustrat. Ita mihi fando uideor audisse, neq; enim res est, cui ediscendæ multũ tẽporis impendisse uelim. Sit aũt ita, quid enim ad nos? Et ferẽdũ est æquo animo ut qui rerũ potiũtur summa, nomina rebus uel auferant, uel imponant. Quãdo etiã senes nostros modestissimos hominũ, tamen propter potentiam atq; opes, quibus teste, Liuio, ante ipsum Romanum imperium floruerunt, geminis æquoribus quibus Italiæ magna pars cingitur, nomina quæ adhuc durant, tot circum littoreis gentibus nihil obluctantibus, imposuisse meminimus. His ante propositum decursis ad rem uenio. Legatus iste de latere, qui iam solus mundo patiente, nomen hoc habet XVIII. Cal. Octobris, Mediolanum obuio Domino & magna celebritate populi fauentis ingressus est. Cui ego nescio qua recti confusione iudicij, ut me urbanum ostenderem, quod non sum, nec esse uelim, neque si uelim natura permittet mea: prægressus alios, Ticinensi porta, ad secundum fortè lapidem occurrens didici, si non antea didicissem, quàm sit rerum naturaliũ fragilis ac lubricus status. Cum enim ingẽtes pulueris globi, rotarum atq; quadrupedum agitatione commoti, fusca nube cœlum, solemq; texissent, conspectu mutuo erepto, contra morem meũ, ut me malus abstulit error, inferor in mediam cohortem. At uix data & reddita salute, sic puluis omniũ fauces & ora compleuerat, aridumq; præcluserat uocis iter, dum me recolligerẽ, ut & alijs parcerẽ & mihi, equus quo uehebar, & ipse oculis captus, postremisq; pedibus in præaltã, iunctamq; me foueam dilapsus, omnes qui aderant metu, & horrore compleuit, præter me unum, qui quid mecum ageretur nesciebam, tãta caligo pulureæ noctis incesserat, eò mihi molestior, quod à luce uenientis oculi sunt in tenebris pigriores. At uerò ille magnanimus adolescens, quem nisi cœptam successionum telam fata præciderint, Mediolani, Liguriæq; diues expectat hæreditas, & quo nisi iudicium amor fallit, inter iuuenes fortunatos, nullus est melior, nullus humanior, ante alios me nomine inclamans, ut cauerem admonebat. Ego ignarus, & plus fateor clamore omnium, quàm periculo meo motus, nõ prius intellexi quid rei esset, quàm solas equi auriculas extantes, meq; densis uepribus oppressum uidi. Profuit ad saluẽ propriũ non nosce discrimen, quosdam iuuit ignorantia, & dum nil metuit nil nocuit, sic cõtra multos ægros, morbi fecit opinio, ut aliquãdo essent, quod diu esse crediderãt, neq; enim de nihilo dictũ est: Imaginatio facit casum. Cui pari ratione illud

obiecerim, imaginatio casum tollit. Ita cum multa scire sit optimum, quædã melius nesciuntur. Certè cum discrimen ipse mecum nescio, dumq; nil mali suspicer, nil incõmodi passus sum, neq; enim periculum nisi post periculum agnoui, magisq; cum iam timendum nihil esset, timui, & nunc ut ait Maro horresco referens. Tunc ut eram in pedes subitò desilui, supremumq; ripæ marginem, plusquam meo saltu tenui, illæsus & inuisibili subnixus auxilio. Subsisterat equidem adolescens ille mitissimus, iussisq; famulis descendere, ipse non modò uocis obsequiũ mihi præbuerat, sed dexteræ. Dum interim equus meus magno nisu sibi consulens, primisq; dictu mirum ungulis dependens, attritus genua, uix tandem emergenti, qui si ut natura rei poscebat, repentè postquã labi cœperat, in tergũ cecidisset, actum erat, & absolutus eram omnibus curis. Adfuit hominum succursus: adfuit equi uigor. Dicet aliquis, ingratum mendacium, mendax ingratitudo, uana salus hominis, fallax equus, ad salutem. Ipse suam ut aliâs supposuit manum, præsentiq; me solus exitio CHRISTVS eripuit. Quod idcircò tibi notum uolui, ut sicut apud Flaccũ, caducæ arboris ruina: sic apud me instabilis equi lapsus, propriè nos conditionis admoneat inanem esse prouidentiam humanam, ineluctabilem fatiuim, innumerabiles mortalium casus, inextimabilem cæcitatẽ. Itaque dum huic occurrimus, in illud occurrimus, & dum maximè circumspicimus ac multa prouidemus, tum maximè, unde nihil metuebamus opprimimur, fitq; quod ait ille uerissimum. Improuisa lœti uis rapuit, rapietq; gentes, ne quicquam extruamus atque angimur, sola potens est occurrere cunctis diuina clementia. Ea tunc Flacco affuit, nunc mihi, sæpè alijs, alioquin nec ille suum, nec ego meum, nec multi bellorum casus in pace, pelagiq; pericula in littora renarrarent. Hic super scrupulus premit, quod dum difficultatem unam euasisse credimus, superest altera. Tota nostri, nostrarumq; rerum custodia committenda Deo est, & de proprijs uiribus aut consilijs nil sperandum. Sed iam de moribus satis est dictum, ad famili . conuertamur. Legatus ergo hic, de quo ambiguè tibi scripseram, spem meam liberali .te uicit sua, ut prope me diffidisse pœniteat, quamuis semper minus sperare sit tutius. Nihil omnium quæ petieram negauit, ultrò etiam pro meipso grande aliquid peterem hortatus est. Ego autem pro me nihil, fallor, imò uerò pro me omnia. Quid enim uerius meum, quàm quòd amicorum est? Cæterùm ego iam pridem mihi modum statui, & fines posui, quos ne transeat siticulosa cupiditas, uallum ac foueam circumduxit, coëgiq; animum stare, ne'ue illum testimonio suo priuem. Neque renuentem iusta imperia, neque recusantem frenos, neque suadentem ferocia, si obstrepere pestilens consuetudo desierit rebellantem. Sic sementem qui dedit adiuuet, ut mihi fragilitas grata est, ut læta, & ociosa paupertas, amiciot quàm tristes, occupatæq; diuitiæ. Si quid secus hae loquor ac facio, & præ rapido rerum humanarum torrẽte raptatus, indignans tamen, & in diuersum nitens. Mitto autem hæc, sic enim glorior, sic quæror, sic omnia tecum loquor, ut mecum. Idem animus, eadem Patria est, idem studium, idem nomen, par uoluntas, affectusqúe persimiles, tu pietate prior, tu religione præstantior, & familiarior Deo, sed & hæc sileo. Verum ut intelligas quod mallem, clariori aliquo scire posses, iudicio quanto pluris ego faciam, preces tuas, quàm tuipse, qui eas uerecundè porrexeras, ut interponendum omnem mihi negandi uiam ostendere uideris, scito quod & si pro his amor, pro his sanguis, pro his miseratio, pro quibusdam familiaritas, meritumqúe certarent, prima tamen omnium petitio tua fuit, quam tuis scriptam ut misisti, legatiqúe signatam digitis accipies huic epistolæ interclusam, literas hinc fieri non illud modò, pro quibus executionibus uti uelles eram nescius, sed extremæ temporis angustiæ uetuerunt. Petitione enim mihi serò tradita ille mane discessit, ita tamen res acta est, ut amantissimus pater Egitauiensis episcopus cancellarius suus, literas ipsas expediri iubebit, ubi tu eum, uel pro parte mea, uel nostra alter adierit. Ibis ergo, uel mittes aliquem ex tuis Pisas aut Senas qua ille iter acturus est, Episcopumq; conuenies, & uiua uoce de negocio instructũ, & literis ad eum meis, quæ cum istis ueniunt excitandum, pro alijs uerò unum ex meis sequi illum iubebo, nullas enim hic literas scribi temporis fluit inopia, doleo quod tibi laboris aliquid aut negotij reliqui, sed necessarium fuit,

—nil sine magno
Labore uita dedit mortalibus.

I ergo, & laborem tibi, certum imaginaria condias uoluptate, iucundum si tibi finxeris efficies. Aestima tibi ocio, nõ negocio trahi. Semper sedes, nunquam patrium limen transis, in hoc nempè differimus, ad cætera penè gemelli, & hic quoq; meum morẽ indue, tuũ exue.

Habet

Habet & motus suam dulcedinem, & sæpe quiete gratior fuit labor, ut nihil aliud quietem ipsam efficit gratiorem. Incipe, surge, age, moue te loco, reuersus saltē melius sedebis. Qui semper alienas facis, aliquando res tuas facito. Fallere te & si possim nolo, & si uelim nequeo, artificiū meum iudex facio, quod consolatores solēt. Fando quod oportet ut delectet nitor. Cuperē legatū ipsum Florentiam inuisere, quod & optare illum arbitror, sed puto nō poterit, magnis & grauibus Ecclesiæ negotijs recto Romam calle festinās. Ipse uerò, quantum obliquo, atq; udo calle festinaueram, frustrà tamen, ut hûc ante crepusculum peruenirem, claudicantes lineæ, & fesso simillima uiatori, uel sola frons indicat literarum. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA NICOLAO FLORENSIO, REGIS SICILIÆ SENESCALLO, S. Epist. XXIX.

IAm tandem uir clarissime, perfidiam fides, auaritiam largitas, superbiam uicit humilitas, iam charitati odium, desperatio spei cessit, perseuerantiæ difficultas. Iam sub malleo ueritatis, pertinax mendacium, & mendax obstinatio uotis tuis obstantium fracta est. Immortale bellum est, inter inuidiam & gloriā, inter nequitiā & uirtutem. Gratias illi, qui est dominus uirtutum & rex gloriæ, quod eo Duce, in præsenti certamine uicta parte deterrima, cuius sæpè contrariū uidemus optima pars triumphat. Ecce nunc unita tua cura, gloriosissimi Siculi regis uertex, negatos honores inuito liuore suscipiet. Peccator uidebit, & irascetur, dentibus suis fremet & tabescet. Ipso autem solito augustior, multumq; serenior auito solio residens, pulsis Latio mœstitiæ nubibus, atq; imbribus lachrymarū, orbem nostrū fronte siderea, & stellanti diademate serenabit, ereptam restituēs regno pacem, tranquillitatemq; populis exoptatā. In quam rem ut fecisti hactenus, mundo notissimum tuū illud ostendens ingeniū, coq; uigilātius, quo maioris est laudis, iustè, modesteq; regnū regere, quā fœliciter adipisci. Nūc siquidem tempus est, ut omnes animi tui uires colligas, atq; ingentibus negocijs accingaris. Nihil est actū, si quid Cæsarei moris habes, cum & multa supersint, & supremam tua celebris gloria manū poscat. Vidimus te aduersæ fortunæ magnificentissimè reluctantem, iam cernimus te uictorē, sed en totiens uicta reuertitur aspectu mitior, & auratæ cassidis, ut ita dixerim, fulgore suauior, uicisti aduersam, prospera redit in prælıū. Quid putas? Mutata sunt arma non hostis, & tibi quoq; nouo armorū genere opus est. Nolo enim extimes, minus esse negotij, quādo hostis est blādior, nullū insidiosius bellum est, quàm ubi blanditijs credulitas oppugnatur, in Arcto quidem egregiè rem gessisti, nunc ut tem te in aperto exhibeas expectamus. Multos in angustijs indefessos, cāpestris pugna lassauit, multos in aduersitatib. fortes uiros, fortuna prosperior strauit. Hannibal Cannis uictor, uictus est Capuæ, & ardorem, quem Trebia glacialis accenderat, tepor extinxit. Sæpè pax periculosior bello fuit. Multis nocuit aduersario caruisse. Quorundā uirtus ocio latuit, quorundā uerò prorsus emarcuit, locū submoti hostis occupante luxuria. Nulla homini pertinacior lis est, quàm cum animo, moribusq; suis. Nusquā minûs induciarum, intra murum pugna conseritur, hoc genus hostiū bello languidū, pace feruidum experimur, & sub toga plus ausurū, quàm sub galea. Vt cæteras gentes sileam, Romanos bello indomitos, & omniū gentiū uictores, pax trāquilla perdomuit, & ut quidā illius æui scriptores, elegantissime lamentantur, uictum orbem, uictorum uictrix luxuria ulta est. Quod præsagire uidebatur Scipio ille uir optimus, à senatu habitus, dum tàm enixè Catonis sapientissimi, licet senis, aduersante sententia, deleri Carthaginē prohibebat, non quod illam parcius odisset, sed ne ut ait Florus metu ablato æmulæ urbis, luxuriari fœlicitas nostræ urbis inciperet. Qui utinam consilio ualuisset, mansissetq; potiùs nobis cū hostibus, & cum Carthagine, quàm cum ocio & uoluptate certamen. Meliori loco res starent, ut puto, rariusq; pugnatū esset & crebriùs triumphatum. Quorsum hæc forsan interroges? Quia scilicet multos auguror futuros, quibus quiescendi iam tempus esse uideatur. Mihi penitùs diuersa mens est, si me audire uolueris, scies unum esse laboris, & uitæ finem, tibiq; & omnibus claris uiris, usq; ad extremum spiritum, uel cū uisibili, uel cum inuisibili hoste luctandum fore, quin etiam uide quantum à communi opinione dissentio, geminatum tibi laborem, & senties, & gaudebis. Nullo unquam tempore, tàm magno conamine consurgēdum tibi, tàm supra seipsum attollendus animus fuit, ad summa certamina uentum est, uniuersus orbis intelligat, in utraq; fortuna. Qualis, quantus'ue uir fueris, neq; tu tantum, sed qui tuis etiam consilijs obsequuntur. Habes regem animo senem, annis adolescentem, cum quo terra, mariq; iactatus es, quem per multa præcipitia cogente fato, in summum status humani fastigium perduxisti. Ostende illi, quibus in hunc fortunæ uerticem sit euectus, quibus artibus cōsistendum

 sit.

sit. Neq; tàm deinceps enitendum, ut ascendat altiùs, quàm ut ascensu sese approbet. Non indignum & hæreditarium sceptrum, non magis sanguini debitum, quàm uirtuti. Non facit uirum, sed detegit principatus, & honores non mutant mores, atq; animum se ostendunt. Persuade illi minus esse Regem nasci, quàm iudicio regem fieri, esse enim fortunę illud, hoc meriti. Doce, Deum colat, patriam amet, iustitiã seruet, sine qua regnum licet opulentum, ac ualidum stare nequit. Discat uiolentum nihil esse longæuum, & amari multo tutiùs esse, quàm metui. Assuescat nihil in terris optare, nisi bonam mentem, nihil sperare, nisi bonam famam, nihil nisi dedecus formidare. Cogitet quò altior est, eò se clarius uideri, eoq; minùs occultare posse quàm gesserit, & quò potentiæ plus est, eò minus esse licentiæ. Nouerit regem à populo nõ magis habitu differre quã moribus. Studeat ab extremis æquo spatio discedens, uirtutem in medio suam sequi. Cesset prodigalitas, absit auaritia, illa opes uastat, hæc gloriam. Sit sanè tenax famæ propriæ, sit parcus honoris, sit auarus tẽporis, sit largus pecuniæ, & illud Romani ducis modestissimũ, animosissimumq; responsum, semper in auribus eius sonet. Nolle aurum, sed aurum habentibus imperare. Malit subiectos abundare, quam fiscũ, & intelligat diuitis regni, dominũ inopem esse non posse. Calamitatum semper meminerit ac laborum, quos calamitosa terra laboris, his temporibus passa est, tunc se fœlicem, tunc se uoti compotem, tunc se uerè regem putet, quãdo criminibus alienis inuectas miserias propria uirtute discusserit, damna restituerit, ruinas erexerit, pacem cõfirmauerit, Tyrannidem oppresserit, reddiderit libertatem. Inducat in animũ amare, quos regit, nam & amando amor quæritur, & nullum certius regnũ est, quã præesse uolentibus. Salustianũ illud dogma. Regni nunquã ex animo regis sui, nõ exercitus, neq; thesauros præsidia regni esse, sed amicos, eosq; nec armis cogi, neq; pecunia parari, sed officio & fide. Et quæ in eandem sententiam sequuntur. Concorditer uiuendum esse cum suis, concordia enim paruas crescere, discordia maximas res dilabi. Exemplo M. Agrippæ plurimum huic sententię debeat, per quam & frater, & socius, & amicus, & Rex bonus fiet. Amicitijs post Deum, post uirtutem nihil charius habeat. Quem semel amicitia dignũ duxerit. Nulla cõsilij parte submoueat: sequensq; Senecæ consilium, omnia cum amico deliberet, sed de ipso prius. Multum fidat, sed non multis: & instat. Verũ amicum à blãdo hoste discernere, ueras laudes accipiat, ut uirtutũ stimulos, blanditias coërceat ut uenenũ. Tardè eat in amicitiã, tardiùs indè discedat, & si fieri potest nunquam. Idipsum non præcipitanter, sed pedetentim faciat & ut est antiquo prouerbio. Dissuat amicitiam, non discindat. Qualem pręstat, talem ab alijs animum speret, neq; à quoquam diligi sibi fingat, quem ipse non diligit. Error iste potentum est. Liberrimi autem sunt affectus, iugum non ferunt, dominum non agnoscunt, nunquam amor nisi amore cogitur. De amico sanè nihil mali cogitet, nihil temerè cuiquam credat, pellat suspitiones, delatoribus aurẽ neget, pertinacius instantes arguat, non desinentes puniat. Imperatoria uox est, Princeps qui delatores non castigat, irritat. Alexander Macedo, licet impetuosissimus adolescens eximia tamen fiducia, contempsit accusatorem, & fœlix fuit euentus ut debuit. Siquidem porrectam sibi potionem à Philippo medico, quem amabat in manibus habenti, superuenerunt literæ à Parmonione, quibus admonebatur Philippum Darij muneribus expugnatum, necem eius hosti promisisse, itaq; cauendas insidias, & mortiferam potionem. His ille perlectis, protinus exhausit poculũ, & mox Philippo literas tradidit legẽdas. Obtrectatores alto animo despiciat, & sic uiuat, ut eos uel in silentio redarguat, probetq; mentitos. Memorans Augustum rescripsisse Tyberio, non esse indignandum, quod de se quisquam malè loqueretur. Satis est enim (inquit) si hoc habemus, ne quis nobis malè facere possit. Præclarè, alioquin plus haberet homo quàm Deus, qui licet inaccessibilis, sit nec possit offendi, humanis tamen sæpè conuitijs attentatur. Hac igitur in re rex tuus exerceat animum atque aures, in qua non tantùm huius omnium maximi, ac modestissimi principis, cuius modò mentionem feci, sed & Magni Pompeij ciuis amplissimi, & Pyrrhi regis, & Pisistrati Atheniensis tyranni, patientia cõmendatur. Secretum uerò suum ab alijs inquiri æquo animo ferat, alienum non magnoperè scrutetur. Magni animi est talia non curare. Contrà autem propè par utrobique diffidentia. Talis fiat qualis uideri uult. Tum demum in se nihil occultum uolet, nec magis horrebit hostis occultũ quàm amici, nec pluris faciet consilium quam testimonium æmulorum. Pari fiducia Scipio tot castris exploratores, Romanorum atque Carthaginensium circumduxit. Pari animi magnitudine, Iulius Cæsar & captum Domitium dimisit, & transfugam Labienũ spreuit, rerum licet conscium suarum, & non semel arcana hostium inuenta, nec unquam lecta combussit. Ad

sit. Adhæc nõ temerè, neq; fortuitò serenissimi titulum sibi impositum arbitretur, sed ut in animum eius Deo proximum & humanis passionibus altiorē, nulla mœroris nebula, nullus flatus lætitiæ gestientis, nulla pauoris glacies, nullus libidinum terrenarum fumus possit ascendere. Iram in principe turpissimam non ignoret, crudelitatem uerò nominari etiam nefas esse, eò funestiorem, quò noscendi plura suppeditant instrumenta. Sentiant uerum esse, quod ait Tragicus:

Omne sub regno grauiore regnum est.

Atque ideò min[illegible] tumore depo[illegible]to, communem se subiectis exhibeat, & quicquid in illos statuerit, de manu sui superioris expectet. Superbiam, nec minus inuidiam plebeium malum credat esse non regium. C[illegible]r eni[illegible] uel superbire regem oportere, qui debitor munerum tantorum, & tanto sit obnoxius creditori? V[illegible]l cur etiam inuidere, qui supra se neminem tàm multos autem infra se uidet? Veritatem totius fidei fundamẽtum esse non dubitet, & mendacio prouenire, ut uera loquentibus non credat. Plurimum enim ueri parua falsitati aspersione fuscari. Itaque si credi sibi aliquid cupit, omnia uera loqui in consuetudinẽ trahat, atq; ita linguam instituat, ut mentiri nesciat. Quid enim ridiculosius, dicam an periculosius rege mendaci? Sub quo necesse est incertam, trepidamq; Rempub. fluctuare? Stabile p[illegible] ac solidum uerbum esse debet, in quo fundata est ta[illegible]orum spes ac tanquam [illegible]tas po[illegible]m. Cur autem mentiatur, cui maximè expediat, nullum si fieri possit uiquam esse m[illegible]ndacem? Cur adulctur, qui nullum metuat, nihil speret? Quos adulatorum stimulos non impropriè, uideor dicturus. Contra etiam, cur se iactet, cùm laudare seipsum rebus de[illegible]eat non uerbis? Cur minetur, cùm solus ualeat fronte terrere? Cur in quempiam excan[illegible]at, cum possit etiam tranquillus ulcisci, possit & parcendo uindictæ genus nobilissimum exercere? Caueat præterea immoderatius exultare, occupationes circumspiciẽs immortales, desinat tristari, honores suos & diuinam erga se munificentiam recognoscens. Nu[illegible] se negare audeat, cum non sibi soli, sed Reip. n[illegible]tus sit. Compertum habeat, se [illegible] agere, quotiens subditis opem ferret. Sit æquitate temperatus ri[illegible]or, sit seueritas mixta clementiæ, prudentiæ insit alacritas, maturitas celeritati, securitati cau[illegible]o, modestiæ iocus, authoritas leuitati, [illegible] in gestu decor, conuiuio sobrietas, suauitas in [illegible]one, in reprehensione charitas, in consilio fides, in iuditio libertas, in rifu tarditas, m[illegible] in accubitu, grauitas in incessu. Sit enim [illegible]alcar in præmio, frenum in supplicio, ad illud [illegible]ter, ad hoc pigrius acced[illegible], a[illegible] uultu supe[illegible] bum[illegible] [illegible]stem, alio ciuem noxiũ feriat. Illic exultet, hic doleat, exemplo [illegible] eximij, suorum scele[illegible] tanquam uulnera attinga[illegible], quæ nisi tracta, tra[illegible] sanari non pos[illegible] (ut Liuius ait) & cum gemitu ac lachrymis, haud secus quàm u[illegible]cera secet sua, a[illegible] animo regem misericordia simillimum Deo fieri, & penitus errasse Philosophos, qui misericordiam damnauerunt. Magnanimitatem peculiarem regibus esse uirtutem, [illegible] qua nec regno nomine digni sunt, humanitatem si adsit, non uirtutem esse hominis sed naturam, si desit monstrum potius esse quàm uitium. Eo m[illegible]is regis debitum, quo magis reliquos homines debet excellere. Is qui primum in hominib[illegible] locũ tenet, eam quæ in hominibus pulchra sit, esse pulcherrimam in principe castitatem. Nil pu[illegible] rege formosius, nil obscœnius impudico. Gratitudinem mutis etiam animantibus insertam, turpiter humanis abesse pectoribus, eam cæteris ornamento regi etiam præsidio [illegible] rc. I[illegible]gratitudinem regi neruos, roburq; corrumpere, dum & obliuioso piget obsequi, & ingrati animi uoraginem fund[illegible] carentem, permittis explere muneribus. Deniq; onerose bonore, & onerato se pressum onere fateatur, eumq; qui rex fiat, & si aũt fuerit expeditus, ac liber, ex illo tamen honestam suscipere, sed laboriosam ac sollicitam seruitutem, & sub q[illegible]lica sit libertas, uiuendumq; sibi deinceps exemplariter. Exemplo enim regum re[illegible] poni, & requiri solere de manibus præsidentum, quicquid uulgus errauerit. Nihil [illegible] propriũ uelit præter sceptrum, & diadema, & quæ hinc oritur curam de salute, omniũ [illegible]osam, sed difficilem, ac multorum capitum, hydræq; non dissimile renascenti. Præstet acrimoniam ingenio debitam, uerecundiam ætati, uirtutem generi, impio maiestatem. Pur[illegible] spe[illegible] nat, contemnat gemmas, despiciat uoluptates, & irrideat uniuersa quę fugiunt, æterna sola suspiciat ac miretur. Arma, equi, literæ, supellex regia, pax, & bellum, exercitationes regis sint. Vtobiq; Romanis artibus regnet, quæ: ut Maro meminit:

[illegible] paciq; imponere morem,
Parcere subiectis & debellare superbos.

Postremo norit hanc uitam aliam esse magni discriminis, non ad ludum, iocumque, non ad

iners ocium, non ad degenerem luxum. Ad nihil aliud demum hominibus datum, quàm ut breui merito æternitatis aditum pandat, & famæ materiam sempiternæ. Itaq; rerum se bonarum docilem præbeat, cupidè legat, atque audiat maiorum gesta uirorum, & exemplo illustrium sit scrutator sollicitus, & feruidus imitator. Illud nominatim demũ teneat, quod olim ab illo magnifico inimicarum urbium euersore seruatũ in exercitu Numantino, multis deinde Romanis ducibus disciplinæ militaris exemplum fuit, ut sicut ille castris, sic iste urbibus ac regno instrumenta luxuriæ depellat, & mores longa licentia deprauatos corrigat, sine quo spes salutis, non dicam uictoriæ nulla est. Hoc ab ipso illo, alia sumant ab alijs, è quibus omnibus perficiat clarum uirum. Quotq; insignia nomina præcesserunt, tot sibi magistros uitæ, tot sibi duces ad gloriam datos sciat, non minùs interdum accendunt generosos animos exempla, quam præmia, nec minus uerba quã statuæ, iuuat laudatis sese conferre nominibus, & pulchra æmulatio est, quæ de uirtute suscipitur. Ac ne curiosa inquisitione tempus teram, habeat ante oculos rex tuus, non peregrinum, uetustumq;, sed recens acdomesticum uisitutum omnium, nisi me amor fallit, exemplar idoneum, illustrem ad diuinum eius patruum Robertum, cuius quàm regno utilis uita esset, mors damnosissima declarauit. Illum intueatur, ad illius gloriã se nitidissimo speculo cõtempletur. Ille sapiens, ille magnanimus, ille mitis, ille rex regum, erat. Illum ut tempore, ut sanguine, sic animo sequatur, & moribus. Sæpe enim cum cæterarum rerum, cum præcipuè ingeniorum immutatio fœlix fuit tam bonus est, qui fieri bono similiter studet. Multa dixi, sed præ magnitudine rerum pauca, plura etenim sunt quæ restant. Tu quidem propè omnia præclarissimè Vir, humeris tuis sentis incumbere, uerũ magno moribus, nihil est arduum, nihil durum, nihil graue, nisi non amari. Id tu causari non potes, de alumni tui amore, iuditioq; certissimus, duxq; & auriga consiliorũ eius, non Chiron Achilli gratior, non Palinurus Aeneæ, non Philoctetes: non Lælius Africano. Eia ergo perfice quod cœpisti, omnia fert enim charitas, omnia uincit amor, profectò autem, qui gloriæ partem petit, consequens est, ut sollicitudinis partem ferat, aurum profundè fodit, de longinquo uehuntur aromata, Thus Sabeis sudat arboribus, Muricem Sydon, ebur India, margaritas mittit Oceanus, difficile paratur omne, quod in precio est, non est quæsitu facile, præciosissima rerum uirtus, auro splendidior fama est, labore quæritur, studio detergitur, diligentia custoditur. Rosa inter spinas habitat, inter difficultates uirtus, inter curas gloria, illic dignus periclitandus, hic animus, hũc tu igitur gloriosissimis accinge primordijs, dum enim consumasse putas omne, incipies, hunc optimis & regis, & reip. curis exerce, quibus exagitatus, & fœlicius hic aget, & postquam hinc abierit, Cicero opinatur & nos scimus, uelocior ad sedes æthereas peruolabit. Vale patriæ decus ac nostrum x. Calend. Martij, Auinonensi. M. C C C. L.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO SVO, S. Epist. X X X.

Onerabo te literis, obruam te papyro, non sinam te aliud legere, quã nugas meas, nullum respirandi spatium dabo, comminatus, siue pollicitus eram, tibi breuiores deinceps epistolas meas forma, quod occupationi nostræ debitũ erat, ne dicam fastidio eorum, quibus omnia sunt prolixa, nisi quæ hebes atq; insolens eloquentiæ suæ forceps, abscideri t, nunc ut uideo multiplicatur, & crescũt, nil amicitia loquatius, amicorum colloquio, nulla enim breuis uox, nullus non angustus dies fuit, cupidum dum conuenerit amicorum par, improuisè fugiunt horæ, non loquentibus tẽpus, non ambulantibus tura sufficiunt, non gelu, non æstus, non fames, non lassitudo sentitur.

Omnia uincit amor:

Duo sunt benè instituti animi solatia, literarum ocium, & fidelis amicitia, duo tædia, occupatio & turba, ultimũ in urbibus primũ, illud optimè in solitudine, & in Helicone nostro semper experior, siue mane solus in syluas ierim, siue dulcis interuenerit amicus, nullus est finis, non prius obire solem, quàm ab ipsis perpendo, sin uespertina congressio est, nõ axem flecti, non stellas labi sentio, denicq; non fugam noctis intelligo nisi solis aduentu. Ego quidem perlibenter sum tecum, nunquam non præsentior es mihi, quàm dum uel te alloquor, uel loquentem audio, hic & epistolarum tuarum ista cupiditas, & prolixitas mearum. Inuitus enim auellor, alloquor te dum scribo, audio te, dum epistolas tuas lego, utrobiq; te audio, tecum sum hodie, sanè quia ferium nihil erat, & intermissiones occupatis animis non minùs quàm exhaustis agris utiles esse solent, aures magnis rebus parumper ablatas, non inamœno ridiculo prostabis. Theophitus quidẽ ille, quem hactenus nesciebam, eo quod

literas tuas illum loquentes de manibus non suis acceperã, ab ipso die, dum forte huius sociam scribere, ad me uenit, cum uestibulum prius atq; atrium, totamq; domum uerbis implesset, nihil motus, ab assuetis enim nõ fit passio, excipio hominem, uultu quam animo lætiore, non quod aut me etiam intermissio non delectet, aut hospitem non amem, sed quod tempore minus idoneo obambulens, & nescio unde reuehens, melioribus curis, non satis opportunis incessisse uideretur, quid multa? Concedimus? Incipit ille de inexhausto fonte uerborum, imò uerò continuat, iam enim antequam limen attigisset incœperat:

Demitto auriculas ut iniquæ mentis asellus:

Cum grauius dorso subit onus. Ille mox urgebat instare, linguæ fustibus, ad pistrinũ agere: Ego autem nihil, nisi quod dum ille mihi linguam suam, ego sibi aures meas accommodo: ita illinc loquendo, hinc tacendo, impari pugna conseritur, dum in hoc statu res essent, hortari illum incipio subducat equum, seq; familiari prandio, cuius iam tempus instaret, æquũ præbeat. Ille autem ad hæc surdus, sed non mutus, ad propria cœpti sermonis torrente profluebat, multa de te in primis, quàm mihi, quàm illi itidem amicus, mirari cœpi, quis'nã iste Dionysius, qui nobis quoq; tertius accessisset, Damonis aut Pythiæ moribus simile, nihil habens, nec satis intelligere, unde illẽ te noscer, de me enim non miror, ab extrema infantia, nescio quo sydere hæc me lingua persequitur, nec mutasse climata, & effugisse patriam me iuuat, in te nostra omnis admiratio, ut nobis non animus modò, sed fatum idem, ut euntibus uia sacra Bolanus idem semper obuius, quibus enim ad te ille tramitib. penetrasset incertus eram nec memineram, me illi aditum præbuisse, cum enim ante aliquot menses, ille mihi sub ardentissimo sole puluerulento, & arcto quodam loco occurrisset, meq; cõfestim ex more uerbis aggressus esset, nec spes operis superesset, aut fugæ, sed hinc sol, hinc puluis, hinc cicadæ, hinc Bolanus iste certaret, quid facerem, iubebat ille aliquid sibi cõmitti in patriam, ad amicos, negabam ego commisso opus esse, ille transuerso quadrupede, occupatis angustijs, obstabat, cœpi consiliũ ex tempore, utiq; te meis uerbis salutaret imposui, ita contentus ille ministerio cessit, & ego è manibus amici hostis euasi, ratus id uerbum, quod mihi e[illegible]m esset, nequaquã tanto studio colligendum, seruandumq;, sed uerborũ impiger ag[illegible]la loquendi semen oblatũ, non tam sterilibus sulcis mandat, quin tàm centesimũ fructum [illegible] erat, sic sementis exiguæ copiosissimã messem referens, capax horreum, patulæ auris [illegible] ferat, multa super Priamo cumulans, super Hectore multa: super te autem ante alios, [illegible] stylo quolibet ad me perlata mulcebãt: cætera uerò rancidiora, de seipso, de amicis, de [illegible]gnatis, de affinibus, de uernaculis, de clientulis, omniq; sodalitio, de uniuersa familia, qui[illegible] germana, quid neptis, quid uicinæ omnes agerent, postremò de canibus ac lupis, de leone patrio, de tota Rep. de præside prouinciæ, de primoribus populi, de sterilitate anni, & dein[illegible]numerabilibus alijs, quæ memoriam uincunt, ut non minùs ego, quàm apud M[illegible]onem suum Apulcius posset, si nox esset, non modo somnolentus balbutire, sed stertere, conatusq; solis fabulis cubitum ire dum ecce cocus increpitans, horam prandij transire denunciat, nihil ille lentescere, sed enixè quædã excusare, quod literas ad me tuas quas afferre debuerat præmisisset, nuncij celeritate fortuiti, festinationi tuæ consulẽs, nec dum talia dicente illo[illegible] segne cerebellum. Subibat animũ quid præsagij esset, ita mihi persuaserã, illũ in somnio fabulare, inde cum miris modis obtunderet, ut iam in labijs esset illud Horatij:

Conficit, namq; instat mihi fatum triste,

Subito expergiscor, tacitusq; respicio, ut noui noua forma uiri, ut religio sine literis, ut cætera [illegible] quæ epistolæ conuenirent tuæ, simulq; ad meipsum redeo, & mecum posset'ne is e[illegible]e N[illegible]phytus quẽ mihi pridie meus ille sapidissimo sale descripserat? Ille est haud dubiè, En rudis & noua religio, en illa uerborũ largitas, singula cõueniunt, ille est. Talia cogitantem tantus risus arripuit, ut nec rationis freno, nec cõmorsicatis digitis, nec ulla meditatio dolendarum rerum cohibere potuit, tum liquido expertus sum esse ut aiunt: affecti animi motus indomitos: ut uerò ridentem ille me uidit, quæsiuit quid rei esset, admirans: ingenio impl[illegible]ro erat opus, nec enim cõsultandi, quid loquaciter spatium inopinas res dabat, ex improuiso respondendum erat: uerum enimuero ex hominis habitu, materiam responsionis arripi[illegible], & heus, inquam, quis non stupens uideat, qui te meminerit armorum gloria paulò ante clarissimum, eundemq; nunc uideat tanta graria religionis insignem? Vtramq; uitæ uiam, multum diuersis studijs, breuis spatio tẽporis honestasse? Lætari præconio uisus est, & [illegible]uco plausu titulum bellicæ laudis amplecti, seq; protinus in talos attollere, quo grandiusculi formam bellatoris indueret, hæc inter discubuimus, ille plenus lætitia, cibo feriati

contentus, bibere & loqui, ego autem satis habui audire, & silere, & uicissim erupenti cachinno frena substringere, cum totus non nisi de re Militari sermo esset, qualiter arma mouenda, qualiter ferendus hostis, qualiter declinandus, Phormionem illum dicēs, nisi quod ego Hannibal non eram. Cæterùm nostri quoque feniculi, mirus feruor, & inexhausta copia peregrinæ materiæ, singula nutu quidem approbabam, nam hæc loqui poteram, nec si possem, ille permitteret. Sic totus ille transisset dies, nisi publicum horologium, quo ultimo inuento, per omnes ferè iam Cisalpinę Galliæ ciuitates metimus tempora, prælū dimisisset, admonitus enim diem ire, surrexit. Ego illum ad limen cum pueris prosecutus sum, & egregium bellatorem, uix omnes substulimus in tergum equi, cui ad capellæ squalētis effigiem, præter cornua nihil desit, cum interea nil nisi rei militaris, epilogus loqueretur, quid te in urbis tenes? Vix tandem inde diuulsus est, nescio historiæ finem, nutantes, ruinamque minitantes abierunt, neque compertum habeo, in quam foueam equus, sessorque ceciderit, quod extremum periit, fuit, ut per me tibi, per te familiæ eius innotesceret, cum hic corpore quidem, ut ipse ait, ut ego testificor lingua incolumen peruenisse. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO SVO, S. Epist. XXXI.

Risi ut iubebas, non ea tamen, qua iubebas ratione, sed alia quadam, neque enim ideò, quod tibi tantisper Latini sermonis uestigia titubassent ridiculum extimarui, sed quod titubasse tam grauiter puduisset. Ita ego te unius uerbi, imò unius syllabæ, imò uerò unius literæ sollicitū uidi, quæ tibi quidem elapsa, & haud duriter auribus meis illapsa erat, ut dicerem ò doctissimorum licet hominum curas? Cui enim quæso non idē possit accidere? Cicero noster summus Latini eloquij parens est, proximus illi Virgilius, seu quoniam de hoc ordine dubitasse quosdam uideo, sunt certè Romanæ facundiæ parentes Tullius & Maro, quod qui mihi negauerit nil ipse sibi consenserim, utrique tamen Grammaticale est, integrarū etiam dictionū, cuius tædio Cicero ipse in epistolis ab Attico suo poscit auxilium, quo se magna molestia liberandum dicit, at qui siquid est in arte Grammatica, ubi titubanti, labentique uenia debeatur, in Præteriti perfecti propemodum ambiguitate posuerim, cum ut Grāmaticorum princeps ait, ipsi probatissimi artium scriptores, non omninò certis hæc regulis differuisse noscātur, sed non ego perinde, tibi nūc excusationes aucupor, quasi ille tuus, & non calami potiùs, quam inaduertentis animi lapsus sit, quod ipsum quoque uenia dignum erat, hic uerò tam nihil culpę est, ut nullus ueniæ locus detur, quando enim ingenio tuo, oriꝙ aureo excideret, quod proculdubiò si uel insomnis loquereris aduerteres, multa furatur cālamus, & plura sæpe magnis ingenijs & magna tractantibus. Nihil habenti nil eripitur, magnorum domini parua damna non sentiunt, pauperis est numerare pecus (inquit Naso) sic est ingenium locuplex, quasi diuitis heri domus, quę quò maioribus aucta lucris, eò magis seruilib. furtis obnoxia est, tu ergo perfluxi dicere uoluisti, & profectò dixisti, calamus iugi opere fatigatus gemina subucuit cōsonantem. Parce suspitionibus, iam maior es, quam qui uel obtrectatorū iudicio, in talib. per ignorantiā labi passis, sed uide oro cogita, & intende acriter, nō tantum stylo ne obsit, sed ut animo prosit error calami. Vide amice quāto nobis omnib. qui puluerē palæstræ huius attingimus, maior sit eloquentiæ cura, quàm uitæ, & antiquius famæ studiū, quàm uirtutis, quāta quæso uigilantia cauemus, nequid in sermone sordidum, incultum'ue sit, cum uitæ interim negligentes, multa ibi squalida prorsus, & horrentia contemnamus. Ita paucorū humanorum seruantissimi, diuina iussa transgredimur, quando ut benè uiuamus, lex immobilis Dei est, ut non sic, aut sic loquamur, humanū placitū atque conuentū, quotidiani usus imperio motū sæpe, mouendumque. Hęc nimirū est illa peruersitas, quam pater Augustinus in Confessionibus suis deflet. Cuius uerba quoniā mihi placuerant, & tibi placitura tatus inserui. Vide inquit, Domine, Deus meus, quomodo diligēter obseruēt filij hominū pacta literarum, & syllabarum, accepta à prioribus locutorib. & à te accepta æterna pacta perpetuæ salutis negligant, ut qui illa sonorū uetera placita teneat, aut doceat, si cōtra disciplinā Grāmaticam, sine aspiratione primæ syllabæ hominē dixerit, magis displiceat hominibus, quàm si contra tua præcepta hominem oderit, cùm sit homo. Multa tibi præterea in hanc sententiam queritur, nec iniustè. Cùm enim eloquētia sit paucorū ualdè, uirtus aūt omnium, quod est paucorū omnes appetunt, quod est omnium nemo. Nemo enim hoc Grāmaticæ tantum exprobratum putet, quem mihi Poëtarū dabis, qui non prius eligat uita claudicare, quam carmine? quem historicū, qui cū tes omnium fæculorū literis, quod memoriæque mandauerit, quod reges

reges egerint, aut populi, quæ rerum series, quæ temporum alios docuerit, quid ipse agat, rerumq; suarum ordinem, uitæq; breuis reddere rationem uelit, aut ualeat? Iam ut percurram reliquos. Ostende mihi Rhetorem, qui non magis orationis deformitatem horreat, quàm uitæ. Ostende mihi Dialecticum, qui non ab effectibus proprijs, ab conclusiunculis uinci malit, quàm aduersari? Sileo Arithmeticos & Geometras, qui omnia numerant, omnia metiuntur, unius animæ numeros ac mensuras negligunt. Musici numerũ ad sonum referunt, huic studio omne tempus impendunt, hi sunt qui contemptis morib. tractant sonos, Ciceronianum illud obliti. Maior & melior est actionum, quàm sonorum concentus. Illic ne discreparet elaborandũ erat, hic sperni poterat, in quo tanto opere laboratur. Astrologi cœlum lustrant, astra connumerent, ausi rem ut ait Plinius, etiam Deo improbã, quid imperijs, aut urbibus euenturum sit, tanto ante denunciant, quid sibi quotidie eueniat, non attendũt, lunæ, solisq; defectus prouidẽt, præsentẽ eclypsim animę nõ uidentes. Iam qui clarum Philosophiæ nomẽ habent, uel rerũ causas quærũt uentosa iactantia. Scire autẽ negligunt, quid est Deus rerũ creator omnium, uel uirtutes loquendo describunt, uiuendo destruunt. Postremò qui sibi nomen honestius præsumpserunt, & diuinorum scientiam sunt professi, quò deciderint uides. Ex Theologis Dialectici, atq; utinam non sophistæ. Neque enim Dei amatores, sed cognitores, neq; id esse cupiunt, sed uideri. Itaq; cum alterum silentio sequi possent, alterum strepitu consequuntur. En quo mortalium redacta sunt studia. O scires, quantus nunc me urget impetus, quãtus docendi calor accendit, ut de his copiosissimè differam, sed maior, confusiorq; rerum area est, quam quæ præsenti calamo uerері queat, & nisi fallor, super iocoso tui breuis epistolæ fundamento, satis ædificatũ est. Ad hæc & mihi semper optatæ solitudinis, ocijq; dulcedinem, quanta nuper inuisæ frequentiæ, & insperatarũ occupationum amaritudo consperserit, forsan audisti, nimiùm diù fœlix fuerã, nimium diu liber, nimiùm meus. Inuidisse fortunã dicam, an forte cœlitùs, ac esset ne lasciuire animus uoti cõpos inciperet? Fateor enim solitudo, ociũ, libertas, tamen nisi perlectæ uirtutis, consumatiq; animi bona sunt. Vnde me multũ abesse sentio, & lugeo, profectò autem animo pasionib. obsesso, nil ocio peius, nil solitaria libertate damnosius, tunc obscœni subeunt cogitatus, subit insidiosa luxuries, blandũ malum, & familiaris occisarũ mentium pestis amor, quibus ego me laqueis absolutum rebar, sed forte fallebar, ferenda fidelis medici, licet asperior manus, forte latentibus cõsulitur malis, aut rediuiuis morbis occurritur: & forte breui incommodo, longa præteriti, uenturiq; ocij fœlicitas cõmendatur. Certè ego dum fata, Deusq; sinebant, ocio meo cupidissimè fruebar, & fruerer si mansisset. Nempe q in finẽ ualde optas, ut merearis inter discipulos meos dici, quid nisi nimis amicũ, & modestũ, & humile notũ est? Inter amicos diceris, eosq; nõ uulgo, sed ut docti uocãt quorũ uides quanta penuria est. Ego te quidẽ, ut studiorũ & uoluntatũ omniũ, ut patriæ, nominisq; participẽ habeo, sic siquid id est, & gloriæ uelim, haud ignarus, fœliciter me hoc contubernio mercari, opulẽtãq; facietatẽ, magnãq; lucri spẽ, paruo mihi famæ peculio cõparari. Et uale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVLIELMO DE PASTRENGO, S. Epist. XXXII.

HEus chare, quibus nã luce latibulis lates? quib. in abditis abderis? En ad Lælij nostri pergo fores, te peto, uox non datur, pulso non aperitur, quorsum hæc? Egredere, coràm cupido tu exhibe, fare, age, coràm quem quæritis, adsum.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVLIELMO DE PASTRENGO, S. Epist. XXXIII.

DIgne quidem admirans, quibus ego latebris delitescerem quærebas, aut quid nouæ rei contigisset, propter quod tibi oris mei præsentia, solito rarior occurreret, & nunc aliquantò dignius miraberis, quid hic præstigij sit, quod cũ relicto rure, mihi hac præsertim anni parte gratissimo, faciem tuam uisurus, ad odiosam semper ciuitatem redijssem, te insalutato, sic repentè discesserim. Vtriusq; ergo rationem accipe, quam breuissimis uerbis, digerendam forte latiùs apud te. Mihi enim & nuncius hic, & sol ad Oceanum properans, breuiloquium suadent. Subegerat me sibi pridẽ uita lautior, ea quæ in urbibus agitur, & in ea urbe potissimùm, ubi tu nunc es, illic multos per annos, quas miserias, quos ue labores pertulerim infœlix, non epistolæ breuis opus est, quibus tandẽ exagitata mente cernens, nullam nisi in fuga libertatis, spem relictam retrahentibus, quanquam his, quibus me amãdo perditum ire mos fuerat, profugi, & eripui, meipsum periculis quacunq; patuit uia. Atq; omnes fortunę minas perpeti decreui, dum mihi uel prope mortem aliquantisper uiuerem. Cœperat enim sensim quod optabam cõtingere, & animus ex diu-

turnis compedibus relaxari inenarrabili quadam dulcedine, & cœleſti uitæ ſimillima. Sed quanta eſt duratæ conſuetudinis uis. Sæpe adhuc infauſtam mihi ciuitatem repeto, nec ullius unco neceſsitatis tractus, ultrò in laqueum redeo, & ex portu totiens naufragium paſſus, relabor in pelagus, quibus urgentibus flatibus incertum eſt. Mox omne mei ius eripitur, mihi undiq; uentorum rabies, undiq; fluctus, & ſcopuli cœlum undiq;, & undiq; pontus, poſtremò mors undique, & peius morte uitæ præſentis tædium & uenturæ metus ante oculos. Quod itaq; me his proximis diebus uidere nequiueris, ſcito nullam cauſam fuiſſe aliam, niſi curæ ueteres exedentes cor miſerum, confeſtim ut me in mœnibus ſuis inuenerunt, tanquam fugitiuo & contumaci ſeruo, iniecerant manum, & iam mihi flagra nota cernebam, iam carcerem, iam cathenas & uerbera, cum uelut experrectus, noctu quia luce nõ poteram euaſi. Ignoſces igitur, ſi & me uidere poſſe te, non uiſo abij, & aduerſus uulgus inſanum, cauſam meam ages, à quo dementiæ arguor, quod quietem ruris, urbanis ipſo reclamante prætulerim. Vale memor noſtri.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVLIELMO DE PASTRENGO, S. Epiſt. XXXIIII.

HAud equidem fugam tuam, æquo amice ferebam animo, priuor namq; cõſpectu grato, careo dulci eloquio, ueras non audire datur uoces, nec mente profectò concipio, quo'nam pacto eius queat non eſſe triſtis abſentia, cuius cõuerſatio fuit dulcis, ſed tabeſcẽti, ægroq; animo, curarumq; undanti fluctibus, epiſtolæ tuæ occurrit lenimen, hac edoctus te carceris exoſi euaſiſſe clauſtra, uincla rupiſſe, laxaſſe compedes, ergaſtula reieciſſe procelloſum trãſnataſſe ſalum, cupito appulſum littori, optato potitum ſolo, edaces animi ſedati ſunt turbines, & furenti freto, lenis ſuborta tranquillitas. Liber nũc uolatus tu liberi, de plurimis pauca referre, uidere nempè ſæpe te uideor, parente Memnonis equis euecta roſeis, auium concentu dulciſono, prælabentis riui garrulo excitum murmure per anfractus collium roſidos montium, iuga cõſcendere, & herbido ſedens ceſpite, mare fortè ueliuolum, culta terræ, iacentesq; de ſpicis terras. Non pugillares deſunt, meditaris ſedulò, ſemper aliquid ſcriptitas, ut te tibi meliorem reddas. Dein cœli petẽte ſumma, domum repetis Fabricij, Curijq; nõ aſpernatus epulas, membra pauliſper à thoro leuas. Ac cœli medij, rapidos ut ſummoueas ignes, uallem illam uerè Clauſam ingrederis, ubi ſole iã in gyrũ flexo montes ad ortũ umbrã iaciunt, illic fons ille mirabilis, ex radicib. ſcaturiens, rupium centum fermè porora, argenteas ſingultãs aquas, totidem uomit fluctus, qui grandi fragore, rapidis per uallis ima præcipitatis uerticibus inter ſaxa confraga, rauco murmure ſonantibus, alliſus ſcopulis, amœnum pòſt paulò creſcit, in amnem. Illic antrum illud ingens, atque terrificum, laticibus nunc ſilentibus tacitum, nonnunquam horrendos fluctus eructuans, miram, gratamq; æſtuantibus temperiẽ præbet. Ibi ſpecus alter aquis illimibus, uitro candenti lucidioribus imminens, nympharum ut reor domus. Illic tibi certam delegiſti ſedem, hunc iuxta craſſa ſedens in umbra, uatem ſuum ſaxo repetens, dum protegit hædera, oblectante proſpectu, amœnos oculos paſcis intuitum, ibi tui acumen intendis ingenij perſpicacis. Inibi de ſede animi arcana depromis. Tunc Helicon, Aganippe, Aon, Pyerides, præſtò ſunt, tunc Fauni, Nymphę, Satyri, Panes, Naiades, Oreades, Dryades tibi plaudunt, tibi concinunt. Orbis tunc delitias, fugacem reputas umbram, nec hia comitatus choris torpes ocio, deſidia marces, uacas omnino, non inde profectò antè diſcedis, quam tabellas portes plenas, licet manua ut plurimum uacuas, bonus huiuſce non ſolus, ut fortè autumas amice potiris, adſum coràm, tecũ fruor, pariter refocillor, exulto, & creſco. Dilecte uale, eiusq; qui tu alter es, memoriam habe.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVLIELMO DE PASTRENGO, S. Epiſt. XXXV.

TEnes memoriæ diem illam, qua de patria mea diſcedens, Piſcheriam appuliſti oppidum ſanè munitum, decorũ, mirabileq;, hoc ſolis ab ortu Benaco ex patre, per paſcua læta pręlabens, alluit Mincius, hic poſt largas dapes quieti dedit, honeſtis ſermonibus inſomnem parte ex magna traximus noctem. Illuceſcente die, conſcendimus equos, non aurora uibrantes detexerat radios, nuſquã cœli læta facies, triſtẽ nubila tenebant lucem. Iam mœniũ liqueramus ſepta, camporũ tenebamus culta, iam parentes exieramus in agros, cũ ſubito uiſib. noſtris, hinc Benaci placida ſe offerũt terga, illinc Lucana ſylua, diffuſoa explicat ſaltus, feſtinares licet uotis iter, captus'ne loci amœnitate, an amici, quẽ relinquebas dulci præſentia, pigriùs incedebas. Ventum erat ad locũ, quo limes breuis Veronen. ſolum à Brixienſibus diſcriminat, amenti ſimilis, contiuiſti animam atq;

amantis

amantis implicitus collo, in hæc tandē uerba rupisti. Distrahor à te chare, regionis exteræ fu turus incola, nunquā fortasse meis te præsentabis obtutibus, fidus semper dubitabit amor. Nulla unquā sæcula, distantiā uerā obliterabūt amicitiam, me possides, ego te, uale dilecte:
sit tibi cura mei, sit mihi cura tui:
Et Vale dicens parce quæso, lachrymis non pepercisti. At ego distractus mente, mœrens corde, imbre suffusus, oculos nil aliud potui dicere, præter: Ent diuellimur, abeuntem uisu prosequor, spectare iuuabat, motantem uix retrahunt comites, sæpiùs lumina torqueo, lucem illam elinguis ferre pertransco. Curarum nutrix sequitur, nox fugatur, somnus membris non datur quies. Dum profectionem tuam mente agito, cœli inclementiam, soli malitiam, ardua montium, lubrica uallium, obruta niuium, lutosa camporum, ucntorū rabiem proluuiones torrentum animo uerso, solabar me, curasq; his demere tentabam dictis. Viget ætas, ualent membra pernicia, robur adest, ualetudo suffragatur, iuuentæ flore potitur, præstat animus cuncta uirtuti cedunt, nūc sollicitudinibus huiusce liber, edomitis alpibus, ante reuerēdissimorum patrum ora uersaris, huic semita cedis, caput aperis, assurgis, illi alteri dexteram porrigis, & nōnunquam de more patrio in oscula ruis, nunc in Agricolæ nostri æde iactaris, uacas sacris, Elisias circum agis sedes, colūnæ adhærens Paphice sacras colis lauros, frōdis Delphice in umbra gratularis. Gratulor & ego, nec liuoris felle torqueor, sed exuberanti gaudio fartior. Vale, fœlixq; uiue, mi luce charior.

FRAN. PETRARCHA DOMINO GVLIELMO DE PASTRENGO, S. Epist. XXXVI.

Gratiā tibi habeo uir optime, quod te mihi adeò morigerū præbes, ego enim mul to malim studijs meis, quàm uoluptatibus opem ferri, quāuis & studia suas uolu ptates habeant immarcescibiles, honestasq;, quas nulli hominū notiores arbitror esse, quàm tibi, libro illo ualde egeo in Virorum illustrium congerie, cui hos numeros qualescunq; subieci. Oro ergo festina, scis quàm charum est, tēpus, horas & momen ta librantibus, insuper & pro eo nominatim gratias ago, quod me tam debiti admones offi cij, tentaui ut suadebas, quod per meipsum fecissem, & iam cœperā, sed tarditatē meam nosti, & contemptum rerum: ita enim mihi contingat mori, ne totus moriar, ut multi uersant, ineptissima fabula & prorsus inane somnium uidetur ferè quicquid in terris agitur. Stimulis ergo opus erat, bos mihi, morum meorum conscia tua fides, adhibuit, de euentu uiderit fortuna, sed quid loquor. Nihil illam esse didici, præter nudum nomen, & præualuit apud me Graij uatis auctoritas. Viderit ergo Deus omnipotens cui Dauidicum illud dixi. In manibus tuis sortes meæ pium certè consiliū, esse inefficax non debebit. Tu uale, Raynaldum nostrum ut salucre iubeas precor. Mediolani. VII. Cal. Augusti propere.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVLIELMO DE PASTRENGO, S. Epist. XXXVII.

Omē tuū optime atq; exoptatissime mihi Vir, quo nihil dulcius audio, quodq; hodie huius deuoti tui ore auribus meis insonuit, non dicam me coëgit ad calamum, qui nescio quo seu errore, seu fato, seu æstuum humanarum odio, uix nisi somno, uel necessitate alia excussus è manibus meis cadit, sed alio tendentem ca lamū hûc conuertit, ut tibi scriberē: Esse me Pataui corpore uiciniorē tibi, quā soleo. Nam omnia uidētem Deum testor, semper animo præsens sum, sanum præterea, & beneualentē ac iocundissimè senescentem. Quod ad ætatē attinet, fortunæ nempè uulneribus, non alijs, quàm nimium crebris charorum mortibus impelli & concuti, me fateor non prosterni, de reliquo ueteribus, illis meis deditū curis, quas & si taceā nosti, atq; in primis tui memorem, tuiq; auidum, quod desiderium lenire propediem spero. Apertum est enim iter, quod nisi fallor immeritò clausum erat, permisit nanq; mihi dominus beneficium illud, pro quo totiens laborastis, & quod multò pluris facio, arrham mihi magnæ humanitatis exhibuit, beneficium quidem ipsum, simulq; adolescentem cuius fuerat. O res hominum, mors abstulit, qui cum paucos dies lætos uidisset in uita, eo ipso die, mirum dictu, quo iuri suo restitutus uidebatur, uitali destitutus est, spiritu, Deo gratias, qui me longo labore, sed nō sine dolore liberauit. Tu Viue fœliciter nostri memor & uale. Pataui. x. Augusti serò.

FRAN. PETRARCHA GVLIELMO DE PASTRENGO, S. Epist. XXXVIII.

Vltū hunc si nosse cœperis, & amare incipies, & mirari, lōga est historia, summa est quod honestis ex causis familiarissimus & amicissimus factus est mihi, & feroli cet tantus eum discendi ardor cœpit, ut neglecto studio rei familiaris, & deserta fabrili officina, in q; insigniter eminet totū se literis dedetit. Itaq; iā nil nisi scholas libros,

libros, & magistros cogitat, inque hoc unum noctes insomnes, & sollicitos dies agit, amplectere eum oro te, & proposito suo faue, nihil est deformius, quàm iustis desiderijs opem nõ ferre, & quid puras ambiat, non opes, non potentiam, non honores, non uulgi compedes, ac uenena mentium uoluptates, sed unicum ocij sui præsidium, & uitæ solatium, libellos quærit, sine suo ductu, tuisque auspicijs nil ausurus, suspirabis intelligens, quo aspiret, & tacitus dices, utinam tempestiuiùs cœpisses, sola enim ætas obstat ingenio, quamuis & Plato prouectior Philosophiæ, & Cato senex Græcis literis operam dedit: hæc hactenus. Raynaldum nostrum mei memorē saluere iube, cui hoc ipsum scribere uolui, nec potui, expecto enim Calphurni Buccolicum carmen, & tuam Varronis agriculturam, ualde enim memini si quid mihi promittitur. Vale Pataui XVII. Aprilis properè.

FRAN. PETRARCHA DOMINO GULIELMO DE PASTRENGO, S.

Epist. XXXIX.

Discolor ut Nymphæ, tetigit uestigia pellis,
Lectior, & cunctis nimis inuidiosa puellis.
Nescit habere locum, refugit sub claustra reuerti.
Et tibi purpurei, dedecus, addidit innuba serti,
Tréque per arua canens, uarios legit undique flores.
Et umeat humentes pedibus calcare sorores.

Literas tuas ornatissimas, atque pulcherrimas, obiurgatus à me Lælius meus, sed iaculo tamen meo clypeum legitimæ excusationis obijciens, misit tandem. Qui te salutatum cupit, poteris eum ut auguror cum Ludouico, & Gerardo fratre, hodie uel cras hospites habere, & sitientes ad riguum fontis mei, iam istic degenerantem, sed adhuc quidam originis suæ signa gestantem, inducere, peponem optimum nõ comedi, sed deuoraui: nemine in partem admisso, præter Nympham, pictis, iam tunc pedibus deorum conuiuia meditantem, & Neptuni nuptias, aut Nærei, aut Tritonum obsequia, & siquid uel æquorei, uel fluminei numinis usquam est.

PRIORIBUS ARTIUM, VEXILLIFERO IUSTITIÆ P. Q. FLORENTINO, S.

Epist. XL.

SAepè mihi propositum fuit, egregij Ciues, pro uarietate rerum ac temporũ, aliquid ad uos scribere & uicissim nunc flenũ ais, nunc calcar incutere, nunc indignati perdita, nunc recuperata libertate gratulari, nonnunquam flere uobiscum, multiplices & uarias Reipub. tempestates, & impendentis naufragij fideliter admonere, ut ita me uobis, quoniam aliter non dabatur, uerbis saltem, animi testibus, & si non habitatorem, certæ amatorem patriæ comprobarem, sed dum cogitarem mecum cœpi, quantum ab altitudine curarum uestrarum distaret, meorum humilitas studiorũ, subitò semper mihi è manibus calamus lapsus est. Nũc autem cogor ut scribã, nec reluctari ualeo, ualeo urget enim animum dolor ingens, & extorquet mihi uerba cum lachrymis. Ecce etenim, quod ignorâbam hactenus, atque utinam perpetuò ignorassem, suauissimus & meritò charissimus, ciuis uester, & amicus meus intimus, Maynardus Accursij, Fores dum è Romana curia, Florentiam redit, molestias atque pericula, iàm longi itineris transgressus, & iam dilectæ patriæ uicinus, in ipso penè portarum limine, & in uestro, ut ita dicam gremio, crudeliter interfectus est. Heu uir infœlix, quantos ætate uiridi pertuleras labores? Quotiens ignota terrarum circumiueras, ut tranquillam in patria tua tandem & honoratam ageres senectutem? quò pergis, ah miser, fatique tui nescie? & ubique tutior, quàm in patria future? Quò pergis? Quò ruis? Quò miserande festinas? Tibi canitur Poeticum illud:

Fallit te incautum pietas tua.

Quæ cùm sit magna in parentibus, & propinquis, ut ait Cicero, tamē in patria maxima est, Illa te procul dubiò trahebat soli natalis amantissimum, illuc iam senior redibas, unde puer excesseras & illæ terræ, quæ te infantē pauerat, fatigatæ uitæ reliquias referebas, cupiēs ubi ortus eras, mori, & ubi reptaueras sepeliri: Sed ô scelus, ó inhumana feritas, truculentissimi homines, imò uerò cruentæ, & immanes belluæ, te improuidũ & inermē calle medio spectabant, horrendum & ignotũ orbi Italico prædonum genus, qui nõ saturati auro quiescere, quæ summa uotorum raptoribus esse solet, nisi sitienter tuum sanguinē haurirēt, & exoptatum ingressum patriæ tibi præriperent, ac sepulchrũ: O' sitim sanguinis inauditã, quid amplius quæritis sæuissimi canes? Quid quæritis in corpore spoliato? Odium quidem ignoti & innocētis hominis, nec ullum erat certè, nec fingi poterat. Si auri fames uera sceleris

causa est, reddite iam nefarij uoti compotes ad prædam, & graues speluncas criminum officinas, & qui illic auidè uos expectant, hospites uestros inuisite, finite nudum peditem abire, satis est, nihil ulterius poscitur, ne in latronum manus incideretis, sed hominū, nil inde uobis metuendum est, tàm munitis habitatis arcibus, ut impunè & cœlum, & Florentiam contemnatis. Homunculum solum fessum, & attonitum timetis? Habētes receptacula tàm uicina, tàm ualida? Nolite igitur auaritiæ sæuitiā cumulare, quicquid populabile manu erat, quodq; in uestros usus uerti poterat abstulistis, animam sibi & amicis, & uobis nulli usui futurā linquite, quod toruum intuemini? Quid cogitatis? Quid molimini? Quę ista rabies est? Quid micantes uolunt gladij? Quid petunt? O' uoluptas effera, nullo odio, nulla spe proposita, & nullo metu sacrosanctum, & Deo simillimū animal hominem trucidare, ferire rapidas manus in uiscera, & quod ne generosè quidem feræ facerent, lacerato cadaueri incumbere, & spumanti sanguine delectari. Pudet ac miseret, o clarissimi ciues, nec de paruo doloris scaturiunt tot lamēta, neq; magis talis amici talem casum lugeo, q̄ tantùm tàm gloriosæ Reip. pudorem. Quid enim dicetur apud gētes? Quid posteritas loquetur? Innoxiū hominē, qui interseras ut Lucanus ait Rhodani gentes, qui per deserta prouinciæ qua nulla usq; hodie dissolutior, nulla desolatior terra est, ac per alpes medias, non niuibus tantum, aut uagis excursoribus: sed armatis hoc tempore exercitib. casas non modò per diem, sed sub tempesta etiam nocte incesserit, in finib. Florentinis, luce media, procubuisse, uelut ouē impiæ uictimæ destinatam? Et ô æternum ætatis nostræ dedecus, inuentos esse qui audeāt è conspectu quodammodo urbis uestræ, & illius olim formidati palatij, in quo celeberrima iustitiæ sedes erat, laniare pro libito ciues uestros. O' tempora, O' mores, libet enim exclamare cum Tullio. Ego quidem puer, audiebam maiores natu, narrare solitos, populi illius uirtutes omnimodas, eximiamq; iustitiam, non in contradictionib. modò, placitisq; cōuentis, sed in his duobus maximè. quibus solum sapientissimus legislator ait: Rempublicā contineri præmio scilicet & pœna Quorum profectò si desit alterū, necesse est uelut altero pede claudicantem efficiat ciuitatem: sin utrunq;, eneruatam prorsus & languidam, fugiens enim hinc bonorum uirtute, illinc malorum inardescente nequitia in utrāq; partem magnifice

Nouiderant patres nostri, quibus artibus Romanæ origini, q̄ fama uulgauerat, certissimā fidem dabant, itaq; ut olim genitor ille uester, Pop. Rom. toto polluit orbe terrarū, sic illos acceperam, quantum cœlitus datum erat eisdem uestigijs gradientes, & singularem in primis quandam laudem, apud omne genus hominum meruisse, & inter Tuscorum populos longis temporibus tenuisse uoluntariū quodammodo principatum, titulo quidem Imperij abstinente, & quo superbiæ, inuidiæq; minus, eò laudis & gloriæ plus erat in nomine, non ergo dominiū dicebatur, sed auxilium, ac profugium uicinorum. Vt nō immeritò censeretur floridum illud nomen sortitam Florentiā, in qua flos uirtutum omnium, & gloriosorū actuū abundaret, erat omniū finitimarū gentiū, ad tam benè moratū populū, amore & reuerentia mixtus timor, neq; solum in proprijs, sed in extremis quoq; Tusciæ finibus, timebat ciuitas magistra iustitiæ. Quid enim aliud causæ fuit, quòd inter lapidosos & asperos colles, in solo arido, nec maritimo portu, nec nauali flumine adiuto, tàm breui tēporis spatio, ferè enim omniū Italiæ ciuitatū recentissima ciuitas uestra est, in eam succreuerit magnitudinē, ut uicinas omnes amplissimas quidē urbes propè incredibiliter supergressa, non solum forma nominis, aut pretiosis mercibus, q' ipsum miraculi instar erat, sed & ipsa etiā fœlix prole uirū, & in hoc quoq; matri similis, at tantæ sobolis, iam non capax disseminatis toto orbe ciuib. omne mūdi latus impleuerat? Quænā quæso? tot præsertim aduersantib. huius tantæ & tā repentinæ magnitudinis causa fuit? Dixent aliquis, fortasse aërē causam esse, & quod ulterius est propriū tribuet fortunæ, alter impigerrimę gētis industriā, uersatilesq; animos, & applicabile ad omnes artes ingeniū, inter causas numerabit nō ineptè quidē, dum meminerit, tādiù primā & maximā huius rei causam sileri, donec iustitiæ studiū sileret. Illa (inquam) incremēti, uestri uera & pcipua causa est, sine qua, nedū ciuitas, sed nec domus exigua non dicā crescere, sed nec stare quidē poterit. Fūdamentum ciuitatum omniū iustitia est, super q' si uerū quærit, uestri maiores ædificatā uobis florētissimā atq; firmissimā Remp. reliquerūt. Id si modò p ignauiā labi permittis, quid sperari licet, aliud quā ruinā? Surrexerunt ecce sicarij infames, & quod unum ad excitandum omnes irarū aculeos satis erat, ciuem uestrū optimū, cui uiuū ut creditur, ab eo die, quo sinistrum pedem domo extulit, insidias tetenderunt, nusquam nisi in sinu uestro mactare ausi sunt, quodq; auorum temporibus cogitare etiā in cubilibus timuissent, id sub oculis uestris, & in uia publica, crudeli atq; intolleranda

prorsus

prorsus audacia peregerunt, quod scelus, si multum linquitis actum est de statu publico, actum de iustitia, actum denique de salute, de libertate, de gloria. Corruit fundamentum illud, super quo usque ad sydera creueratis, & Deuabone, quorũ manibus euersum? Magna pars doloris est, uilis auctor, iniuriæ, furciferi, carnifices, syluicolæ, ferino uictu assueti, sed ferino magis pectore, & ferinis morib. uix carcere, uix cathenis, aut funib. uestris digni passim in iugulos uestros ruũt, & ad satietatẽ suam pascuntur cædibus, & sanguine miserorũ, profecto nunquã hoc ausuri, nisi uel in uestra segnitie, uel in suis latibulis spem haberẽt, quæ spes, si uos ut soletis, uiri estis, ab omni eos parte deseruerit. Exercuit uos fateor, & impulit his temporibus fortuna, sed non strauit neque debilitauit, usque adeò ut paucos in circuitu sæuiẽtes latrunculos perferatis. Solet uera uirtus, & clarior ex aduersitate cõsurgere, & si bene mores uestros noui, nec me longa de uobis fallit opinio, uos à populo Romano, unum hoc inter multa præcipuum, & uelut hæreditariũ possidetis, ne scilicet fortunæ uos deijciat aut frangat iniuria, sed attollat, & quod maximè uirorum est, inter difficultates crescãt animi. Hinc mihi spes non parua suboritur, audio enim uos accensos atrocitate negotij, & generosa indignatione flammantes, ad solita arma iustitiæ conuerti, quod si uerum est, nullus unquam locus ut spero, nulla ars, nullus sceleratorum fauor hominum, ab infandis ceruicibus, meritum iracundiæ uestræ fulmen auertet. Verum ego prædulcis amici, lachrymabili iactura, supra quàm dici posset amarissimè cruciatus, multa uobiscum uiri illustres familiariter locutus sum, heu frustrà, heu sero, sentio enim damnum meũ, non posse restitui, non si mille linguis adamantinis in sempiternum loquar, aut Orpheo dulcius flebilibus ad lyram querimonijs saxa permulceam, unquam mihi redibit amicus meus, irremeabile iter ingressus est. Neque nunc id agitur, ut ille resurgat, sed ne illo corruat decus uestrum, quorum alterũ impossibile, alterum uerò perfacile, & in uestra positum manu est. Illud quidẽ admonere non est necesse, quod scelerũ iudicea, nõ præterita, sed futura respiciũt, quid enim prodest, ad ea quę retractari nequeunt studium adhibere? similibus tamen malis occurritur, & exemplo terribili humana temeritas coërcetur, hinc illa nimirum doctissimorũ hominũ laus data sententia est. Non quia peccatũ est, sed ne peccetur inuenta supplicia. Quæ quanquam sint pro huius sceleris immanitate dignissima, quanquã tacitus expectare non prohib expectare tamen rector. Vniuersa igitur hæc sic intelligi cupio dixisse, ut apud beneuolas a dolores mei sensum loquendo deponerem, ac grauj molestia tumidum cor leuarẽ, potius quam ut animos uestros ad uindictam sanguinis inflammarẽ. Id enim nec professioni, nec statui meo conuenit. Itaque testatus, quod ad illam quicquid dicturus sim, aut dixerim non aspiro. Id quod honestius possum flagito, quatenus antiquæ gloriæ uestrę, iustitiæque memores, qua singulariter floruistis, eam uestris perire temporibus non sinatis, idque obnoxius prę cor, ut uiæ salutis publicæ, per quas & ad uestra, & ad ipsa parentis mœnia, semper quidem, sed nunc præcipuè, instante ut nostis iubileo, fidelium ex omni regione cõcursus erit, purgatæ latronibus pateant peregrinis, ne iusto metu territi, uel pium opus omittere, uel rectum iter flectere compellantur. Quod nisi acriter prouideritis (sed spero utique prouisuros) æternæ uobis infamiæ maculam irrogabit. In primis autem expeditum esse decet Apennini transitũ, unde numerosior populus expectatur, ad quod utinã tempestiuius in animum uenisset, uestrã magnificentiã exhortari, fuisset prouisum fortasse maturius, nec alijs cauendi, circumspiciendique materiã infœlicis amici mei miserabile spectaculum prębuisset. At quid suspecti erat, id ætas nostra nõ uiderat, sed sic à senioríb. acceperat, esse quidẽ Apennini iugum natiua asperitate difficile, cæterũ nil uiatori tutius uel hospitalius. Quid autẽ erit, si de custodib. fures, de canib. lupi fiunt? Vbi ad suum syluosi montis horrorẽ, nequissimorũ hominũ terror accesserit? breuis nempè totus ille terrarum tractus, ab hominibus deseretur, inhospitalior Athlante uel Caucaso, huic ignominiæ & huic pesti, Viri fortes occurrite, uidebitis saxa nondum sicco, ciuis uestri cruore rorantia, inde disectis, cæterorum saluti quonam remedio prouidendum sit, qui amputare uult arborẽ, à radicibus incipiat, qui siccare uult riuulos, fontem siccet. Qui extinguere uult latrones, insistat receptatorib. extirpandis, ite celeriter, ite fœliciter, quo cœpistis, & benè iuuãtibus superis, fœda scelerũ claustra confringite simul ac notam ab oculis nostris abstergite, relinquẽtes posteris iustitiæ famam, quã à patribus accepistis. Illue nominatim precibus istis addiderim, ut dominum Lucam cognomento Christianũ, uirũ sanguine ac uirtutib. clarũ, qui eidẽ Mainardo infaustæ uiæ comes fuerat, & de quo dubiè fama loquitur, pro honore uestro iubeatis inquiri, an impiorum manibus euaserit, quod quidam narrant, an pariliter feritate cõsumptus sit, quod potius timeo, &

timere

dimere nō desinā, donec aliud, sciuero. Parcite aūt multiloquio, tulit me longius fortè quā decuit, hinc humanitatis uestræ fiducia, illinc doloris mei impetus, & amicorum pietas, de quib. ante modò scripsi, ut eos per dies singulos præstolabar. Ita enim concorditer de Auinione discesserāt, ut me uisuri, nulla alia causa suadēte, p hociter lōgiùs uenirent & cū Parmēnō inuenissent in domo mea per noctē, & diē non integrū morati discesserūt mœsti, literis ibi demissis, quarū summa erat, se hucad me è uestigio reuersuros, cumq; ego rediēs, & multis dieb. spectās, lōgiorē pmissio morā incipere admirari, famulū unū cum literis misi. Qui eos tarditatis argueret, per quē didici, hoc eos charitatis & amicitiæ pretiū percepisse. Quamobrē si loquaciorē fecit dolor, ignoscite. Licet enim rerū nescius & absens tunc fuerim, quia tamen mei solus amor, uidendiq; desideriū, eos hac traxerat, solus ego ut mihi uideor, totius infortunij causa fuit. Omnipotēs Deus, uos tātis mundi malis incolumes conseruet, in statu fœlicissimo. Parmę 11. Iunij cōcusso animo, grauiterq; prostrato festinanter.

FRAN. PETRARCHA AMICO SVO, S. Epist. XLI.

Tempus breue, magnum scribendi desideriū angustat, & ardorem animi prægelidus aër frenat, sine exemplo annus est, & bruma horrida, uulgò iam penè in miraculum, atq; ut dici solet in religionem uertitur. O' trāquilla Parthenope, & magnis ingenijs laudata Campania, uestrum est quod ait Maro:

Ver perpetuum, atq; alienis mensibus æstas.

At profectò non talis ipsa loquentis mater, glacialis Mantua, & importunis frigoribus oppressa, niuosisq; alpiū & Apennini iugis obsessa Liguria, quanquā præsens annus, qui nouitate sui attonitos etiā senes habet, nescio an aliquid causæ secretioris offenderit, quòd scilicet Germaniæ finib. ueniens nouus Cæsar, cœlo nostro, suū fortè frigus inuexerit, cuius is rigor est, ut ipsos quoq; Germanos in stuporē cogat. Certè ego audiuistertius Mantuæ, quoad ipsum Cæsarē, multum rogatus accesseram, in familiari colloquio quo princeps ille mitissimus, lingua & moribus non minus Italicus, quàm Germanus, me nūquam antè hac, præter quā in literis uisum, sæpe dignatur, sic eum dicentē audiui. Vix se unquā tale aliquid in Germania sensisse. Cui ego respondi. Fortè cœlitùs actū esse, ut miles Teuthonicus, sitbeam cœli mutationem, & Italicā temperiem non horreret. Mitto autē hæc, hyems zephyro cedet, æstas aquilonibus omnia senectuti. Veniet dies, quæ diebus omnibus metā ponat, & hanc temporum uarietatem stabilis concludet æternitas. Natura suum opus, nos interim nos agamus. Equidem non me gelu, quodcūq; Ripheis montib. Mæoticisq; paludibus adiacet, retardasset. Multa scribere cupiebā, si literas tuas in tempore recepissem, sed dum iste uir clarus, & nobis charus huc attigit Mediolanū, aberam ut dixi, reuersus & tuas ornatissimas quatuor epistolas, quibus totidem meis sero licet, abundè tamen satisfactum fateor, & latorem abitum medianiem reperi. Superuacuū uisum est, inchoare quod perficere non erat, reliqua igitur suum diem, qui longior fortè dabitur, atq; tranquillior, in hoc breui & turbido nil aliud dixerim, nisi nil penitùs tuarum ad me literarū hoc biennio peruenisse, quod mirari te non miror, atq; etiam indignari, sed ferendum est, quod mutari non potest. Literæ nostræ medio uiarum suos raptores inueniunt, quid aūt scimus? Multos fortitan amice studijs nostris accendimus, multis gloriæ stimulos fortasis incussimus, sine, pergant quæ cœperunt. Sæpè nobis displiceant, labores & epistolas nostras delineant & aueriant, modò nos ament, & quod rapiunt mirentur. Vale.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PHILIPPICO DE VITRIACO MVSICO, S. Epist. XLII.

Amicas aures, amicus sermo pulsabit, nō tàm blandus, quā uerax, neq; tàm cōpositus q̄ fidelis. Quid enim loqui uerear, de longinquo, quid corā positus non uerear? Magna est amicitię libertas, magna securitas, qui multum diligit nihil timet, imò uero timet omnia, & omnia circunspicit. Magnus amor, illa (inquam) omnia quibus amatum suspicatur offendi, de amico quidem suo Seneca uiderit, de quo ait: Non amo illum nisi offendero, ego nihil minus uelim, quā te offendere, sed absit, ut offendi uerò possis, ueri semper acutissimus, & ardentissimus inquisitor. Delectare potiùs spero, & imbecillitati animi, uirtutis ope succurrere, ut tātus ætatis nostræ Philosophus, abiectis uulgi delirantis ineptijs, & iā non modò uiriliter, sed Philosophice sentias & loquaris, quid enim quæso te, ne dicā æternū, sed uel diurnū restat homini, si in animū quoq; senectus admittitur? Ego quidem & ratione insignita, & experientia magistra, & illustri etiā historico attestante didiceram: Orta omnia occidere, & aucta senescere: sed ab hac ineluctabili sorte mortaliū, exemptum

exemptum animũ arbitrabar, quippè qui nõ terrestris, sed ætherea substantiæ sese in altum ui propria, & quibusdã, ut ita dixerim, naturæ suę alis attolleret, mortẽq; despiceret, quodq; de quibusdã uetustissimis Italiæ populis apud Poëtã legeram, q scilicet, nec tarda senectus debilitat uires animi, latiùs extendẽs ad omne genus hominũ referebã, cogis me, in hac dubiũ opinione subsistere, uideris enim mihi, & eloquar apertè, quod sentio, uideris, inquam, mihi uir egregie, nõ tàm corpore, q̃ animo sensisse. Quod si accidere tibi potuit, in tanta bonarũ artiũ copia, tantaq; uirtutũ suppellectili, qd euenturũ credimus his nudis, & inermib. nullũ uirtutis solamẽ habentib. nullũ præsidiũ literarũ? His dico, qui passim in triuijs oberrant, curis inanib. circũacti, ad nil aliud explendũ turbæ numerũ idonei, & fruges comedere nati? Vt elegãter ait Flaccus. Atqui hoc mihi non negaueris, si senescere animus potest, posse etiã interire, cũ haud dubiè ultima uitæ pars, & quasi quidã descensus ad interitum sit senectus, quod ubi cõcesseris uide, quid sequit. Dulcedo enim uitæ intercidit, spe immortalitatis erepta, quæ una præstabat, ut me hominẽ, non dolorẽ ex parte altera morti tẽporaliter obnoxiũ, nobiliori interim & q naturæ fides addiderat, utraq; tandẽ parte uicturũ. Nec sum nescius mirari te, quorsum tàm lõgis anfractib. mea pergat oratio, imò uerò si ingeniũ tuũ noui, iamiam cõscientia bellicãte, quid dicam, & quid sim dicturus intelligis. Est hic ut nosti, pclarissimus pater, & cõmunis amborũ dominus Guido Bolomensis Cardinalis, & Apostolicæ sedis Legatus, iam faciẽ tuam intueri uideor, modestus illã rubor inuasit. Non præsagiebas me de manib. suis, tuas literas inspecturũ, quod si euenturũ cogitasses, nunquã pfectò tam molliter, tàm demisse, nunq;, da ueniã ueris nominib. tàm muliebriter loqueris. Etsi non mihi, at saltẽ missis hospitib. meis parceres, quæ ne modò aduersus te numeris suis armentur, nõ illarũ patientia, sed tẽporis breuitas causa est. Quid enim ais oro te, cogno sce mecũ, uerborũ tuorũ formulã, cõsignatis, ut diei solet, tecũ agitur tabellis. Hunc ipsum dominũ nostrũ, arguis, pungis, increpitas, & nimis intolleranda mollitie, nõ absentiã, sed ut tu uocas, exiliũ eius defles, peregrinationemq; sanctissimã, & qui gloriosior nulla esse potest, exilij cognomine decoloras. Hæc nimirum est illa senectus animi, q̃ in te lugeo amice. Nunquã quo primũ mihi tempore notus esse cœperas, ista dixisses, deferbuit sanguis, & ille ardor egregius, quo nulli secundus uidebaris, abdita quælibet & incognita perscrutãdi. Ita ne inter curiositatẽ anxiam, ultimamq; segnitiẽ, nihil est mediũ? Parum tibi distans India uidebatur. Iam Taprobanẽ, & si quid orientalis oceanus habet occultiùs cupido metiebaris ingenio: iam ad extremã Thylen ignotis littorib. latitantẽ suspitabas, quoniam Orcades & Hybernę, & quicquid terrarũ noster fluctus aluit, ipsa in ciuitate sordebant. Quid autem miri, si angusta animo literatissimi hominis terra erat? In hunc assiduũ cœli uerticẽ, qui supra nos stabili temone cõuertitur, inq; illum aliũ, quem se qui sunt Antipodes suspiciũt, in obliquũ. Deniq; solis callem, inq; fixas; & errantes stellas, infatigabili studio cõscendenres. Nam quid nõ dies longior euertit? Esse in Italia miserũ exiliũ teris, extra quã esse, nisi quia omne solum forti patria est, potiùs uideri posset exiliũ? Pace tua dixerim, nimis tibi paruus pons Parisiensis impressit, testudinei sui arcus effigiem, nimis aures tuas subterlabentis Sequanæ murmur oblectat. Postremò nihil calceo tuo, nisi gallicus puluis insedit. Oblitus mihi uideris illius, qui interrogatus cuiàs esset, Mundanũ se esse respõdit. Tu usq; adeò Gallus es, ut Galliæ fines excedere, quãlibet ob causam exiliũ uoces: est quidem non inficior, natalis patriæ dulcedo nobis insita, scio præclarissimos uiros, nequaquã huius affectus expertes, audio apud Liuiũ restitutorẽ Vrbis, & Imperij Camillũ, quibuslibet summis ducib. parem. sese in exilio Ardeatino tractũ fuisse, cœli patrij memoria, cõfitentẽ audio Diomedẽ apud Vergiliũ suum Calydona. Deorũ inuidiæ ascribentẽ audio Nasonẽ suam absentiam, nõ paucis uerbis, sed integro uolumine deplorãtem. Cum hoc aũt & illud scio, pusilli & inualidi animi esse, ubi honestæ uacant causæ, abiectis his cõpedibus, nõ posse consurgere. Ingens est Romanorũ, & externorũ ducum, ingens quoq; Philosophorũ copia, qui uel ut bellicam, uel ut ingenij gloriam cumularent, uitam in perpetuis peregrinationibus exegerũt, sed quia libentius professioni nostræ uiciniora cõmemoro, Philosophorũ aliquos attingã. Plato relictis Athenis, ubi si dici fas est, pro terrestri quodã numine colebatur, Aegyptum primò, deinde Italiã circumiuit. At quantus labor homini sedere solito, sed per omnes uiarum difficultates, discendi cupiditate, pro uehiculo utebatur. Est & peregrinatio famosa Democriti, famosiorq; Pythagoræ, qui semel domo egressus, nunquã redijt, ueri flagrãtior amore, quàm patriæ, lustrauitq; Aegyptũ, ut ait Cicero, Persarum Magos adijt, tantas regiones barbarorũ pedibus obiuit, tot maria transmisit. Cuius peregrinationis extremum si

quæritur,

quæritur,in Italiam ipſam uenit,ibiq; reliquum uitæ egit, & quatuor ibi luſtra cōſumpſit,
ubi tu nūc annuā Domini noſtri moram, uelut flebile exilium, & prorſus perditū tempus
doles. Expergiſcere,expergiſcere obſecro,& ingenium tuum excita,uir inſignis,atq; incli-
natum animum attolle,uidebis quanta opinionum nube uulgarium tenearis,dum illæ tibi
uoces exciderint,quas utinam non legiſſem,nō eſt exilium,quod tu putas, ſed breui labo-
re famæ materia ſempiternæ. Hoc tibi perſuadere nunc difficile eſt,qui ut uideo,nihil extra
Pariſios magnificum,aut delectabile ſuſpicaris,& extrema illas agelli tui glebulas, quibus
animum addidiſti. Cùm uerò ad te ipſe redieris, & prophanis uulgi rumoribus excluſis,te
unum percunctari, tibi credere malueris,benè de te ſperare non deſinam. Redde mihi col-
locutorem meum,redde mihi priſtinum Philippum,me quidem tacente ueritas perorabit.
At modò non tecum,ſed cum altero neſcio quo,Philippi illius hoſte, conflictatio mihi iſta
ſuſcepta eſt,quamobrē ſiquid fortè liberius dictū legis,quàm blanditiarum noſtri æui mos
habet,ignoſcito. Iuuat enim magnificè loqui,& certè decet,ut quadam ad Ciceronem epi-
ſtola Brutus ait:aduerſus ignorantes,quid pro quoque timendum ſit. Vt enim ad exulem
tuum reuertamur, uideres hūc autem auguſtiorem ſolito, & fronte ſiderea per urbes Itali-
eas incidentem. Videres populorum ac principum concurſus, ſummo illum honore proſe-
quentium,audires plaudentium,atque fauentium uoces,eneruati puderet eloquij, neque
iam exulem,ſed pacis,& quietis auctorem,atq; ſoſpitatorem Reip. nuncupares ueriore uo-
cabulo. Cùm enim inter Vngariæ & Siciliæ regna profundius odiorum fontibus ſcaten-
tium bellorum cauſæ,magnam Europæ partem in diſcrimen traherent, tāto par oneri, nemo
alius inuentus eſt. Hunc Rom. Pont. iuditium,hunc ſacri collegij conſenſum,ſi tu tibi miſe-
rum aut pœnitendum cenſes,quod fœlix,fauſtumq; dicturus his neſcio. Sed adiuro te,per
illam quæ præeſſe debet affectibus rationē,quod tu mihi ocium, cum hoc negotio? Quas
mihi delitias,cum his curis? quam mihi requiem cum his laboribus comparabis? Viderit
Epicureum uulgus quid pronunciet. Ego tàm generoſum exercitium,omnibus delitijs,o-
mnibusq; uoluptatibus præ[illegible]um quas ſomnus,aut uenter, aut ambitio præſtare poteſt.
[illegible]s enim uirtus,omnis gloria, omnis honeſta delectatio in arduo ſita eſt. Ad obſcœna
[illegible]endimus,condeſcendimus ad honeſta, noli igitur Domini noſtri deplorare fortunam,
exulem te potiùs credito,& exilium tuum geme, qui tàm procul à contēplanda illius glo-
ria receſsiſſe,dolerem & ego,nunc pariter uicem tuam,niſi tu iter eius miſeratus,tacitè qui-
dem te fœlicem abſentia iudicares. Gaudentium autem compati, non pietatis, ſed dementiæ
opus eſt,niſi fortè miſerari falſo gaudio gaudētem,eademum miſericordia ſumma eſt. Cæ-
terum & ſi tu ante tempus immobilis factus es, patere tamen æquo animo hunc quem to-
ta mente diligere certè ſcio,inertes moras itineri poſthabuiſſe magnifico. Virens enim ætas
eſt,corpus ualidum, præclarus ſanguis,altum ingenium,ardens noſcendi cupiditas, hi ſunt
ſimul,quibus impulſus & Sequanam,& Rhodanum amittere auſus eſt, ne'ue ſolos Phi-
loſophos peregrinatos,atq; hoc obtentu,hunc regia proſapia ortum,ab illorum humanita-
te ſegregandum putes,illuſtrioribus exemplis agam. Quatuor & uiginti annos natus erat
Scipio,cum aduerſus quatuor ualidiſsimos Carthaginenſium exercitus, totidemq; clariſ-
ſimos duces in Hiſpanias profectus eſt,inde innumerabilibus uictorijs ornatus rediens. Cū
parta laude contentus domi manere poſſet,tonante per Italiam Hannibale, in Africam tran-
ſire maluit, & ſe inter aſperrima uocantem maioris ſpem gloriæ ſecutus eſt, non inde di-
uitias relaturus, ſed ſalutem patriæ, agnomenque ſibi, qui enim Cornelius ierat, rediit
Africanus. Iuit ad Troiam Neoptolemus, contemptis aui precibus ac lachrymis. Iuit
Vlyſſes per omnes terras ac maria, & erat illi domi decrepitus pater, infans filius, coniunx
adoleſcens,& procis obſeſſa,cum ipſe interea Circeis poculis,Syrenum cantibus,Cyclopū
uiolentia,pelagi monſtris,ac tempeſtatibus decertaret,uir erroribus ſuis clarus, caleatis aſ-
fines bus,neglecto regni ſolio,& tot pignoribus ſpretis, inter Scyllam & Charybdim, inter
nigrantes Auerni uertices,ſeneſcere maluit, quàm domi, nullam aliam ob cauſam, quàm
ut aliquando ſenex,doctior in patriam remearet. Et reuera ſi experientia artem facit, quid
arte ſtudioſum, quid ue alta laude dignum ſperare relinquitur illi, qui paternæ domus perpe-
tuus cuſtos fuit. Boni uillici eſt,in auito rure conſiſtere,telluris ſuæ uim,bonumq; cogno-
ſcere, contra nobilius & in altum nitentius ingenij eſt, multas terras & multorum mores
hominum uidiſſe, uerisſimumque eſt quod apud Apuleium legimus. Non immeritò enim
(inquit) priſcæ poëticæ diuinus auctor, apud Graios ſummæ prudentiæ uirum monſtrare
cupiens, multarum ciuitatum obitu, & uariorum populorum cognitu,ſummas adeptum
GGg uirtutes

uirtutes cecinit, quod Poëta quidem noster imitatus, suum Aeneam nosti, quot urbibus ac littoribus circumducit. Tu domino nostro compateris, quod aliquid præter Parisios uidit. Nec intelligis quàm gratum spectaculum illi fuit, ingenio oculis cernere quod cogitatione præuiderat. Etenim si in Tusculano disputans Cicero, ait. Aliquid adsequi se putat, qui hostium Ponti uiderunt, & eas angustias per quas penetrauit, ea quæ est nominata Argo, quàm Argiui in eadem lecti uiri uecti petebant pellem auratam arietis. Aut hi, qui Oceani freta illa uiderunt.

Europam, Libyamq; rapax ubi diuidit unda.

Quid se hic adeptum putare potest, qui fractas Punico aceto, Italicas Alpes uidit, & Cisalpinæ Galliæ lætissimos atq; latissimos campos? Libero permessus intuitu, Mediolanum urbem egregiam, & à maioribus uestris condita, Brixiamq; & Veronā, ab eisdem uestris maioribus possessa loca prospexit: Inde petens Patauium Troici opus Antenoris. Hinc Venetorum inter cunctas littoreas mirabilem atque permaximam urbem, mox cinctum fluminibus & æstiuis delitijs amœnum paruumq; Triuisium, quàm sibi sedem delegit, delectationis non tàm patriæ, quàm undiq; conuenientium commoditati prospiciens. Inde ad compescendos Arctoos motus, Aquileiam prætereuectus, Alpesq; Noricas transgressus, longè, lateq; Germaniam peragrauit, & illum olim imperij limitem Danubium, Nilo parē, mille superbum fontibus, & horrificis gurgitibus æstuantem attigit. Inde nuper multa reuersus cum laude, hodie minoris corpus Antonij ingenti populi deuotione irāsuexit, quæ una sibi apud Patauium longiusculæ moræ causa fuit, cui translationi ego interfui, grauitatis eximiæ ac cærimoniarum mirator unus ex plurimis. Crastino iter interceptum aget, ut sicut Adriatici fremitum maris uidit, sic Thyrrenas aspiciat tempestates, & primò quidem fluuiorum regem transibit Eridanum, & antiquissimam [illegible] Rauennam, post Ariminum, mox Fanum, inde Perusium prævalidam urbem, atq; inter iacentes alias tandem, rerum caput, & Dominam Romam petet, quam quicunq; non uiderit, temere à [illegible] admiratur, cuius urbis aspectus, ut interdum speciosior foret, P. [illegible] forru [illegible] [illegible] at, ut ueib n [illegible] quam salutatior iubileus annus efficiet. Voces licet exu [illegible] cem, ille m [illegible] u debitur fœli [illegible] mus peregrinus. Ibi Apostolorum limina & terram calca [illegible] , sacro martyrum purp [illegible] cruore, uidebit uel mulie [illegible] linteo, uel in cunctarum Ecclesiarum matris parie [illegible] [illegible] tem Domini uultus effigiē. Videbit ubi profugo Petro CHRISTVS occurrit, & super præduram silicem, æternum gentibus adoranda uestigia. In [illegible] dicetur in sancta Sanctorum, locellum cœlestis gratiæ plenum. Vaticanum lustrabit, & beatis ossibus extructus Calixti specus, incunabula & circuncisionem Saluatoris aspiciet, & uirginei lactis uasculum candore mirabili. Videbit Agnetis annulum, & diuinitùs extinctæ libidinis miraculum recognoscet. Contemplabitur truncum Baptistæ caput, & Laurentij craticulam, & aductum aliunde Stephanum, unoq; duos contentos hospitio. Videbit ubi Pauli fuso sanguine dul cis aquæ fontes eruperint, undenato domino fo [illegible] solei descendit in Tybeirum, ubi templi pulcherrimi fundamenta, æstiuæ niuis inditio iacta sunt, & ubi partu Virginis templa fortissima corruerunt. Cernet lapidem infando Simonis cerebro maculatum, monstrabitur sibi Syluestri latibulum, & uisio Constantini, & dicta cœlitùs insanabilis morbi cura. Innumerabilia quoq; alia, quorum partem idem ego, ad Clementem VI. scribēs, loquaci quondam sum complexus epistola. Siquando uerò à cœlestibus ad terrena descendere libuerit, cernet Romanorum principum stupenda licet collapsa palatia, Scipionum, Cæsarum, & Fabiorum domos, uidebit septem colles, unius muri ambitu circumclusos. Mirabitur latas uias, captiuorum contra agminibus augustas, & triumphales arcus, subactorum quondam regum, ac populorum spolijs onustos. Capitolium ascendet omnium caput, arcemq; terrarum, ubi olim cella Iouis fuerat, nunc est ara cœli, unde Augusto Cæsari puer CHRISTVS ostensus est. Hæc ille. Tu uerò quotiens prata germani, & Genouefæ collem [illegible] tenere [illegible] bere, or [illegible] um solis nibil [illegible] esse uidens, & occasum, opinione rua fœlix, si tamen ulla [illegible] [illegible] rore [illegible] tas. Roma [illegible] m digressus ille, nequid scias, per Italiam [illegible] regionem [illegible] Etruscorum [illegible] es inuisere in animo hebet, gelidis ac tepentibus circum [illegible] uum fontibus Viterbium, [illegible] ibem ueterem, præruptis saxi in uertice sedentem. Senas præterea & lupa al rice, & septem [illegible] b [illegible] R [illegible] ma æmulam ciuitatem, Romanorum opus ducum Florentiam, de qua nihil ad præsens, ne quis re mihi, me tibi suspectum faciat amor patriæ. Inde superato iue sus Ap [illegible] nino per studiosam transire Bononiā, atq; huc iterum reuerti cogitat, omniū hic legationis [illegible] prælatorū solenne conciliū acturus, atq; ita cùm demum Mediolanum repe-

tet,

tet, & ad læuam flectentes, tertiò transiliet Apenninum ulsitus & Ianuam, nec immeritò. Nulla enim animosior, nulla hodie uerius tegum ciuitas dici posset, si ciuilis inde concordia non abesset. Ita per Ligusticum sinum, quo nullus amœnior, per cedrinos ac palmiferos saltus, per odoriferum atq; undisonum littus, ad Italiæ finem ueniet in Gallias reuersurus. Non hæc properantis tædio affecti animi signa sunt, uides ut Menandreo more circumflectitur, quo & à pluribus locis aduentus sui iucunditas sentiatur, & generosa mens pluriformium rerum recreetur aspectibus. Habet igitur exul tuus magnam gaudendi materiam; multa & magna, & memorabilia uidisse, & ubi præclarissimū nomen suum, illa quæ minuere famā solet, auxisse præsentia, habet & quo lætetur Italia, quæ inter præsentis æui nubila hoc uelut benigno quodam sydere, serenata est, & quæ ab initio rerum, ut ipse non ignoras omnium auctorum testimonio laudatissima terrarum omnium semper fuit, tantùm præconem nostra ætate, unde non sperabat inuenit. Crede enim mihi, mirabere, ubi eum reducē audies, de rebus Italicis prædicantem. Itaq; ut iam tandem, aliquando concludam, si desiderium tanti patris ægre fers, si solitudinē tuam, & si tu nimio contractam animi rubiginem lamentatis, possum humanis passionibus ueniam dare. Si uerò uel nos illi, uel illum nobis inuides, prorsus Satyrico dente mordendus es, quem torqueat aliena lætitia. Proinde quicquid est, breue est. Aestas te proxima uictorē faciet, reddítura tibi quem nobis eripiet, imaginem tamen illius, nulla dies de nostris præcordijs extirpabit. Et quantò putas alacrior, quantoq; rerum experientior redibit, quantò non solum cæteris, sed etiam semetipso sublimior, qui tàm multa oculis suis uiderit. & urbanitatem Gallicam Italica condiuerit grauitate. In plausus illud tuum omnipotēs ueteres eloquium, pudebitq; inutilium quærelarum, quarum nulla quidem erat excusatio, nisi, quia uulgari sermone conscriptæ sunt, ut intelligi detur non te in illis tuam, sed uulgi secutum esse sententiam, cuius rectum, deprehēsumq; iudicium semper fui. Tu uiue & uale nostri memor. Salutat te Marcus Medicus cōpatriota Virgilij. Patauij xv. Calend Martias.

FRAN. PETRARCHA HONORABILI ET INSIGNI VIRO DOMINO FRANCISCO BRVNO, S. Epist. XLIII.

EPistolam tuam, apostolicis literis insertam, nō tantùm lætus & soleo, sed solito lætior uidi, grauib. enim me curis explicuit. Nam ne quid te non actuū modò, sed cogitatuū meorum lateat, suspicari fateor, nondū quidem plenè cœperam, sed iam incipere meditabar te mei oblitū, non quia id naturæ tuæ, seu moribus conueniret, sed fortunæ prosperitas certè, quæ nunquā tanta tibi esse potest, quantā cupio, obliuionem amicitiarum parere solita, parūper mihi esse incipiebat annuo iam suspecta silētio. Fecisti optimè, qui me hoc labore animi liberasti. Quieui illicò lecta excusatione tua, quā prius ex ore amici præuenientis audieram, sed magna apud me est calamo tuo fides. Ad rem uenio. Sanctissimus dominus noster mihi scribere dignatus est & quid scribat nosti, literas enim tu dictasti filius tuus qui & meus est filius nisi fallor, scripsit. Literis tanti patris reuerēti metu, sed non sine quadā fiducia concepta, non de ullis meritis meis, sed de sola ipsius & olim, & nūc maximè cognita mihi humanitate, respōdeo, quid nō dico, tu qui suas dictasti literas meas leges. Permisi mihi paulò liberiùs euagari, quā considerata ipsius magnitudine debuissem, sed humanitatē solam, & clementiā cogitaui, ne tamen nimiū multiloquio importunus fierem, frenaui impetum, & in finem remisi eū, ad has tuas literas ut uidebis. Summa aūt hæc est. Ego frater si quid mihi ad uitam unius canonici deesse dicam, mentiar, sed si dixero, me plures habere notos, & plura inde grauamina quàm totum ferè capitulum cuius ego pars sum, forsitan nō mentiar. Quæ an declinari ulla arte ualeā ignoro. Sæpè certè tentanti, nunquā hactenus successit. Vnde mihi nō exiguus uitæ labor, & quāuis forsitan gloriosa, tamē haud dubiè tædiosa perplexitas. Si quæras, num quod restat transire possim, ut nunc usq; transiui, possum planè, sed haudquaquā faciliùs quàm olim, imò uerò difficiliùs, quod ad sarcina indies augetur, & uires minuūtur, habeo hic præbendā, quæ mihi panem & uinum dat non solum ad utendum, sed etiam ad uendendum. Residentia mihi aliquid ualeret, sed ego urbes, uti ergastula fugio, & magis eligo solitario in rure, si oporteat esurire, quàm in urbib. abundare, quāuis nulla fuga, nullæ me latebræ à concursu protegāt, habeo famulos, sine quibus utinam uiuere possem, aut scirem. Habeo equos, quando pauciores duos saltem, & ut sileā quæ sunt historiæ longioris, soleo habere scriptores quinq; uel sex, habeo tres ad præsens, & ne plures habeam causa est, quia non inueniuntur scriptores, sed pictores utinā non inepti. Habeo unum presbyterum uenerabilem uirum; qui dùm in Ecclesia sum assiduus

mecum est,cum quo sæpè,ubi solus prandere disposui, ecce subitò è transuerso conuiuarũ acies,uel cibo pascenda,uel fabulis,uitari enim prorsus nequit, ne uel superbior appaream, uel auarior quàm sum. Sic me Deus amet,ut nonnunquam spectare mihi uideor,illos Penelopeos Homericos procos,nisi quod hostes illi fuerant,hi autẽ sunt amici. Exonero animum loquendo,tecum,imò mecum,& ideò te tandiù hoc inutili sermone occupo, quãdo autem de me Frater hæc crederes? Et totum hoc mihi facit lenitas mea, quæ me natura licet uulgo abstractum in commune restituit. Cupio preterea & dispono Deo dante,nõ templum Marti,quantum nusquam esset, ut Iulius Cæsar, sed unum hic paruum Oratorium Beatæ uirgini extruere,iamq; opus aggredior,si deberem libellos meos pignorare uel uendere. Et si ad opusculum hoc explendum, CHRISTVS mihi uitam & facultatem dederit,statim si uenire ipse non possim,sicut non posse arbitror,defectus uiribus corporeis,famulum unum ad dominum meum Sabinensem,& ad te mittam,ad retendandum istic, quod olim me frustrà noluisse,& ipse scit,& tu etiam non ignoras. Hæc amice curarum mearum pars millesima est,si his ergo atque alijs, & quid mihi à prædecessore suo promissum erat ut nosti,dominus noster quieti meæ consulere dignaretur, non tenetur fateor indigno & immeritò, nisi ad imitationem forsan illius,cuius uicem gerit, qui multa bona quotidie confert immeritis & indignis. Et si quidẽ hoc uelit,ut literæ eius indicant,potest perfacilè profectò uno uerbo. Nullus enim Dominorum,tàm facilè potest benefacere quibus uult,quàm Romanus Pontifex,qui se fortè mihi facere uellet,secundùm suam condecentiam,quod dixisse fertur Alexander Macedo, multum esset aut nimium. Si uerò secundùm meam insufficientiam,nihil esset, aut modicum. Temperet hæc igitur,ut sibi uidebitur, siue enim multũ faciat,siue nihil,siue modicum,contentabor. Quin tu potiùs,dicat aliquis,pete quod uidetur,quando paratum habes animũ largientis,hoc amice non possum,triplici ratione. Primũ nempe quid petam prorsus nescio,sicut ille,qui rarò unquam de talibus cogitaui. Omnia ferè uitia mihi obijci,uel ab amico patiar,uel ab hoste,dum dolus malus,dumq; ambitio sequestrentur. Deinde esto quod amicorum indagine, aliquid quod peterem inuenirem,antè tamen quàm nuncius meus ad pedes Apostolicos perueniret, esset de facili idipsum petitũ ab alio & concessum. Non est enim ut opinor dominus noster in illa duritie, qua fuerũt aliqui in diebus nostris, negare omnia parati, dum non nisi perfectis uiris dare aliquid uolunt,quod si fiat,aut omnia beneficia uacabũt,aut paucissimis omnia conferentur,tàm rara est humana perfectio. Postremò fieri posset,ut aliquid peterem, quod eidem Domino non non placeret,sed propter incomparabilẽ benignitatẽ suam, supplicationib. meis condescenderet,quod ego nullo modo uellẽ habere aliquid,quamuis magnificũ,& mihi utile, quod sibi non penitùs gratũ esset. Quid fiet igitur,dicam tibi: Si uoluntas Domini est,qualis uidetur esse ipse sit & benefactor,& consultor,nec meretur id sibi dici,quod fœlicis recordationis Domino Clementi,patruo suo dixi. Cum enim sui gratia,officiũ quod tu nũc industrie geris,mihi obtulisset,quod me nolente,tunc habuit magister Frãciscus de Neapoli,& deinde me sæpè,licet indignum,Episcopum facere uoluisset. Et ego indignantibus Dominis,& amicis continuè recusassem,ultimo mihi dixit. Pete quod uis & faciã tibi. Cui ego respondi: Si benè facere mihi uultis, non solum beneficentia, sed electio Pater sanctissime uestra sit. Vos scitis optime quanti me facitis, quando aliquid petente alio, uel quomodolibet ad notitiam uestram uenit,quod me dignum uideatur,mei si placet memoriã habetote. Quod ipse se facturum clementissimè repromisit,& fecisset non dubito, nisi eum mors, multis & inter alios mihi damnosa præuenisset. Ita ergo mihi expedit,ut Dominus noster faciat,si mihi aliquid uult facere. Nam si expectatur,ut ego senex nunc sollicitus sim petitor, quod iuuenis nunquam fui,actum est,nil penitùs unquam fiet. In hoc sanè Domini mei Sabinensis interuentio,& tua sedulitas efficacissima erit,& neutram defuturam certè spero. Alios ibi non habeo,nam quos habui,uel defuncti,uel alienati sunt. Solus ipse Dominus Sabinensis tribus & triginta annis,in eodem proposito erga me mansit,nec ulla unquam,siue propter occupationes eius inextimabiles, siue propter silentium meum, siue propter abscessum suum facta mutatio est,nisi de bono semper in melius. Secum de his ergo delibera, & ipsum ad omnia fidenter require,animum eius ad me, uerbis ut puto tibi cognitũ, factis animi testibus recognosces. Ego enim sibi breuiter scribam,& eum quoq; ad has literas remittã,ne minutias,& fabellas meas sæpè repetã. De quibus scis quod nunquã tibi aliquid scripsi,neque nunc quidem fueram scripturus,nisi quia sic res poscere uisa est. Et nunc frater habes totam hãc historiam,necessariam potiùs quàm iocundam, si unũ addidero, quod

posses

posset forsan in colloquium uenire. Nam si roget in hunc modum: Quamuis nominatim nescias, quod petendū sit, cuius generis tamē beneficio optares edicito: dicam quod apud Ciceronē Cotta: Omnibus ferè (inquit) in rebus quid nō sit citiùs, quam quid sit dixerim. Prælaturā itaq; nullam uolo, nec uolui quidē unquā, similiter nec beneficiū curatū, quodcunq; quāuis opulentissimū, satis est mihi unius animæ meæ cura, atq; utinam illi uni sufficiam. De reliquo faciat Dominus noster, ut sibi placuerit ut unū sciat, quod siue mihi prouideat, siue non, seruus suus sum, quāuis ad nihil utilis at fidelis saltē, meq; suis iussis obnoxium fateor, & suis olim alloquijs, & nunc suis literis insigniter honoratū, ita ut sibi nō iam sua libertate deuotior, sed obligatior fieri possim. Illud quoq; sibi persuadeas, quod siquid mihi contulerit, idipsum citò alteri cōferre poterit. Ego enim iā delebor, & ut extremo tempus meæ resolutionis instat, heu mihi misero, quia quæ sequitur dicere non possum. Certè ego frater, præter naturalem uitæ legē, quę non est aliud q̃; cursus ad mortē breuis & lubricus, sentio me indies ultra etiā ætatis exigentiā rapi, & uehementer imminui, atq; umbrę in morem euanescere. De quo miror quidē, quia non ita uixi, nisi fallor, ut id adhuc mihi deberet accidere, sed Deo teste non doleo, & si pro peccatis meis accidit ualde etiam gaudeo. Ita enim dudū me adeò poposcisse bis in deuotiuncula quadam memini, his uerbis. Fiat mihi calamus meus purgatoriū meum, & lectulus meus lachrymarū conscius mearū, & in corpore meo doleam, priusquā præceps corruā in tartara. Et iterum: Sit mihi pars purgationis labor meus, quo hic per singulos dies exerceor, reliquum in hac uita, & in membris exiguē, priusquam ueniat tempus egestatis. Si quod bis petij semel assequor, benè habet. Tu uiue fœliciter mei memor, & uale. Arquade inter colles Euganeos: in uigilia Pentecostes.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PHILIPPO CAVALLICENSI EPISCOPO, S.

Epist. XLIIII.

TRia tibi ueniunt pater, multum diuersa munuscula. Vnicus auro nitens piscis, & squamis maculatus argenteis, Torrentinā alij, Turturā quidam uocant. Gratius tamen fuerit saporem nosse, quàm nomen hunc hospitis mei filiùs seruus tuus, in his hodie lucidissimis undis cœpit. Item pinguis anas amœni dudū fontis incola, cui aduersus raram indolem egregij canis, nec liberas aër uias, nec tutas fluuius latebras dedit, nec natanti fuga patuit, nec uolanti. Ad hæc epistola quædā recens, quàm in rure tuo nuper hamo debilis ingenij, inter animi mei fluctus, & rerum scopulos, ipse quoq; piscatus sum. Cætera tamen ita ueniunt, ut apud te maneant, hęc uenit ut redeat. Neq; diutius quàm ut oculos tuos semel impleuerit, tecum sit. Scis causam? Quia ueritas odium parit. Quod si iam tunc tempore Terentij uerum erat, quid hodie arbitraris? Perlege ergo si libet atq; secretius, ac remitte, donec sciamus, quid mundo Deus aut fortuna parauerit, tunc consultabimus, quid huic fiat, an danda sit flammis, an sororibus ascribenda. Interim scito, & huic fidem mentire meam, nullis me oculis hanc alijs ostensurum fuisse, quàm tuis. Vale decus meum, ad fontem Sorgiæ. XIX. Calend. Ianuarij silentio noctis intempestæ.

FRAN. PETRARCHA PHILIPPO EPISCOPO CAVALLICENSI; S. Epist. XLV.

SI quicquid mea mens cogitando concipit, scribendo parturiat, ingens digitis meis, oculisq; tuis opus exoritur. Quod & si ualdè aggredi cupiā pater amabilis, tēpus uetat. Ita distrahor incertis affectibus, & dum necessitati parco, desiderio obluctor, sed benè habet, quicquid scripturus fueram, tacito me luculenter intelliges. Nosti animum ubi cogitationū, actuumq; nostrorum radix fixa est, unde fit, ut quæ ex illo prodeunt, ignorare non possis. Familiariter olim tibi nisi fallor, studiorum finis & uotorū meorum intellecta modestia est, utor enim fidenter, hoc nomine non superbè, conscius suæ humilioris originis, quod unde modicū, inde & modestia dicitur, & à modo nomine utrunq; descendit. Quæ cùm ita sint, cogita pater indulgentissime, quid uelim. Nullis ariolis, nullo [illegible]us interprete, ne ipso quidem uel meæ, uel alienæ uocis oraculo. Intus ad aurem cordis [illegible]i clamat animus meus, & noster nihilominus Socrates non tacebit, quàm improbat con[illegible]centia, & si probè noueris, certius tamen, nunc ex amici colloquio pensabis. Tu autem pater, apud communem Dominum, in quo spei anchora, & quod proprie titulo suo conuenit, rerum nostrarum cardo consistit, preces meas si fauorem meretur adiuua. Si minus excusa, ut enim magister amorum ait:

Quid deceat non uidet ullus amans.

Amo ego uos, ita me ille amet, in cuius amore summa fœlicitas est sita. Amo (inquam) &

 uenerор,

ueneror, uestramq́ præsen[illegible]am eximijs præcordijs concupisco. Itaq; dum uoto meo ob[illegible]quor, uestra forsan fastidia nõ aduerto, siquid importunius agitur, hoc me precor absoluat: [illegible] enim affectus regi nesciunt, frenũ mordent. Epistolam [illegible] scriptã, quãuis lõgiusculam, [illegible]lura tamẽ uolentis dicere, animi nunciã efficacissima uocis tuæ auctoritate confirma, interpretare, iustifica, paucis enim uersiculis, summã tibi meæ mentis approprio, præsta te mihi, ne fr[illegible]stra præoptauerim, q̃ hominũ magna pars metuit [illegible]lentiũ, [illegible]tudinẽ, paupertatem, mirũ so[illegible]us ego ex omnib. mortalib. diues fiam, cũ pauperũ qui fr[illegible]rà di[illegible]tes fieri uolu[illegible] passim tormina uideamus. Occurrite omnes, qui me diligit[illegible] huic monstro. Non cogar unus, unde iam multi se exclusos dolent, & unde tàm cupide omnes fugiunt non excludar. Diuitias alij, ego paupertatem appeto, sed non omnem profect[illegible], no[illegible] sordidam, nõ tr[illegible], neq; sollicitam, sed tranquillam, sed pacificam, sed honestam. [illegible] ab [illegible]lo da[illegible] posse despero, etsi uerum loqui iubes indignor, atq; ab alio dari nolim. Apud eundem igitur intercede, pulsa, urge, insta, opportunè quidem, uel si res exigit importunè. Faci[illegible] p[illegible]o me aditũ inuenient preces tuæ, non solet suas ille despicere, proinde ne uidear precando diffidere, age non ut mereor, sed ut spero Mediolani Idus Mar[illegible]as.

FRAN. PETRARCHA DOMINO FRANCISCO BRVNO, S. Epi[illegible]. XLVI.

PRædilecte frater, casus fuit, ut cũ satis multa per alterius manus ad te uentura sc[illegible]psissem, iterũ mihi in manus calamum necessita[illegible] hone[illegible]a re[illegible] oneret. Siquid[illegible] p[illegible]æsentiũ presbyter. N. plebanus, &c. Domini [illegible]ap[illegible]nei capellan[illegible]s, cum p[illegible] Domino suo, ad Dominũ nostrum uenit. Est au[illegible]m [illegible], ut mihi dicitur bonus, & in suo genere singularis, propter [illegible]uod inter tàm multos, a[illegible] [illegible]antum o[illegible]ciũ prælectus est, quibusdam quoq; mihi uenerabilibus ac dilectis charus admodũ & accept[illegible]s q[illegible]ibus cum notũ esset, quod hic paucis bonis est inc[illegible]gnitum, quanta sci[illegible]icet in ter[illegible] [illegible]as animorum, optarunt ut ad te commendato[illegible]ias literas meas ferret [illegible] [illegible] fui, quia & amicis talibus nil negare didici, & apud bonũ pro bon[illegible] [illegible]onem fauor[illegible]lem reor. Faue [illegible]lli quæso, q̃da potes rem mihi feceris [illegible]ratissimam. V[illegible]le.

FR[illegible]N. PETRARCHA FRANCISCO [illegible] Epi[illegible]. XLVII.

NIsi ualdè fortibus humeris sis, tot mearũ inter[illegible]essionũ [illegible]re non [illegible]. Scrip[illegible] sæpè & repeto, notã adeò his in [illegible] nostr[illegible], ut si passim omni[illegible]us annuã, literas ad te meas, op[illegible]ibus lar[illegible], unũ hoc tibi aliatarum sit. Parco aũt labori tuo, parco & meo, & ad m[illegible] [illegible]actimus, hac in re dif[illegible]cilem, imò [illegible]nexorab[illegible] me præbeo nisi his solis, quos mihi uel uirtus, uel singular[illegible]s a[illegible]citia conciliat. Vtroq; u[illegible]o [illegible] præsentium affluentẽ nouens. N. uirum scientificum atq; honestum, & mihi has [illegible]b causas atq; insignem morum suauitat[illegible] [illegible]ua delector, accepti[illegible]mum. Hunc tibi dudum commendasse memor sum, & ipse tuæ benignitatis ac uirtutis præco[illegible]gens, mihi se ne di[illegible]am tibi, tuum ob meritum perpetuò obligatum fert. Nunc fortè alijs ex causis, sed ut reor, [illegible]icet hoc taceat, quia unus est ex illorum acie, quor[illegible]ũ uirtus m[illegible]is, ac mo[illegible]rum diuersitas odiosum facit, studuit aliquantisper peregrinari à patria, & tentare [illegible]qua sibi sors alibi prosperior foret. Recommendo eum tibi iterum, eò arctius, quò sola olim fama, nunc experientia notus insuper & d[illegible]lectus, tunc amicus amicorũ, nunc uerò amicissi[illegible]s mihi est, quod non esset nisi talem s[illegible]irem qualem dico. Si sibi ergo uel o[illegible]e, uel c[illegible] p[illegible]desse potes, te hinc uiro bono, imo optimo profuturũ, h[illegible]c mihi cui semper places ex[illegible] [illegible]placiturũ scito. De me siquid nosse uolueris ipse dicet. De alijs enim pridem latiu[illegible] & responsum tuum expecto. Vale Paduæ XXVI. Nouemb. mane.

* *Hæc epistola, Cancri in modum retrograda, ingenij exercitio insigni ab authore conscripta, lecta siquidem, [illegible] genere demonstratiuo uersatur, à principio de cursu laudat, à fine incepta uituperat.*

FRAN. [illegible] AMICO, S. Ep[illegible]. XLVIII.

IVcunda ipsa fœlicitate, lætisq́ ijsdem successibus te prosperis p[illegible] nunq[illegible] q[illegible]bet te passurũ aduersa, probate re uera, fide & operibus amic[illegible] fi[illegible]e uir [illegible] [illegible]o, ac i[illegible]ter Deũ oro. Prolongentur dies tui, nec [illegible] ita breuis, [illegible] a[illegible], [illegible]s ergo cunctis opt[illegible]tis debita q[illegible]æpiã h[illegible] non u[illegible]s. Versus ad cõmen[illegible] tui, promere uolui, stylo sonante d[illegible] del[illegible]tis in tuæ laudes, non [illegible]ndum, [illegible]iquid fuerit, tegens de tui rubore p[illegible]dens tua tamen eg[illegible], noni[illegible] era prædicanda. Cognoui te moribus perfe[illegible] m[illegible] n[illegible]s quadiu[illegible] tutum card[illegible] ad[illegible], at[illegible]q; uictor[illegible] mac[illegible]lis aspe[illegible]

[illegible] em [illegible] andū non iam præpo[illegible]erandū ideò duxi singula ordinata in te frequenter [illegible] per [illegible]ul. Probas te prouidum in futuris, caues semper pericula, neq; prospe [illegible] animi c[illegible]plecteris. Di[s]posita in te præ[s]entia [illegible]lerti non segni studio, certa in [illegible] o[illegible]dis, c[illegible]po[illegible]um hic animū, non q; rudem effectibus monstras. Amplecten- [illegible] q;, [illegible] aspernenda operū tuorum gesta, probā[illegible] la re ipsa exemplorū ueterum il- [illegible] m[illegible] nor[illegible] non ex [illegible]rdem, iam [illegible] te fuisse prior[illegible]s, & esse [illegible] mines proclamāt, prom- [illegible] gregata memoria. T[illegible] us itaq; temporibus t[illegible]us [illegible]nimus manet, dispensantibus [illegible] [illegible]u ientia omni, ac peritia rerum absq; cordis ignorantia q[illegible]orumcunq; natura. [illegible] lect[illegible]m te [i]ustitiam in iudicando foues, præmia bona, non supplicia iu[st]is, [illegible] d[illegible] r[illegible]mina non coronas, dudum tribuere d[illegible] die[illegible]li Veritati simili[s], abdica [illegible] is, h[illegible] ibus omnibus sua, non p[illegible]cr, aut i[n]iquissimu[s] cen[s]or, seruans [illegible] m[illegible]eri ordiam in seueris, & pietatem in rig[o]ribus, semper tuis ce[illegible] lens ex ani- [illegible] adiec[illegible] onibusq; pœnarū Donator liberalis, nemini par[illegible]us, larg[illegible]or munifi [illegible] Execratis uitia non uirtutes, mores honesti[ss]imos insectaris. H[o]nestū nilq; [illegible] tū q[illegible]o[illegible] peraris, iusto[s] & bonos sequens [p]er omne tempu[s], plu[illegible] in c[illegible] [illegible] o[illegible] [illegible]us ope[illegible]ibus [t]uis. C[illegible] [illegible]tem in animo te cert[illegible] [illegible]oti ferent [illegible] lici ha- [illegible], non [illegible]x[illegible]ll[illegible]ri, aduersis euentibus fortem non depi[illegible]l[illegible]um te reddere. [illegible]onitu[illegible] [illegible] item [illegible]m[illegible] [illegible]us temporibus inuincibilem, sic seruan[illegible] agnosceris. Declamatis [illegible] [illegible]teta, am [illegible] publica longa nimis non trepidus, seruidus non rem[illegible]s, l[illegible]re [illegible] ce[illegible] [illegible] are[illegible]e. Sancta modestia, [illegible]ul[illegible]a gastrimargia fungens, castimo [illegible]. [illegible]e[illegible]peratu[illegible]m in uerbis [illegible]a[illegible]ibus c[illegible]is, & pot[illegible]b[illegible]is, te die [illegible]c [illegible] is a[illegible] stantur. Deo atq; hominibus gr[a]tia omnibus opera tua pa- [illegible] n [illegible]ter quo[illegible]q; fas, & per eas anima mala neee. Fœlicem [illegible] gradibus [illegible] ma[illegible]n te probandum te consona ueritate perspicua, cunctis nota, regno di- [illegible] m[illegible] rure, [c]unctis notoria.

FRANCISCI PETRAR- CH[AE] V. C. IN LIBRVM D[E] SV[I] [IPS]IV[S] ET A[L]I[O]RVM I[G]NORAN[T]IA AD DONAT[V]M A[P]ENNIGE[NAM] Grammaticum,

PRÆFATIO.

Abes enim Amice iam tandem expectatum, [illegible]omissumq; li[b]rum, par[illegible] [illegible] mare [illegible] ingenti, me scilicet ac multorum i[g]norar[illegible] ta quam si in [illegible] n[illegible] incude [illegible] malleo extendere lecuisset, crede mihi in camel[illegible] [illegible]inam excre[illegible]. Nam qu[illegible] [illegible] tior lo[q]uendi area, q[illegible] campus ingentior, [q]uam [illegible]um ing[illegible] [illegible]noranti[illegible] & præsertim mea[illegible] Ita ue[illegible] hunc le[illegible]es, ut me a[illegible] [illegible]o[illegible] [illegible]ernis n[illegible] [illegible]us fabul[illegible] audire [illegible]es, & qua im[illegible]ctus fert ua[illegible]nire. L[illegible]r qu[illegible] m dicitur, c[illegible]loqui [illegible]m [illegible]. Nil de libro habet præter nomē, non molem [illegible] non stylum non [illegible] grauitatem, ut qui cursim in itinere approperante [illegible]scriptu[s] sit. Sed de[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] ut paruo te munere, magno sed nomine [illegible]omerer[illegible] r, & [illegible]sus licet n[illegible]stra [illegible] [illegible] n[illegible] re[illegible]llere cogitaue. Est & inter amicos hic [illegible]lendi us[illegible] pauxillum pon[illegible]um u[illegible] [illegible] num [illegible]uri, uase argenteo inclusum, candido [illegible]teo [illegible]buol[illegible]imu[s], nec plu[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]u[illegible]d [illegible] me [illegible] sed ac[illegible]pienti gratius, [h]onestius fit mittenti. Sic & [illegible] o[illegible] m[illegible] paruam pul[illegible] uel [illegible] e[illegible] possem dicer[illegible], [illegible]rum de[illegible], qu[illegible] tibi non [i]dcirco [illegible]or fu[illegible] [illegible] u[illegible] [illegible]er extus, & pleno undique mar[illegible]in[illegible] [illegible]rcū[illegible] rcus est. E[illegible] n[illegible] [illegible]s [illegible] cotis, animo tamen [illegible] undem gratiæ a[illegible] [illegible]rber, qu[illegible]d[illegible] ncue[illegible] [illegible] m[illegible] mini[illegible]ligis, cui [illegible]scribam, ut addi[illegible]onc[illegible] a[illegible] s[illegible] [illegible] on[illegible] [illegible] as[illegible]ta. Nec præterea dubitare pos[illegible], me [illegible]sse, [illegible] & [illegible] n [illegible] m[illegible] [illegible] de indust[ri]a tot c[illegible]ric[illegible] def[illegible]matus, ad te ue[illegible]at [illegible] [illegible] uer[illegible]tum [illegible]ran[illegible]u[illegible]um [illegible] [illegible]quit [illegible]n manu[illegible] mea[illegible] [illegible]um [illegible] her[illegible] [illegible]u[illegible] rapi[illegible] ser[illegible], u[illegible] lacelle ap[illegible]o[illegible]t, [illegible]n[illegible] trans[illegible]ato[illegible] aut di- [illegible] ante atq; [illegible]enerasse ex[illegible] [illegible] mul[illegible] & de[illegible]cta, [illegible] erant, & [h]æc qui[d]em ille. Nil [illegible] [illegible]um [illegible]s [illegible] e mei memor, & uale. Pataui. Idib. Ian. [illegible] doloris in lectulo [h]ora noctis. X I.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ, V. C. DE SVIIPSIVS ET MVLTORVM IGNORANTIA,

LIBER.

Vnquam ne igitur quiescemus [illegible] Nullæ nobis erunt feriæ? [illegible] dendum erit nec inui [illegible], aut latebræ [illegible] quietem mihi omnium ferme pro [illegible] nant [illegible] ferias, rerum fuga pepererit? Ne [illegible] denique iam [illegible] xa, [illegible] . O' uenen [illegible] ax [illegible] ex [illegible] nondum ex [illegible] o [illegible] uat, hæc cui nil debeo me [illegible] na [illegible] nam meam [illegible] amici, & collector [illegible] nolcito. Loqui o [illegible] tium suadeat, [illegible] is in bel [illegible] tribunal. [illegible] lirum, nec o a [illegible] . Quid non [illegible] improbe, si amicos eu [illegible] hactenus, nunc p [illegible] , nam cum h [illegible] us, [illegible] dulce [illegible] uictoria, cum ami [illegible] neque [illegible] modo, neque cum [illegible] , pl [illegible] Hic [illegible] habet [illegible] est, & [illegible] stulheret. Hic m [illegible] mon [illegible] s inuicem [illegible] apud Alexandrum [illegible] belli cau [illegible] stabit, ne [illegible] x [illegible] , quod il [illegible] m [illegible] licet [illegible] Nec id [illegible] genio, [illegible] prem [illegible] num est [illegible] s un [illegible] ex coniuratis, fit [illegible] tyra [illegible] us [illegible] sant hortat [illegible] ret. [illegible] amicitia, [illegible] per [illegible] rem [illegible] non [illegible] amplexi [illegible] fouet. Dum [illegible] in tenebr [illegible] sicut tunc [illegible] yro incol [illegible] ia, dul [illegible] fieri posset, ext [illegible] inuidia [illegible] di. Sed iam tandem ipsam rem a [illegible] notam tibi non aliter, quàm [illegible] amicis. Et fa [illegible] s d [illegible] fuerit, quàm in nos. Itaque m [illegible] nemo [illegible] inimicas uel [illegible] o et, [illegible] propriis [illegible] quod [illegible] mihi notum esset tu fe [illegible] quiar, non ut amplius [illegible] as, nec [illegible]

[illegible]

damno id memini mihi [illegible] quàm usui, cumque non paucos mihi fecerit amicos [illegible] fecit innumeros. Et [illegible] mihi accidit, ut his qui in igni cas [illegible] ide [illegible] ad [illegible] meunt quibus nil aliud Chymeræ fulgor præstat, nisi ut à pluribus [illegible] tanetur. [illegible] olim pel[illegible]s, [illegible] erquàm familiaris uiridioribus annis fuit, nunquam uer[illegible] mo [illegible] tior quam quæ nunc e[illegible] arior, quod & eo delicatior [illegible] bellis iuue[illegible]s, ac talibus subeundis oneribus & illo [illegible] nec uereor, nec uerebar, & quãdo uel meis moribus [illegible] con sumpta esse debuerat, inopina renascitur. Sed progredior. [illegible] o[illegible]rant se magnos & sunt [illegible] nè [illegible] nes diuite[illegible] quæ nunc una mortalibus magnitudo est. Sentiunt etsi in hoc mul[illegible] fallant, nullum [illegible] omen partum, nullum siri[illegible] præ[illegible] perat[illegible]m. Ha[illegible] ter cura an-xij tabes[illegible], & quanta ui mali est? Rabidi uelut canes, in amicos quoque linguas exerunt, dentes acuunt, uulnerantque quos diligunt. Quæ nam hæc cæcitas? Quis'nam furor? nonne enim sic etiam Pontheum furens mater lacerat, & Hercules paruos natos amant isti me & mea omnia præter unum nomen, quod mutare non [illegible] re[illegible]o, ut Th[illegible]sites di[illegible]r, aut Chæri[illegible]us, uel [illegible] ud malunt, [illegible] obtineam, nequa[illegible] honesti [illegible] moris ex-ce[illegible]tio. E[illegible] uerò [illegible] crius uruntur, & cæco æstuant incẽdio quod & ip[illegible] udio [illegible] omnes & lit-eubra [illegible] orea m[illegible] unt, ita tame[illegible] primus literas nullas [illegible] iat, [illegible] loqu[illegible] o[illegible]ia, se-cundas paucas, [illegible]s non m[illegible]s, quartas uero nõ paucas [illegible] per[illegible] lex[illegible] ade[illegible] qu[illegible] incompositas, [illegible] ut ait [illegible]cero, tanta leuitate & iactatione, [illegible] lo [illegible] e[illegible]us [illegible] it las [illegible] Sunt enim literæ [illegible] instrumenta dementi[illegible], cun[illegible] fere superbiæ, n[illegible] q[illegible] [illegible] am bona[illegible] b[illegible] institutam animam incider[illegible] ta igitur de [illegible] a [illegible] u[illegible] ibus, quo [illegible] s [illegible] uertice, quot plum[illegible] a[illegible] in cauda, [illegible] spiris naufragium liget. Vt aduer[illegible] coeunt Elephantes, bienniumque uterum [illegible] t, ut de-cile, uiuaxque animal, & humano proximum ingenio, & ad secundi [illegible] ertijque [illegible] m[illegible] æc[illegible] u-ue[illegible] o perueniens, ut Phœnix aromatico igne [illegible] ur ustusque renas[illegible], [illegible] ch[illegible] quouis impetu actam proram [illegible] enat, eum fluctibus [illegible] po[illegible] pe[illegible] ulo Tygrem lud[illegible] Arimaspus Gryphen ferro impet[illegible] Cete nauta [illegible] tergo f[illegible] lunt ut in [illegible] u[illegible] sæ partus, multæ rarus, uiperæ uniens, isque infœlix, [illegible] gei talp[illegible], surdæ apes, ut postremo superiorem [illegible] andibulam omnium solus animantium [illegible] rocodylus mouet, quæ [illegible] idem [illegible] m[illegible] na ex parte falsa sunt, quod in multis horum [illegible] us, ubi [illegible] orbem de[illegible] sun[illegible] patuit, uel certe ipsis auctoribus incomperta, s[illegible] ter ab [illegible] en[illegible] m uel credita prom-p[illegible] ta l[illegible] en[illegible] s. Quæ denique quamuis uera e[illegible], nihil penitùs ad beatam uitam, [illegible] o, [illegible] as [illegible] el[illegible] um & uolucrum, & piscium & ser[illegible] ntium n[illegible] e pro[illegible] erit & [illegible] a[illegible] ho n[illegible] mus, unde & qu[illegible] per[illegible] c[illegible] resc[illegible]e, uel [illegible] e[illegible] uere I[illegible]e [illegible] a[illegible] tui sim [illegible] a[illegible] r bas, non Mosaica [illegible] que nec Christiana, sed Aristote-li[illegible] d[illegible] c d[illegible] mos, cùm sæpe liberius agerem, quàm [illegible] ut q[illegible] inter amicos loquens nihil inde peric[illegible] p[illegible] a [illegible] m con[illegible] a[illegible] iam hære[illegible] ac pate[illegible] nas [illegible] di[illegible] a f[illegible] re[illegible] col[illegible] g[illegible] & [illegible] con[illegible] m, ut me quem profectò diligunt [illegible] d[illegible] famã [illegible] eam quam o[illegible] ru[illegible] t[illegible] rantiæ crimine [illegible] demnarent. Vocassent utinam & al[illegible]s. Fuisset forsitan in e[illegible] d[illegible] endæ sententiæ co[illegible] ad ctum, ipsi uerò ut concors esset, & unanimis sente[illegible] [illegible] q[illegible] at[illegible] r co[illegible] re. [illegible] de a[illegible] e[illegible] te atque defenso, multa & uaria, [illegible] n quod uar[illegible] mati e[illegible], cum [illegible] omnes sen[illegible] ent, unumque dictur[illegible] e[illegible] ent, contra se tamen, suumque iudi-tium, peritorum more iudicum [illegible] uentes, ut uelut contradictionum angustijs eliquata expressa ueritate coloratius diff[illegible] ren[illegible] Dixer[illegible] p[illegible] mo, famam publicam pro me st[illegible] sed p[illegible] dei me[illegible] a[illegible] re[illegible] onderunt, nec [illegible] eo quòd uulgus rarissimè uerum ce[illegible] Dix[illegible] unt deinde, maximorum atque doctissimorum hominum amicitias, quibus [illegible] na [illegible] d in Domino glorier [illegible] tam egi, eorum sententiæ obstare, quin & re[illegible] um f[illegible] m[illegible] arit[illegible] p[illegible] ur[illegible] um, [illegible] omi[illegible] at[illegible] regis, qui me [illegible] cre[illegible] r & [illegible] tiæ at[illegible] ne[illegible] m[illegible] estas[illegible] t. Re[illegible] ponderunt & hic plan[illegible] ment[illegible] ta est [illegible] s, & non [illegible] tas, sed uanitas [illegible] Regem ipsum literatum mag[illegible] a etiam fama, [illegible] a fui Sen[illegible] a. R[illegible] s [illegible] m[illegible] is [illegible] s [illegible] n me tamen non [illegible] t pe[illegible] icaci [illegible] esse iudi[illegible] e amor ill[illegible] d [illegible] præterc[illegible] Ro. Pon.tres p[illegible] p[illegible] me [illegible] familia [illegible] itatis [illegible] gra[illegible] e qu[illegible] & [illegible] æs[illegible] t Vrbanum, de me [illegible] ene [illegible] oq[illegible] isque m[illegible] t[illegible] ma[illegible] nunc pr[illegible] em, neque [illegible] a[illegible] e [illegible] cep[illegible] ctat[illegible] m[illegible] a[illegible] le [illegible]

... repertis atque epistolis solitum uocare, late notum, nulli ... dubium est. Ex quibus ... quid mihi nonnulli ... pretij argumentum quæri sensiunt. Sed & hunc obiectum dis... Poetes, & Pontifices uel secutos famam, aberrasse, cum cæteris uel moribus, non scientia inductos, ut id agerent asseruere, & principem studio gestarum rerum, atque historiarum ... m, quarum mihi aliquam notitiam non negant. Ad hæc obstare sibi dixerūt eloquentiam, quam ego Mediusfidius, non agnosco. Ipsi autem persuasorem satis efficacem perhibent, quod etsi Rhetorici, siue oratoris officium sit, apposite dicere, ad persuadendum ... s, persuadere dictione, multis tamen indoctis contigisse aiunt, quodque est artis, tribuunt fortunæ, uulgatumque illud afferunt: Multum loquentiæ, parum sapientiæ. Nec aduertunt ... nitionem Catonianam illam oratoris huic calumniæ aduersaniem. Obstare denique & ... bendi stylum, quem non solum uituperare, sed parum laudare uerití elegantem prorsus ... sed absque illa scientia fassi sunt. Sed qualiter hoc fieri posset non intelligo, ... illos reor, & puto si ad se redeant, dictumque recogitent, tam facilis pudebit ... enim primum uerum esset, quod ego rursum nec fateor, nec opinor, secundum ... esse non dubitem. Nam quo pacto omnium ignaro stylus excellens sit, quis eis ... nullus est? Ita ne fortuita omnia suspicantes, locum non linquimus ra... autem uis, seu quid teris? Expectas credo iudicum sententiam, omnibus ... men ductis, nescio quem Deum, quoniam nec Deus uolens iniquitatem, nec ... s nuditæ, aut ignorantiæ ullus est, quam geminam ueti nubem dixerim, ante oculos ... te, breuem diffinitiuam hanc tu ... sententiā, scilicet me sine literis uirum bonum. ... n ueri nihil unquam, præter hoc unum dixerint, aut dicturi sint. Ecco alme, saluti... uere literarum omni ... & ingenij Deus, & largitor uere Rex gloriæ ac uirtu... Domine, te tunc flexis animæ genubus supplex oro, ut si mihi non amplius uis largi... ferem portio mea sit, ut uir bonus sim, quod nisi te ualde amem, piéque colam, esse non possum. Ad hoc enim, non ad literas natus sum, quæ ... solæ obuenerint inflant, diru... non ædificant, fulgida uincula, lab... umque negocium ac sonorum pondus ani... scis Domine coram quo om... desid... um atque omne suspirium meum est, quo ... quando his sobrie usus sum, ... d amplius quæsiui, quam ut bonus fierem, ... quod id literas, aut quamuis id pol ... cretur Aristoteles ... alique alij omninò, al ... unum facere posse confiderem, si quod per liter ... te ... debam iter, hon ... certius, simulque iucundius existimarem, te duce non alio. Tu sis, inquam, scrutator ... illarum, ita esse ut dico, nunquam tam iuuenis, nunquā tam gloriæ cupidus sui qu... interdum me suisse non inficior, quin maluerim bonus esse quam doctus. Optaui utrumque ... fateor, ... sinita est, & inexplebilis humana cupiditas, donec in te ... copia quem quoque ... non ... optabā, sed quoniam alterū ... seu neg ... aliam ... meis ... quæ duobus mihi optimum reliquerunt, mod ... mentiti sint. ... mihi præsuperent quod uolebāt, quod non erant dederunt, ... ipse solarer meam ... ni ... morem in me muliebris inuidiæ secuti. ... de uicinæ forma, bonam illam & bene moratā dicit. Omnes denique titulos falsos ... illi cedit, unum & fortassé uerum, ut eripiat formosæ nomen. At tu Deus meus scientia ... Domine, extra quem non est ... & Aristotelē, & Philosophis quibuslibet ... oetis, & quicunque multiplicat loqui su... glorantes, quem denique literis, & doctrinis, & omninò rebus omnib præferre debeo & uolo. Tu mihi quod illi falsum tribuunt, uiri boni nomē tribuere uerum potes, & ... uelis precor, nec tam nomen bonū, quod unguentis pretiosis præfert Salomon, quam ... posco, ut sim bonus, ut te amem, amarique merear abs te. Nemo enim ... amat ... uicem reddit ut te cogitem, tibi obsequar, in te sperē, de te loquar. Recedant uetera ... ore meo, & tibi præparētur cogitationes meæ, uere enim arcus fortiū superatus est, & in... accincti sunt robore, fœliciorque est multo unus ex pusillis istis, qui in te credūt, quam ... Aristoteles, quam Varro, quam Cicero qui in suis omnibus cum literis te non norunt, & ad ... iunctis tibi, qui petia es, absorpti sunt, iudices eorum, & literata ignorantia patefacta ... literæ igitur sint, uel horū qui illas mihi auferunt, uel quia horū, ni fallor esse nō pos... sint quorum cunque potuerint, horum autem si suarū opinio rerū ingens, & Aristoteles ... um nomen quod his quinque syllabis multos delectat ignoras. Insuper & inane gaudiū, ... fun ... proxima, omnisque que ... & ... suis errori... um ... & facili credulitate percipiunt, mea uero ... humilitas, & ignorātiæ pro... tatisque notitia, & nullius nisi mūdi, & mei, & insolētiæ contemnentiū me, con-

temptus,

temptus, de me diffidentia, de te spes. Postremò portio mea Deus, & quam mihi non inuident, uirtus illiterata, ridebunt planè, si hæc audiant, & dicent me, ut aniculam quamlibet sine literis piè loqui. His enim literarum typo tumidis, nil pietate uilius, qua ueris sapientibus ac sobrie literatis nihil est charius, quibus scribitur, pietas est sapientia, meisque sermonibus magis ac magis in sententia firmabuntur, ut sine literis bonus sim: Quid uerò nunc dicimus, Donate fidissime? Te alloquor, quem magis horum liuoris aculeus, quàm meipsum cui infligebatur pupugit, quid inquam amice agimus? An æquiores iudices prouocamus? An silemus, & silentio sententiam confirmamus? Hoc satius, imò ut scias quàm nihil obluctor, ne decimus expectandus dies sit, nunc qualiumcunque sententijs iudicum acquiesco, teque & reliquos quos res tangit, qui de me contrarias sententias tuleratis obsecro, ut & uos mecum pariter manum detis, & uobis patientibus horum iuditium uerum sit. Verum, utinam, in eo quòd mihi tribuunt, nam in eo quod eripiunt ultiò, fateor, imò profiteor uerum esse. Etsi iudices idoneos planè negem, nisi fortè eò iure niti uelint, quod istorum Deus Aristoteles ait. Vnusquisque benè iudicat quæ cognoscit, & eorum bonus est iudex. Melius nempè cognosci nihil posse uideatur, quàm quo abundat ipse qui iudicat, ut scilicet hoc obtentu possint ignorantissimi homines, de ignorantia iudicare, non est autem ita. Et de ignorantia enim, & de sapientia, & de re qualibet, sapientis est iuditium in eo inquam sapientis, de quo iudicat. Neque uerò ut de Musica Musici, de Grammatica Grammatici, sic de ignorantia ignorantes iudicant. Sunt quibus abundare inopia summa est, & quæ melius a quolibet iudicentur, quàm ab eo qui maximè his abundat. Deformitatem nemo minus intelligit, quàm deformis, cui cum ea familiaritas iam cõtracta est, ut quæ formosi oculos uulneraret, hanc iste non uideat. Eadem ratio reliquorum omnium defectuum. Nemo peius iudicat de ignorantia, quàm ignorans. Non hoc dico, ut declinem forum, sed ut pudeat siquis est pudor iudicasse qui nesciunt. Ego enim de hac re non modò sententiam amicabilis amplector inuidiæ, sed hostilis odij, & ad summam quisquis ignarum me pronunciat, mecum sentit. Nam & ego ipse recogitans, quàm multa mihi desint, ad id quo sciendi auida mens suspirat, ignorantiam meam dolens, ac tacitus recognosco. Sed me interim, dum præsentis exilij finis adest, quò nostra hæc imperfectio terminetur, qua ex parte nunc scimus naturæ communis extimatione consolor, idque omnibus bonis ac modestis ingenijs euenire arbitror, ut agnoscant se pariter ac solentur, his etiam quibus ingens obtigit scientia, secundum humanæ scientiæ morem loquor, quæ in se semper exigua pro angustijs quibus excipitur, & collata alijs ingens fit. alioquin quantulum quæso est, quantumcunque est, quod nosce uni ingenio datum est. imò quàm nihil est scire hominis quisquis fit, si non dicam scientiæ Dei, sed sui ipsius ignorantiæ comparetur. Et hanc sui cognitionem, ac propriæ imperfectionis extimationem, suique ipsius, quam dixi, consolationem, his maximè, qui plus sciunt, plusque intelligunt inesse auguror. Fœlices errore suo iudices mei, qui huiuscemodi consolatione non indigent, fœlices inquam non scientia, sed non errore, & ignorantia arroganti, qui sibi ad angelicam scientiam, nil deesse autumant, cùm ad humanam proculdubiò desint multa omnibus, & multis omnia. Sed ad me reuertor, & heu amice, quid non mali affert uita longior? Cui unquam tàm firma prosperitas fuit, ut non quandoque uariauerit, & quasi uiuendo senuerit? Senescunt homines, senescunt fortunæ, senescunt famæ hominum, senescunt denique humana omnia, quodque aliquando non credidi, ad extremum animi senescunt, quamuis immortales, uerumque fit illud Cordubensis. Longius æuum destruit ingentes animos. Non quod animi senium, mors sequatur, sed discessus à corpore, resolutioque illa, quam cernimus, & quæ, uulgò mors dicitur, & est mors corporis profectò, non animi. Senuit, ecce, refrixit animus meus. Nunc experior senex, quod iuuenis inexpertus & pastorium canens dixi. Quid uiuere longum fert homini? Quo enim ante hos non multo annos hæc tulissem animo? quibus nisibus obstitissem? crede mihi, bellum graue, inter ignorantiam & ignorantiam fuisset. Nunc senem inuadere, eò turpius, quò tutius tollo manum, & mea illorum cedit ignorantiæ. Certè ego, quàm præsagiens quid mihi restaret, nunquam sine compassione quadam Laberij historiam legi, qui cùm uitam omnem honesta militia exegisset, sexagenarius ad extremum Iulij Cæsaris blanditijs ac precibus (quæ de ore principum armare prodeunt) productus in scęnam de Romano equite factus est Mimus, quam iniuriam ipse quidem non tacitus tulit, imò multis, interque alia bis quæstus est uerbis:

Ego bis tricenis annis actis sine nota
Eques Romanus lare egressus meo,
Domum reuertar Mimus. Nimirum hoc die
Vno plus uixi mihi, quàm uiuendum fuit.

Ego quidem, gloriari licet apud te, literatus nunquam uerè, sed aliquando creditus, domo puer egressus mea, nec uel senex rediens, totum penè tempus in studijs triui, raro unquam sanè mihi dies præterijt, quin aut legerem, aut scriberem, aut de literis cogitarem, aut legentes audirem, aut tacitus sciscitarer, neque uiros tantùm, sed & urbes doctas adij, ut doctior inde, meliorq́ue reuerterer. Montempessulanum primò, quod per annos pueritiæ propinquior essem illi loco, mox Bononiam, pòst Tholosam & Parisios, Patauiumq́ue, & Neapolim, ubi studia tunc florebant, scio me multorum aures pungere. Illo Regum & Philosophorum nostri æui maximo Roberto, non doctrinæ quàm regni gloria inferiori, quem mei iudices, ut infamiam tanto cum rege communem, penè mihi arbitrer gloriosam, quanquam & cum alijs, ut nostrum possit esse communis, ætate & fama maioribus, de quo in fine dicturus sum, nulla fuisse dicunt notitia. Cæterùm de hoc rege, & orbis totus, & ueritas in contraria fuere sententia. Ego autem iuuenis senem illum non ut regem colui, Reges enim passim plurimi, sed ut rarum ingenij miraculum, uerendumq́ue sacrarium literarum. Ego illi & fortuna, & annis tantò impar, quod adhuc multis est notum, in illa urbe præsertim familiarissimè charus fui, non meritis meis ullis, aut meorum, neque militaribus, aut aulicis artibus, quæ mihi penitùs nullæ erant, sed ingenio, ut aiebat, ac literis: Aut ipse igitur iudex malus, aut ego custos pessimus, qui studendo semper, & laborando dedicerim. Maximam præterea atque optimam studijs uitæ partem, illa in curia, quam Romanam nescio cur dicebant, leuam Rhodani ad ripam, ubi quinquaginta uel eò amplius egit annos. Atque unde nuper hoc ipso anno, utinam irreditura digrediens ductu, & auspicijs sancti si perseuerauerit Vrbani V. almam urbem & sacratissimam Petri sedem utinam permansura reperijt. Nec procùl inde transalpino in Helicone meo, ubi Sorgia oritur, Rex fontium consumpsi, quarum in altera, omnium ferme nostri orbis literatorum hominum conuentus assiduus præstò fuit, in altero solitudo & silentium, & quies meditantibus aptissima. Itaque illûc studendo, & nunc scholas, nunc magistros adeundo, nunc amicis quæ didiceram, aut scripseram recitando, hic uagando & cogitãdo, & licet peccator sæpe etiam orando, ac mecum semper, raròque nisi de studijs liberalibus conferendo, omne meum tempus in literis actum est, mille interea doctis ac probatis senibus & notitiam, & in gratiam ueni, quos si pergam numerare, commemoratio quidem dulcis, sed Catalogus haudquaquam breuis euaserit. His sanè omnibus uel solam, uel præcipuam hanc ob causam placiti, quod literati famam, studiosis in urbibus adolescens habui, quam nunc seni in nautica ciuitate, quatuor iuuenes per sententiam eripiunt, ita & mihi ut Laberio accidit, post & sexagesimum annum meo de statu excidi, non ut ille saltem Mimus, quod artificium unum licet, & ingeniosum tamen quærit artificem, & suum inter mechanica locum tenet, sed quod est ultimum ignorans. Sic res eunt, huc & studia, & labores nostri, nostræq; uigiliæ peruenêre, ut qui iuuenis doctus à quibusdam dici soleo, profundiore iuditio senex idiota reperior. Dolendum forsitan, sed ferendum, forsitan nec dolendum, ferendum sanè, ut reliqua omnia, quę hominibus accidunt, damnum, pauperies, labor, dolor, tędium, mors, exilium, infamia, quæ si falsa est, spernenda est, nam & contradictores inueniet, & eundo deficiet. Si uera autem recusanda non est, ut nec alia culpis hominum inuenta supplicia: equidem si scientiæ uerum decus, mihi uerbis eripitur, ridebo, at si falsum non feram modò, sed gaudebo, non meis sarcinis excussus, & indebitæ famæ laboriosa custodia liberatus. Melius cum prædone agitur, dum iniustus spolijs exuitur, quam dum impune furto utitur, iniusti possessoris exclusor iniustus esse potest: at exclusio utiq; iusta est. Quod ad me attinet ut dixit, non iustam modò sententiam, sed iniustam probo, nec iudicem quemlibet, nec raptorẽ renuo. Operosa ac difficilis res est fama, & præcipuè literarũ. Omnes in eam uigiles atq; armati sunt, etiã qui sperare illã nequeunt, habentibus nitũtur eripere, habendus calamus semper in manibus, intẽto animo, erectisq; auribus semper in acie standum erit. Quisquis quocunq; proposito, me his curis, atq; hoc fasce liberauerint, assertori meo gratiã habeo, & seu uerũ, seu falsum, certè laboriosum ac sollicitũ literati nomẽ, quietis atq; ocij auidus, libẽs pono memorans illud Annei Senecę: Magno impẽdio temporũ, magna alienarũ

aurium molestia, laudatio hæc constat. O' hominem literatum, scimus hoc titulo rusticiore contenti, ô uirum bonum consilio tuo sto. Præceptor morum optime, titulo rusticiore ut tu ais, ut ego arbitror, meliore ac sanctiore, atque ob eam rem etiam nobiliore contentus sum, quando præsertim mihi hunc mei iudices relinquunt. Illud tamen metuo ut dicebam, ne hic ipse titulus fallens sit, nitor tamen ut sit uerus. Neque hinc desinam, nec lassabor usque ad extremos, halitus, nouissimumque singultum, & si quod idem alibi dixisti, ut sim bonus, opus est uelle, siue hoc perficit, benè erit, siue inchoat, & pars est bonitatis, uelle bonum fieri, pro ea saltem parte, titulum uerum spero. Redeo ad censores meos, de quibus & multa dixi, & ut nil te lateat, nunc etiam aliquid est dicendum. Neque enim ut illiteratus, sic & amens ac stupidus dici uelim: literæ enim sunt aduentitia ornamenta, ratio autem insita, ipsiusque hominis pars est, non ergo, ut illis ita, & hac non me pudeat caruisse. Neque uerò hæc defuit, qua illorum tendiculas declinarem, circumueniri eorum artibus non facilè potuissem, mea ipse puritate & uelo honestissimo fidelis, ut rebar amicitiæ obuolutus sum: fidentem fallere, perfacilè est. Dixi & repeto, ad uisendum me ut multi alij, illius pulcherrimæ, maximæque urbis ciues soliti uenire, bini sæpius & interdum simul omnes. Ego autem lætari, & quasi totidem angelos excipere, oblitus rerum omniū, nisi illorum qui totum animum occupabant, & miris serenabant modis. Ibi confestim ut inter amicos multa & diuersa colloquia. Mihi autem nihil curæ esse, qualiter seu quid dicerem, seu omninò aliud, quàm ut læta frons, lætiorq; animus esset, talium hospitum aduentu, ita ut interdum gaudio in silentium cogerer. Interdum reuerētia quadam, ne concursu, ut sit loquendi auidos impedirem, & nunc nihil, nunc uulgaria loquerer. Nil enim in amicitijs comere didici, nihil dissimulare, nihil fingere, sed in lingua atque in fronte animum habere, neque aliter cum amicis, quam mecum ipse loqui omnia, quo ut ait Cicero, nihil est dulcius. Quid enim ostentare amicis eloquentiam aut scientiam opus est? Qui animum, qui affectus, qui ingenium, ipsum uident, nisi fortè aliud, non tentandi, sed discendi gratia quæsierint, ubi tamen nec ostentatio ulla, nec ornatus exigerit, sed fidelis ut reliquorum omnium, sic scientiæ participatio, exceptionis expers, & inuidiæ. Itaque sæpè miror Cæsarem Augusti tantum principem, tantam rem exiguæ rei curam, inter tot maximarum rerum curas, alias suscipere potuisse, ut non modò ad populum, aut Senatum, seu ad milites, sed cum uxore etiam atque amicis, nil nisi de libertate, & crebro in scriptis loqueretur. Fœcit hoc forsitan, nequid superuacuum & insulsum, casu aliquo sibi excideret, quo cœlestis oratio reprehendi posset aut sperni. Liceat enim hoc illi summo de culmine subditos scriptis uelut oraculis alloquenti, mihi autem sermo uagus inter amicos, inelaboratique sententiæ, ualeat eloquentia, si tamen iugi studio quærenda est, indisertus malim esse, quàm sollicitus semper ac tristis. Hoc proposito, cum sæpè inter charos ac familiares, uti solitus meæ præsertim facultatis conicios, tum præcipuè nuper usus inter hos nostros, amica fiducia, in hostilem calumniam inaduertens incidi. Nihil enim acuratè, nihil anxiè, ut quodque in animum, utque ad os primum uenisset prius erumpere. Illi ex composito circunfusi, singula trutinare, quicquid dicerem, sic excipere, tanquam nec melius ad me quicquam, nec idipsum comptiùs dici posset. Id semel, idque iterum atque iterum cùm fecissent, in sententiam quam ueram optabant facile confirmati sunt. Nil nempè facilius, quam persuadere uolentibus. Iamque credentibus eò illi fidentiùs, ut ignarum aliqui credo, insuper, quod tunc minimè suspicabar, & inscitiam redire. Sic incautus unus, plurimum insidijs circumuentus, ignorantium gregibus ignotans misceor. Solebant illi uel Aristotelicum problema, uel de animalibus aliquid in medium iactare: ego autem uel tacere, uel iocari, uel ordiri aliud, interdum'que subridens quærere, quo'nam modo id scire potuisset Aristoteles, cuius & ratio nulla esset, & experimentum impossibile. Stupere illi & taciti subirasci, & blasphemum uelut aspicere, cui ad fidem rerum aliud, quàm uiri illius authoritas quæreretur, ut iam plane` de Philosophis & sapientiæ studiosis amatoribus, Aristotelici, seu uerius Pythagorici facti simus, renouato illo more ridiculo, quo quærere aliud non licebat, nisi an ille dixisset. Ille autem erat Pythagoras, ut ait, Cicero. Ego uerò magnum quendam uirum, ac multiscium Aristotelem, sed fuisse hominem, & idcircò aliqua, imò & multa nescire potuisse arbitror, plus dicam, si per istos liceat non tàm mihi amicos quàm sectarum. Credo, hercle, nec dubito illum non in rebus tantùm paruis, quarum paruus & minimè periculosus est error, sed in maximis & spectantibus ad salutis summam aberrasse, tota ut aiunt uita. Et licet multa Ethicorum

rum in principio, & in fine de fœlicitate tractauerit, audebo dicere, clament ut libuerint censores mei, ueram illum fœlicitatem, sic penitus ignorasse, ut in eius cogitatione nō dico subtilior, sed fœlicior [illegible] ierit uel quælibet anus pia, uel piscator, pastor'ue fidelis, uel agricola. Quo magis miror quosdā nostrorum, tractatum illum Aristotelicū sic miratos, quasi nephas censuerint, idque scriptis quoque testati sint, de fœlicitate aliquid post illum loqui. Cùm mihi tamen audacter forsan dixerim hoc, sed ni fallor uerè, ut solem noctua, sic ille fœlicitatem, hoc est, lucem eius ac radios, sed nō ipsam uidisse uideatur. Nempè, qui illam non [illegible] [illegible] nsibus, nec solidis in rebus ædificiū, uelut excelsum procul in hostico, tremu[illegible] in sede [illegible] auerit, illam uerò non intellexerit, siue intellectam neglexerit, siue quibus prorsus esse fœlicitas, non potest, fidem scilicet atque immortalitatem, quas ab illo, uel non intellectas, uel neglectas dixisse iam me pœnitet. Alterum enim tantùm dicere debui, nō intellectæ erant, nec [illegible] ouera[illegible] as ille, nec nosse potuerat, aut sperare. Nondum enim uera lux terris illuxerat, quæ illuminat omnem hominem, uenientem in hunc mundum. Fingebant sibi ille & [illegible] qui, quod optabant, & quod naturaliter optant, cuiusque cōtrarium optare potest nemo, fœlicitatem dico, quanquam uerbis ornatam, absentem uelut amicam canentes, non uidebant, gaudebantque de nihilo prorsus quasi somnio beati, uere autem miseri, ut[illegible] neque mor[illegible] tonitruo ad miseriam excitandi, apertisque oculis conspecturi, quę nam esset illa fœlicitas, [illegible] e qua somniando tractauerant. Quæ quidem ne quis ex me dici omnia, atque ideo nimis temerarie dici putet, tertium decimum de ciuitate Dei Augustini librum legat, [illegible] de hoc [illegible], contraque Philosophos qui fecerunt sibi, suo utor uerbo, sicut eorum cuique placuit, [illegible] atas [illegible], multa grau[illegible] que acriter disputata reperiet. Hoc, fateor, dixi sæpè & [illegible] o adloqui potero, [illegible] m me dixisse, ac dicturum esse confido, si hoc sacrilegum o[illegible] ur, uiolatæ me[illegible] cusent, sed Hieronymum simul non curantē, quid dicat Aristoteles, sed quid CHRISTVS. Ergo contra illos si diuersum sen[illegible] ipsos, [illegible] los[illegible]que non dubitem, priusquam [illegible] m, & quicquid charum habeo Deus abstulerit, q[illegible] a [illegible] iam hanc piam ueram salu[illegible] eram, aut quàm amore Aristotelis CHRISTVS n[illegible] m. [illegible] planè Philosophi, sint Aristotelici, cùm proculdubiò neutrum sint, sed ut sint utrum[illegible] que, neque enim clara hæc nomina illis inuideo, quibus [illegible] is etiam tument, non m[illegible] in[illegible] eant humile, uerumque Christiani nomen & Catholici. Sed quid peto, quod [illegible] tō facere illos, & facturos esse scio. Non quidem nobis hæc inuident, sed contemnunt tanquam simplicia & abiecta, ingenijsque suis imparia & indigna. Secreta igitur naturæ atque altiora illi arcana Dei, quæ nos humile fide suscipimus, [illegible] superba iactantia n[illegible] ur eripere, nec attingunt, nec appropinquant quidem, sed [illegible] ngere & pugno cœlum stringere insani existimant, & perinde est eis, ac si stringerent propria opinione contentis, & errore gaudentibus, neque illos ab insania retrahit, non dico, ne rei ipsius impossibilitas, ad [illegible] nos Apostolicis uerbis expressa. Quis enim cognouit sensum Domini. Aut quis consiliarius eius fuit? Vel illud Ecclesiasticum ac cœleste co[illegible] um. Altiora te ne quæsieris, & fortiora te ne scrutatus fueris, sed quæ præcepit Deus [illegible] illa cogita semper, & in pluribus operibus eius non fueris curiosus. Non est enim tibi necessarium ea, quæ abscondita sunt uidere. Non hoc dico, ex quo enim sperauerit quicquid cœlitus, imò ut dicam quod est, quicquid Catholicè dictum sciunt, at saltem de Democrito non ineptus iocus. Quod est, inquit, ante pedes nemo spectat, cœli scrutantur plagas. Et facetissima illa Ciceronis irrisio temerariè disputa[illegible], nullaque de re dubitantium, tanquam modò Deorū ex concilio descendentes, quid ibi agatur oculis suis aspexerint, quibusque perceperint. Vel [illegible] d antiquius atque acrius apud Homerum. Iuppiter non mortalem hominem, nō e[illegible] mun grege Deum aliquē, sed Iunonē illam suam coniugem ac sororem, reginam[illegible] Deū, graui comminatione deterrēs, ne secretum suum intimum auderet inquirere, aut sciri posse præsumeret. Sed ad Aristotelem reuertamur, cuius splendore lippos atque infirmos præstringente oculos, multi iam erroris in foueas lapsi sunt, solo enim unitatem principatus po[illegible], quàm iam ante posuerat Homerus, sic enim ait: Quantum nobis in Latinum solu[illegible] ora[illegible] one translatum est. Non bonum multitudo numinum, unus dominus sit, unus Imperator, isti autem pluralitas principatuum bona, unus est princeps, sed hic humanum, hic diuinum, ille Græcorum, iste omnium principatuum, ille Atridem, iste Deum prin[illegible] em statuebat, eousque ueri sibi fulgor illustrauit animum, quis hic princeps, qualis ue & quantus, nescisse eum, & qui multa de numinibus curiose admodum disputasset, unum hoc & maximum non uidisse crediderim, quod uiderunt multi literarum nescij,

fi[illegible] entque

iubentq́ luce non altera, uerum aliter illustrante. Idq́ amici isti mei ita esse non uident, cæcos ego illos planeq́ exoculatos esse uideo, & sic omnibus uideri, quibus oculi sani sunt nō magis, hæsitauerim quàm smaragdum uiridē, niuem candidam: coruum nigrum. utq́ audaciam meam æquanimius. Aristotelici nostri ferant, nō de uno tantùm ita sentio, & si unū nominem, lego quamuis ignorans, & antequam isti nostram ignorantiam deprehēdissent, intelligere aliquid uidebar. Lego (inquam) sed uiridioribus annis attentius legebam. Adhuc tamen Poetarum & Philosophorum libros lego, qui Ciceronis ante alios, cuius apprimè & ingenio, & stylo semper ab adolescentia delectatus sum, inuenio eloquentiæ plurimum, & uerborum elegantium uim maximam, quod ad deos ipsos, de quorum ille naturæ nominatim libros edidit, quodq́ omninò religionē spectat, quo disertiùs dicitur, eo mihi inanior est fabella, Deoq́ tacitus mecum gratias ago, qui hoc mihi seu iners, seu modestum dedit ingenium, animumq́ non uagum neque altiora se quærentem, neque his scrutandis curiosum, quæ quæsita difficilia, pestifera sint inuentu. Sed quo plura contra CHRISTI fidē dici audio, & CHRISTVM magis amem, & in CHRISTI fide sim firmior, ita nempè mihi accidit, ut siquis in patris amore tepentior, de illo audiat obloquentes, amorq́ qui sopitus uidebatur, illicò inardescit, ita enim eueniat necesse est, si uerus est filius. Sæpè me CHRISTVM ipsum testor, de Christiano Christianissimū hæreticorum fecère blasphemiæ. Pagani enim illi ueteres, etsi multa de his fabulentur, non blasphemant tamen, quia ueri Dei notitiam nullam habent, neq́ enim CHRISTI nomen audierūt. Fides autem ex auditu est. Et quamuis in omnem terram exiuerit sonus eorum, & in fines orbis terræ uerba eorum, Apostolorum tamen uerbis ac doctrinis toto orbe sonantibus, illi iam mortui ac sepulti erant, miseri magis quàm culpabiles, quorum aures, quibus haurire fidem salutiferam potuissent, inuida iam tellus obstruxerat. Inter cunctos tamen potentissimè illi tres libri Ciceronis, quos de Natura Deorum inscriptos supra memini, sæpè me excitant, ubique scilicet tantum illud ingenium de his agens, ipsos sæpè Deos irrideat ac despicit, non quidem seriò forte supplicium timens, quod ante aduentum Sancti spiritus, ipsi etiam Apostoli timuerunt, sed his, quibus abundat iocis efficacissimis, quibus clarum fiat intelligentibus, de eo ipso quod tractandum assumpserat, quid sentiret, ut sortem suam sæpè interlegendum miseratus, mecum tacitus, dolensq́ suspirem. Quod uerum Deum uir ille non nouerit, paucis autem ante CHRISTI ortum annis obierat, oculosq́ue mors clauserat, heu quibus è proximo noctis, erraticè ac tenebrarum finis, & ueritatis initium, ueræq́ue lucis aurora & iustitiæ sol instabant. Qui tamen Cicero, ipse suis in libris, quos innumeros scripsit, etsi errorum torrente uulgarium lapsus, sæpè Deos nominet, & sæpè illos tamen deridet, ut dixi, & iam inde à iuuentute sua libros Inuentionum scribens, dixerat eos, qui Philosophiæ dent operam, non arbitrari Deos esse. Nempè Deum nosse, non deos, ea demum uera & summa Philosophia est ita dico, si cognitioni pietas, & fidelis cultus accesserit. Idem quoque iam senior his ipsis in libris, quos de dijs, non de Deo scribit, ubi sese colligit, quantis ingenij alis attollitur. Vt interdum non paganum Philosophum, sed Apostolum loqui putes, quale est illud in primo contra Velleium, Epicureæ sententiæ defensorem. Eos (inquit) uituperabas, qui ex operibus magnificis atque præclaris, cum ipsum mundum cùm eius membra, cœlum, terras, maria cunq́ eorum insignia, Solem & Lunam, stellasq́ uidissent, cumq́ temporum maturitates mutationes, uicissitudinesq́ cognouissent, suspicati sunt aliquam esse excellentem, præstantemq́ naturam, quæ hoc effecisset, moueret, regeret, gubernaret. In secundo autem. Quid (inquit) potest esse tàm apertum, tamq́ perspicuum, cœlum, si aspeximus, cœlestiaq́ contemplati simus, quàm esse aliquod numen præstantissimæ mentis, quo hæc regantur. Et eodem in libro. Crysippus quidem (inquit) quanquam est acerrimo ingenio, tamen ea dicit, ut ab ipsa natura didicisse, nō ut ipse reperisse uideatur. Si enim (inquit) est aliquid in rerum natura, quòd hominis mens & ratio, quòd uis, quòd potestas humana efficere non possit, est certè id, quod effecit homine melius. Atqui res cœlestes, omnesq́ue hæ, quarum est ordo sempiternus, ab homine confici non possunt. Est igitur id quo illa conficiuntur, homine melius. Id autem quid potiùs dixerim quàm Deum. Deinde paucis interiectis, quod si omnes (inquit) mundi partes ita constitutæ sunt, ut neque ad usum meliores, neq́ ad speciem pulchriores, effici potuerint, uideamus utrum ea fortuita sint, an eo statu, quo cohærere nullo modo potuerint, nisi sensu moderante, diuinaq́ prouidentia. Si igitur meliora sunt quæ natura, quàm quæ arte perfecta sunt, nec ars efficit quicquam sine ratione, nec natura quidem rationis expers est habenda. Non igitur conuenit signum, aut tabellam

bellam pictam cùm aſpexeris, ſcire adhibitam eſſe artem, cumq́ue procul curſum nauigij uideris, non dubitare, quin id ratione atque arte moueatur, aut cum ſolarium, uel deſcriptum, aut ex aqua contemplari intelligere declarari horas, arte non caſu mundum qui & has ipſas artes & earum artifices, & cuncta complectatur, conſilij & rationis expertem putare, quod ſi in Scythiam, aut in Britanniam ſphæram aliquis tulerit, hanc quàm nuper familiaris noſter effecit Poſsidonius. Cuius ſingulæ conuerſiones idem efficiunt in Sole, & Luna, & in quinque ſtellis errantibus, quod efficitur in cœlo ſingulis diebus & noctibus, quis in illa barbarie dubitet, quin ea ſphæra ſit perfecta ratione. Hi autem dubitant de mundo, ex quo oriuntur, & fiunt omnia caſu, ne ſit ipſe effectus, aut neceſsitate aliqua, aut ratione, ac mente diuina. Archimedem arbitrantur plus ualuiſſe in imitandis ſphæræ conuerſionibus, quàm naturam in efficiendis, præſertim cum multis partibus ſint illa perfecta, quàm hæc ſimulata ſolertius. Hæc ut audis apud Tullium ſcripta ſunt, quibus dictis, eudem mox paſtorem illum ſumit, ab Actio Poeta, & ad propoſitū ſuum trahit. Nauim nunquam antea ſibi uiſam, illam ſcilicet, quàm in Colchon uehebantur Argonautæ, procùl è monte cernentem, atque attonitum nouitate miraculi, pauentemq́, & multa ſecum opinantem, montem aut ſaxum, terræ uiſceribus ereptum, ac uentis impulſum pelago rapi, aut atros turbines conglobatos fluctuum concurſu aut tale aliquid, uiſis inde iuuenibus, quorum ope atque opera nauigium agebatur, & cantu nautico audito, heroumq́ue uultibus conſpectis, & ad ſe reuerſum, & errore, ac ſtupore depoſito, quid'nam rei eſſe intelligere incipientem. Poſt quæ ſtatim infert Cicero. Ergo, inquit, ut hic primo aſpectu inanimum quiddam, ſenſuq́ue uacuum ſe putat cernere, poſt autem ſignis certioribus, quale ſit illud, de quo dubitauerat incipit ſuſpicari, ſic Philoſophi debuerunt, ſi forte eos primus aſpectus mundi conturbauerat, poſtea cùm uidiſſent motus eius infinitos, & æquabiles, omnesq́ue ratis ordinibus moderata, immutabiliq́; conſtantia, intelligere ineſſe aliquem, non ſolùm habitatorem, in hac cœleſti, ac diuina domo, ſed etiam rectorem ac moderatorem, & tanquam architectum tanti operis, tantiq́ue muneris. Quod ipſum, alio loco penè iiſdem uerbis poſuit, Tuſculanarum quæſtionum libro primo. Hæc (inquit) & alia innumerabilia cùm cernimus, nc dubitare, quin his præſit aliquis, uel effector ſi hæc nata ſunt, ut Platoni uidetur, uel ſi ſemper fuerint, ut Ariſtoteli placet, moderator tanti operis & muneris? Vides ut ubique unum Deum gubernatorem ac factorem rerum omnium, non Philoſophica tantùm, ſed quaſi Theologica circumlocutione deſcribit, itaque magis hoc probo, quàm quod in ipſo naturæ Deorum libro ſequitur, auctore quidem Ariſtotele, quamuis namque ſententia una ſit, ibi tamen mentio eſt deorum, quorum nomen in omni ueritatis inquiſitione ſuſpectum eſt. Sic enim ait, præclarè ergo Ariſtoteles. ſi eſſet (inquit) qui ſub terra ſemper habitaſſet, bonis & illuſtribus domicilijs quæ eſſent ornata ſignis, atq; picturis, inſtructaq́ rebus his omnibus quibus abundant, hi, qui beati putantur, nec tamen exiiſſet ſuper terram. Accepiſſet autem fama & auditione, eſſe quoddam numen, & uim deorum, deinde aliquo tempore patefactis terræ faucibus, ex illis abditis ſedibus euadere in hæc loca, quæ nos colimus atque exire potuiſſet, cum repentè terram, & maria, cœlumq́ue uidiſſet, nubium magnitudinem & pulchritudinem, uentorumq́ue uim cognouiſſet, aſpexiſſetq́ue ſolem eiusq́; magnitudinem & decorem, quem tamen per efficientiam cognouiſſet, quod is diem efficeret toto cœlo luce diffuſa. Cùm autem terram nox opacaſſet, tum cœlum totum cerneret aſtris diſtinctum, & ornatum, lunæq́ue luminum uarietatem tum creſcentis, tum feneſcentis, eorumq́; omnium ortus, & occaſus, atq; in bi omni æternitate ratos, immutabilesq́; curſus. Quę cum uideret, profectò & eſſe deos, & hæc tanta deorum opera eſſe arbitraretur. Atque hæc quidem ille, Ariſtoteles, ſcilicet, cuius exemplum quod peregrinum nimis & ab experientia ſemotum uideretur, factam & non fictam rem, memoriæq́; proximam in medio deducit, idem Cicero. Et nos autem (inquit) tenebras cogitemus tantas, quantæ quondam eruptione Aethneorum ingenium finitimas regiones obſcuraſſe dicuntur, ut per biduum nemo hominem homo agnoſceret. Cum autem die tertio ſol illuxiſſet, ut reuixiſſe ſibi uiderentur, quod ſi hoc idem ex æternis contingeret, ut ſubitò lucem aſpiceremus, quæ'nam ſpecies cœli uideretur? ſed aſſiduitate quotidiana, & conſuetudine oculorum aſſueſcunt animi, neque admirantur, neque requirunt rationes earum rerum, quas ſæpè uident, perinde quaſi nouitas magna, quā magnitudo rerum debeat ad exquirendas cauſas excitare. Quis enim hunc hominem dixerit, qui cum tàm cœli motus certos, tàm ratos aſtrorum ordines, tamq́; inter ſe omnia con

nexa & apta uiderit, neque in ijs nullam inesse rationem eaque casu fieri dicat, quæ quanto consilio gerantur, nullo officio assequi possumus? An cum machinatione quadam moueri aliquid uidemus, ut sphæram, ut horas, ut aliud, per multa non dubitamus, quin illa opera sint rationis? Cùm autem impetum cœli admirabili cum celeritate moueri, uertiq; uideamus, constantissimè conficientem uicisitudines anniuersarias, cum salute rerum omnium dubitamus, quin ea non solum ratione fiant, sed etiam excellenti quadam, diuinaq; ratione? Licet enim iam remota subtilitate disputandi, oculis quodammodo contemplari pulchritudinem earum rerum, quas diuina prouidentia dicimus constitutas. Audis amice quod prædixeram, non quasi Philosophum loquentem, sed Apostolum. Quid enim aliud ubi sonare uidentur hæc omnia, & singula, quàm Apostolicum illud ad Romanos? Deus enim manifestauit illis. Inuisibilia enim ipsius à creatura mundi, per ea quæ facta sunt intellecta conspiciuntur, sempiterna quoque eius uirtus ac diuinitas: ita ut sint inexcusabiles, quia cùm cognouissent Deum, non ut Deum glorificauerunt, aut gratias egerunt, sed euanuerunt in cogitationibus suis. Quid quæso aliud sibi uult Cicero, totiens repetendo mundum, diuina prouidentia constitutum, diuina etiam prouidentia gubernari, idq; uelut manu, linguæ, oculis hominum ingerendo, nisi ut auctore ac factore rerum cognito, puderet uiros ingeniosos à fonte ueræ felicitatis auersos, per opinionum deuia, uanis atque aridis cogitatibus circumuolui. Posses autem admirari, nisi me nosses, quod à Cicerone uix diuellor, sic me illud delectat ingenium. Ecce nũc rerum, styliq; dulcedine quadam, non insolita raptus, quo non soleo, ut alieno mea infarciar opuscula, patientiam non tàm tuam, quàm lectoris imploro. Equidem, dum habere meum aliquid uisus eram, de proprio uestiebar, mercator inops, literarum ab his quatuor scientiæ, famæque prædonibus spoliatus, cùm mihi iam proprium nihil sit, si aliena mendicem, importunitatem atq; impudentiam paupertas excusat, & quam putas magna animi paupertas ignorantia est? & qua nulla maior præter uirium, sed ne, tres illos libros in libellum hunc unicum coangustem, Ciceronianum nihil hodie ampliùs transcríbam, quamuis & sæpè alibi, & hic præsertim, plurima studiosè, operiosissima disputatione perstrinxerit, ad hunc ipsum finem, ut ex his omnibus quæ uidemus esse Deum, & factorem, & rectorem omnium cogitemus. Hæc enim ferè disputationis illius summa est, ut cœlestibus ac terrestribus penè cunctis expositis, cœli scilicet sphæris ac syderibus, tum stabilitate ac fœcunditate terrarum maris ac fluuium opportunitatibus, temporumqúe uarietatibus ac uentorum, herbis quoque & plantis, & arboribus atque animantibus miris, uolucrum & quadrupedum piscium naturis, deqúe his omnibus commoditate multiplici, cibo, labore, uectura remedioq; morborum, uenatuq; & aucupio, & architectura & nauigatione, & artibus innumeris, omnibusqúe uel ingenio, uel natura inuentis. Denique corporum ac sensuum & membrorum compage ac dispositione mirabili, ad ultimum ratione & industria, in quorum explicatione curiosè admodum ac facundè uersatur, sic ut nesciam, an scriptorum aliquis, tàm anxiè unquam, tamq; acriter ista tractauerit. Semper una si conclusio, omnia quæcunque cernimus oculis, uel percipimus intellectu, pro salute hominum & diuinitùs facta esse, & diuina prouidentia ac consilio gubernari. Imò etiam ad indiuiduam condescendens, cum quatuordecim nisi fallor insignes Romanos duces nominasset, addidit quorum neminem nisi adiuuante Deo talem fuisse credendum est. Et post pauca. Nemo (inquit) uir magnus, sine aliquo afflatu diuino unquam fuit. Quem afflatum quid aliud, quàm Spiritum sanctum homo purus intelligat? Itaque præter eloquentiam, quæ nulli hominum par fuit, quod hic in sententia tractatur, quis unquam Catholicus immutaret? Quid nunc igitur? Ciceronem ne ideò Catholicum inferam, uellem posse. ó utinam liceret, utinam qui tale illi ingenium dedit, & seipsum cognoscendum præbuisset, ut quærendum præbuit. Etsi enim uerus Deus nec nostrarum laudum, nec mortalis eloquij egens sit, haberemus tamen, nisi in templis ut arbitror Dei nostri, non quidem ueriora, nec sanctiora, id enim fieri non potest, nec sperari debet, at forsan dulciora & sanantiora præconia. Verum absit, ut uno aut altero bene dicto, totum quicquid est ingenij unius amplectar, nam Philosophos non ex singulis uocibus spectandos, sed ex perpetuitate atque constantia ab eodem ipso Cicerone, imó à ratione insita didici. Quis tàm rudis, ut non quandoque gratum aliquid dicat? An id uerò satis est? Sæpè una nox ad tempus multam tegit ignorantiam, sæpè splendor oculorum, aut flaua cæsaries, fœdas corporum mendas uelat. Qui totum tuto uult laudare, totum oportet ut uideat, totum examines, totum libret, sicut potest, ut iuxta illud quod de-

lectat

lectat aliud lateat, quod tantundem uel multò etiam magis offendat. Ecce idem Cicero ibidem: Vbi multa pergrauiter disseruit, & pietati simillima, mox ad Deos suos, ut ad uomitū redit, expeditisque nominibus, ac qualitatibus singulorū, nec iam de unius Dei, sed de deorum prouidentia acturus. Audi, quæso, quid interserat. Quos Deos & uenerari, inquit, & colere debemus. Cultus autem deorum est optimus, idemque castissimus, plenissimusque pietatis, ut eos semper pura, integra & incorrupta, & mente, & uoce ueneremur. Heu, mi Cicero, quid ais? tàm citò Dei unius & tuiipsius obliuisceris? Vbi excellentem illam præstantemque naturam, numenque illud præstantissimæ mentis, ubi meliorem Deum homine, atque eorum quæ humana uel ratione, uel potentia fieri nequeunt, cœlestiū scilicet? Huius'ne quem cernimus sempiterni ordinis effectorem? Vbi illum denique cœlestis ac diuinæ domus habitatorem, insuper & rectorem ac moderatorem, & tanquā architectum tanti operis, reliquisti? Et quasi è domo illa sydereà, quàm grata sibi confessione præbueras depulisti, dum tàm fœdos, tàm indignos ei comites dares, aspernanti, atque ore Prophetico proclamanti. Videte quod ego sim solus, & non est alius Deus præter me. Qui sunt igitur ij noui, recentesque & infames dij, quos in domum domini conaris intrudere? Sunt ne hi, de quibus Propheta alter ait: Omnes dij gentium dæmonia, dominus autem cœlos fecit. Tu mihi nunc de hoc cœlorum, rerumque omnium factore & creatore loquebaris, meritaque pij auditoris aures, atque animum delectabaris: sic repentè illū creaturis rebellib. atque immūdis spiritibus miscuisti, euertisti uno uerbo, omnia quæ sapiēter ac sobriè dixisse uidebaris, sed quid dixi, uno uerbo, imò compluribus. Sæpè enim, imò passim eodem quasi dormitans, uestigio nutaute relaberis, & quos modò deos irriseras uenceraris, quin & Solem, & Lunā, & Stellas, & postremò palpabilem hunc mūdum, ipsum quem uidemus, quem tangimus, quem calcamus, sensu præditum, animantem, & quo nihil est stultius Deum facis. Idque licet non tu tibi, sed Balbo tribuas, apud te loquenti, quod ipsum Academicæ fuerit cautelæ, in fine tamen libri illius Balbi disputationem non ausus, ne in Academiæ legem pecces ueriorem dicere, uerisimiliorem dixisti. Vt quicquid ille disputauerat, approbando tuum fecisse uidearis. Verè autem tuum sit, quod Platonicum secutus morem, alteri tribuere, tuasque sententias proferre, ficto alterius ore malueris, quanquam sanè quodam loco dicti operis. Deum unum Plurinomium Balbus idem asserere uideatur, quo uelut erroris clypeo uti solent Stoici ad excusandas insanas deorum turbas, quasi diuersis uocabulis, non nisi rem unicam designari uelint, & intelligi, ut sit scilicet exempli gratia Deus unus. Isque in terra Ceres dictus, Neptunus in pelago in æthere Iuppiter in igne Vulcanus. Tamen hæc excusatio, & ueritatis obumbratio, quàm sit friuola, qui non uidet? Qui ut reliqua sileā, apud scriptores gentium præeminentiam inter se deorum, discordiasque & bella, factorumque diuersitatem uiderit. Deus enim uerus, nisi unus esse non potest, neque se maior, neque se minor alicubi, cùm semper & ubique idem ipse sit, neque aliquando secum discors esse potest, aut fuisse, neque nunc. Qui non tauro, sed uno semper laudis & iustitiæ, & contribulati spiritus ac lachrymarum sacrificio delectatur, unus ille in cœlo & in terra, una illi utrobique substantia, unum nomen. Illa quoque diuersoria ac fictionum subterfugia, quod uidentes Philosophi, quæ de Ioue dicerentur, Deo non conuenire, duos Ioues, unum naturalem, alterum fabulosum ut Lactantius ait, seu potiùs tres Ioues, ut ait Cicero, numerant hi, qui Theologi nominantur. Deorum inquam Theologi non unius Dei, quātas uires habeant, & quanti extimanda sint pretij, ne nimis à proposito deerrem, apud ipsum Lactantium Firmianum qui quæret, inueniet Institutionum suarum libro primo, nam illud piget etiā attigisse, quod Soles quinque, totidemque Mercurios, totidemque Dionysios, totidemque Mineruas, quatuor uerò Vulcanos, quatuor Apollines, quatuor Veneres, tres Aesculapios, tres Cupidines, tres Dianas dicunt, sex Hercules, ut Cicero ait, aut ut Varro tres & quadraginta, neque illos pudet & ea dicere, quæ nos pudeat audire, ne dicam credere. Rogo enim quis has non stomachetur ineptias? Quis has ferat ambages? Omnia non errorum modò, sed sic inanium somniorum plena undique ac referta sunt, ut miserear interdum atque indigner, nobile illud eloquium in his positum & cōsumptum curis. Nam de reliquis ut libet, at quæ circulatio? Quis hic ludus? Quænam hæ fabellæ? Quinque Soles facere, cum ab eo quod solus luceat Solem dici uelint, & cùm plures non fuisse quidem unquam, sed oculorum uitio fortassis, aut animorum consternatione uisos esse, nonnunquam inter prodigia numeratum sit? Pace ueterum sit dictum, Ciceronis ante alios. nec scribenda hæc fuisse censeo, nec legenda censerem, quibus conscribendis ille uir tantus incubuit, nisi ut lectæ, & cognitæ deorū nu-

gæ, ueræ diuinitatis, & unius Dei amorem, & contemptus ſuperſtitionis externę noſtrę religionis reuerentiam legentium animis excitarent, nullo enim clarius modo, unaquæque res, quàm contrario admota cognoſcitur, nil magis amabilem lucem facit, quàm odium tenebrarum. Quæ ſi de Cicerone meo dixi, quem in multis miror, quid de alijs me dicturum ſperas? Scripſerunt multa multi ſubtiliter, quidam etiam grauiter, dulciter, eloquenter, ſed in his quaſi uenenum in melle miſcuerunt, quædã falſa ridiculoſa pericula, de quibus nũc agere longum nimis & impertinens. Neq; enim in omnibus ea mihi excuſatio fuerit, quæ fuit in Cicerone, non ſic omnes alliciunt, quibus & ſi materia alia ſit, non eſt eloquij par dulcedo. Sæpè cantus idem pro uarietate canentium, nunc delectabilis, nunc moleſtus fuit, & eandem Muſicam longeuariam uox oſtendit. Ne tamen res egeat exemplo, Pythagoram ſummi uirum ingenij fuiſſe, quis non nouit? Eius tamen eſt nota illa μετεμψύχωσις, quam in caput non dicam Philoſophi, ſed hominis ſcandere potuiſſe, ſupra fidem ſtupeo. Scandit tamen, & à magno ingenio profecta, magna etiam ut perhibent infecit ingenia. Dicerem hic aliquid ſi auderem, quod quia non audeo, audentior pro me dicet Lactantius Firmianus, qui in libris Inſtitutionum, hunc ipſum de quo loquimur Pythagoram uanum ſenem, & ineptum, hominemq; leuiſsimum perridendæ uanitatis, appellare non ueritus, totũ hoc fabuloſum & inane mendacium, atque illud in primis, quod ſe in priore uita Euphorbium fuiſſe mentitus eſt, generoſa ſtyli atq; animi libertate deſpicit ac reiellit. Hoc eſt autem unũ illud electiſsimũ, inter Pythagorica dogmata, quibus ille uir aduena apud Metapontinos credulos, ubi diem obijt tantum meruit nomen, ut domus eius pro templo, ipſe pro Deo cultus, atq; habitus ſit. Et quamuis hæc ipſe non ſcripſerit, nihil enim ſcripſiſſe traditur, dixit tamen, & poſt eum ſcripsère alij. Quis atomorum turbas, concurſusq; fortuitos non audiuit? Ex quibus in unum coëuntibus, cœlum & terram, & uniuerſa conſtare uult Democritus, ſecutusq; Democritum Epicurus, qui ne quid penitus deeſſet inſani, mundos innumerabiles poſuère, quod cùm audiſſet, ſuſpiraſſe fertur Alexander Macedo, quod nondum unum ex innumeris ſubegiſſet: uani, uaſtiq; animi ſuſpirium, certè hi duo philoſophicę hęreſis huius auctores, milleſimam nondum partem mundi huius agnouerant, dum mundos innumerabiles ſomniabant. I nunc, & non ſolũ doctos, ſed ſobrios etiã ac diſcretos, quodq; et euidentiſsimum ocioſos nega, quibus uacauerit talia cogitare. Quid de alijs dicam, qui non mundorum innumerabilitatem, infirmitatemq; locorũ ut hi proximi, ſed mundi huius æternitatem aſtruunt, in quam ſententiam præter Platonem ac Platonicos, Philoſophi ferè omnes, & cum illis mei quoq; iudices, ut Philoſophi potiùs quàm Chriſtiani uideantur inclinant, & ut illum famoſiſsimum, ſiue infamem Perſij uerſiculum defendant.

—gigni
De nihilo nihil, in nihilum nil poſſe reuerti.

Non modò mundi fabricam Platonis in Timeo, ſed Moſaicam Geneſim, fidemq; Catholicam, totumq; CHRISTI dogma ſanctiſsimum ac ſalubertimum, & cœleſti rore melliflũ, oppugnare non metuant, niſi humano magis, quàm diuino ſupplicio terreantur, quo ceſſante, ſubmotisq; arbitris, oppugnant ueritatem & pietatem, clanculum in angulis irridentes CHRISTVM, atque Ariſtotelem quem non intelligunt adorantes, meq; ideò quod cum eis genua non incuruo, accuſant, quod eſt fidei ignorantiæ tribuentes. Fidem enim ipſam accuſare ueriti, ſectatores fidei inſectantur, obtuſosq; & ignaros dicũt, neq; quid alij ſciant, aut quid neſciant, ſed in quo ſecum ſentiant, aut diſſentiant attendunt, omnisq; diſſenſio apud illos ignorantia eſt, cum ab errantibus diſſentire ſumma ſit ſapientia. Ita autem propoſito inſiſtunt, ut quoniam ex nihilo fieri aliquid impoſsibile ſit, natura, Deo ipſi impotentiam hanc aſcribant. Cœci ac ſurdi, qui non ſaltem naturalium Philoſophorum antiquiſsimum audiant Pythagoram, ſolius hanc Dei fortè uirtutem ac potentiam aſſerentem, ut quod natura efficere nequeat, Deus facilè poſsit, ut qui ſit omni uirtute ac poteſtate potentior atque præſtantior, & à quo natura ipſa uires mutuetur, non miror ſi CHRISTVM, ſi Apoſtolos, ſi Doctores Catholicos non audiunt quos contemnunt. Hunc Philoſophum non audire, uel ſpernere illos miror, ſed nec nõ legiſſe hoc, ſed tantos aliorum iudices phas eſt ſuſpicari, quæ ſi tamen forſan non legerunt legant, ſiquis eſt pudor apud Chalcidium in Timeum Platonis ſecundo commentario: ſed ne quicquam moneo, omne quod ad pietatem tendit, à quocunque dictum, pari temeritate atque impietate deſpiciunt, & ut docti uideantur inſaniunt, quod ancillæ humili negatum ſit, omnipotenti quoque domino uetitum opinantes. Quin etiam quod in horum tumultibus aduertere potuiſti, ubi ad di-

ſputationem

ſputationem publicam uentum eſt, quia errores ſuos eructare nō audent, proteſtari ſolent ſe in præſens ſequeſtrata ac ſepoſita fide diſſerere, quod quid, oro, eſt aliud, quàm reiecta ueritate, uerum quærere, & quaſi ſole derelicto in profundiſsimos & opacos terræ inhiatus introire, ut illic in tenebris lumen inueniant, quo nihil amentius fingi poteſt. Ipſi autem ne nil agere illos putes, ſeu quid agant ignorare, quod aperta profeſsione non audent, proteſtatione clandeſtina fidem negant, nunc ſerijs, Sophiſticisq; blaſphemijs, nunc ludicris & malè falſis, & olentibus ioeſsatque impijs, atqui magno audientium aſſenſu, de quo apud ipſum Ciceronem loquens Balbus. Mala (inquit) & impia conſuetudo eſt, cōtra deos diſputandi, ſiue ex animo id, ſiue ex ſimulatione loquebatur, ut deorum cultio pié, quanquam pietas illa impia eſſet, ac peſtifera. Quàm ergo mala, quamq; impia conſuetudo, ueri Dei cultoribus uideri debet, contra Deum ſuum, hoc eſt, contra unum uerum uiuum cœli Deum diſputandi quocunq; propoſito. Nam ſi ex animo fiat, ſcelus ingens & impietas, ſi ludendo autem, ineptiſsimus ludus, & cenſoria dignus eſt nota. Non hoc tamen aſpiciunt iudices mei, quorum in iudicio non ignorans adeò uiderer, niſi Chriſtianus eſſem. Quomodo enim Chriſtianus homo literatus uideretur, his qui idiotā CHRISTVM magiſtrum, & dominum noſtrum dicunt? Non facilè rudis magiſtri diſcipulus eruditus fiet, ab illius ueſtigijs non diuertens, cupidè igitur & audacter, & importunè contra præceptorem, contraq; diſcipulos eius clamant, imò latrant & inſultant, inq; eo maximè gloriantur, ſi confuſum aliquid ac perplexum dixerint, nec ſibi, nec alijs intellectum. Nam quis præcor intelligat, nec intelligentem ſe. Nec audiunt Cæſarem Auguſtum, inter multa animi, ingenijq; bona, diſertiſsimum principem, qui ut de illo ſcribitur, genus eloquendi ſecutus eſt elegans, et temperatum, præcipuam ꝓ curā duxit, ſenſum animi, quàm apertiſsimè exprimere, & amicosimiſit, uerba inſolita & obſcura captantes, & hoſtem increpuit, ut inſanum, ea ſcribentem, quæ mirentur potiùs audientes quàm intelligant. Verè ergo miri homines, qui hinc doctrinæ gloriā aucupentur, unde apud doctos ignorantiæ merentur infamiam. Summum enim ingenij, & ſcientiæ argumentum claritas. Nam quòd clarè quis intelligit, clarè eloqui poteſt, quodq; intus in animo ſuo habet auditoris, in animū transfundere, ita uerè fit, quòd in his dilectus nec intellectus Ariſtoteles ait, in primo Metaphyſicæ: Scientis ſignum poſſe docere, quamuis hoc ipſum artificio non uacet. Quia ut ait Cicero 2. de Leg. non ſolum ſcire aliquid artis eſt, ſed quædam ars eſt etiam docendi. At ars hæc nimirū intellectus ac ſcientiæ claritate fundata eſt, & ſi enim ars huiuſmodi præter ſcientiā exigatur, ad exprimendum ſcilicet, imprimendumq; animi conceptus, nulla ars tamen de obſcuro ingenio, clarā promet orationem. Amici autem noſtri, nos luce gaudentes, neq; ſecum in tenebris palpitantes, quaſi noſtræ ſcientiæ diffiſos, & ob id omnium ignaros, quia non de omnibus per compita diſputamus, ex alto deſpiciunt, tumentes inauditis ambagibus, ſibiq; præcipuè hinc placentes, quòd cum nihil ſciant, profiteri omnia & clamare de omnibus didicerunt. Neq; illos hinc retrahi pudor ullus aut modeſtia, & conſcientia latitantis inſcitiæ, neque non dicam ille Publij Mimus:

Nimium altercando ueritas amittitur.

Sed illud Salomonis autenticum, uerba ſunt plurima, multaq; in diſputando habentia uanitatem. Aut illud Apoſtoli. Si quis autem uidetur contentioſus eſſe, nos talem conſuetudinem non habemus, neque eccleſia Dei. Atq; illud eiuſdem. Videte ne quis uos decipiat, per philoſophiam & inanem fallaciam, ſecundùm traditionem hominum, ſecundum elementa mundi, & non ſecundùm CHRISTVM. Quid eſt autem hoc quod loquor, aut quomodò Paulo unquàm crediturōs ſperem? an non ipſe CHRISTI diſcipulus, quò magiſtro gratior, eò iſtis inuiſior, contemptiorq;? Quis autem odioſo unquàm præbuit conſultori? non ſi amicus, non ſi ipſe frenū ſtringat Ariſtoteles, quieſcent, tantus eſt impetus, tanta animi temeritas, tantus timor, tanta philoſophia nominis, & tàm uana iactantia, tanta denique opinionum peruicatia, & peregrinorum dogmatum, uentoſæq; diſputationis improbitas, cuius illud ſupra poſitum, inter multa damnabile, quòd coæternum Deo mundum nolunt. Vbi prophanas illas cantiunculas, graui nō ſine ſtomacho ſolitus ſum audire, quas hi noſtri in triuijs paſsim, apud Ciceronem uerò Velleius, Epicuri partium defenſor quærit his uerbis. Quibus enim (inquit) oculis animi, intueri potuit Plato fabricā illam tanti operis, qua conſtitui à Deo, fabricariq; mundum facit? Poteſt utcunq; hæc interrogatio tollerari, niſi quòd iam quærendo reſponſum eſt, quibus hæc oculis uidit Plato, nempè animi, quibus inuiſibilia cernūtur, & quibus ipſe ut Philoſophus fretus acerrimus, atq; clariſsimus multa

uidit, quamuis ad hanc uisionem, nostri propiùs accesserunt, non uisu quidem, sed lumine clariore. At quòd sequitur quis ferat. Quę molitio (inquit) quæ ferramenta, qui uectes, quę machinæ, qui ministri tanti muneris fuerunt? quemadmodum autem obedire & parere uoluntati architecti, aër, ignis, aqua, terra potuerūt? Quęstio diffidentis & irreligiosi animi, ita enim quasi de lignario, aut ferrario fabro quærit, non de illo, de quo scriptum est: Ipse dixit & facta sunt. Dixit autem non uerbo uocali, ne laborasse, uel iubendo somnient, ut multa sunt soliti, sed per uerbum internū, sibiq; coëternum. Quòd erat in principio apud Deum, Deus uerus, de Deo uero, consubstantialis patri, per quem facta sunt omnia. Hic profectò mundum fecit ex nihilo, uel si ut Philosophi quidam uolunt, ex informi materia, quam ὕλη Graij quidam, alij syluam uocant, factus est mundus. Hæc ipsa, ut ait Augustinus, facta est de omninò nihilo. Fecit (inquam) Deus igitur mundum uerbo illo, quod Epicurus, & sui nosse non poterant, nostri uerò Philosophi non dignantur: eoq; sunt priscis illis inexcusabiliores. Potest etiam lux in tenebris non uidere, qui in luce apertis oculis non uidet, planè est cæcus. At quòd apud ipsum Ciceronem in processu quæritur, quomodo qui mundum natum seu factum introduxerit, is eum dixerit fore sempiternum, haud iniustè quidem queratur. Nos autem & principium habuisse, & finem habiturum mundum dicimus. Illa quæ sequitur uana magis, sed uulgaris est quæstio. Sciscitor (inquit) cur mundi ædificatores repentè exciti, ante innumerabilia secula dormicrunt. Qui hæc interrogant, non attendunt, si ante centum millia (uel quia id quòd apud Tullium scriptum est, Babylonios quadringenta septuaginta annorum millia numerare) ante hæc omnia seu plura multò millia factus esset hic mundus, id ipsum similiter queri posse, cur non prius cum mille annorum millia infinito collata, nihil amplius quàm totidem dies sint dicente Psalmographo: Quoniam mille anni ante oculos tuos tanquam dies externa quæ præterijt: uel multo etiam minus, seu uerius nihil penitùs, unius enim diei uel unius horæ ad mille annos, siue ad mille millia annorum, sicut unius exiguæ stillæ leui imbre delapsæ, ad omnem oceanum, cunctaq; maria, per quem minima quidem, aliqua tamen est comparatio & nonnulla proportio. At multorum & quotcunq; uolueris millium annorum, usq; dum numero nomen desit, ad æternitatem ipsam, prorsus nulla. Illa enim supra mundum, hinc maxima & hinc parua, utriusq; certè finita sunt. Hæc autem contra hinc infinita, licet maxima quæ illis admota, non exigua extimanda esse, sed nulla aut ille uir magnus Augustinus, qui de hoc ipso ualidissimè disputat libro duodecimo ciuitatis Dei. Et hæc est illa perplexitas, quæ Philosophos coëgit æternitatem mundi ponere, ne tàm diù ociosus fuisse uideatur Deus, quàm multorum sententiam paucis uerbis stringere. Theodosius Macrobius secundo commentario, in sextum Ciceronianæ Reipublicæ. Mundum quidem (inquit) fuisse semper Philosophia auctor est, conditore quidem Deo, sed non ex tempore. Siquidē tempus ante mundum esse non potuit, cum nihil aliud tempora, nisi cursus solis efficiat. Quæ tamen apud ipsum Ciceronem his uerbis eliditur. Non enim si mundus nullus erat, secula non erant. Secula nunc dico, non ea quę dierum, noctiumq; numero anni cursibus conficiuntur, nam, fateor, ea sine mundi conuersione effici non potuisse, sed fuit quædam ab infinito tempore æternitas, quam nulla temporum circumscriptio metiebatur. Spatio tamen qualis ea fuerit intelligi potest, quod ne in cognitionem quidem cadit, ut fuerit aliquod tempus, cum nullum esset, quæ uerba penè ad contextum idem Augustinus interserit. Addunt sane ingeniosi magis homines quàm pij, ad æternitatem ipsam de qua dictum est, mutationes rerum uarias, ex incendijs ac diluuijs terrarum mūdo inuectas, quibus & temporalis, & quodammodo nouus uideatur, eum æternus sit Quo in genere toto (ut iam tandem serò licet unde discessi redeam, euectus enim sum rerum cohærentium catenam) maximè uitandus Aristoteles, non quod plus errorum, sed plus auctoritatis habet ac sequacium. Fatebuntur forsitan, seu uero, seu uerecundia coacti, diuina non satis Aristotelem uidisse, neque æterna, quod à puro ingenio semota sint, sed humanorum atq; prætereuntium nihil non peruidisse contendent, ita eò reuertimur, quod contra hunc ipsum Philosophum disputans Macrobius, siue ioco, siue serio. Videtur (ait) mihi uir tantus nihil ignorare potuisse, mihi autem prorsus contrarium uidetur, neq; ulli hominum humano studio eorum omnium scientiam fuisse concessam. Hinc laceror, & quamuis alia sit inuidiæ radix, hæc tamen causa prætenditur, quod Aristotelem non adoro, sed alium quem adorem habeo, qui mihi nō inanes rerum fallentium ac friuolas coniecturas, ad nil utiles, nulli subnixas fundamento, sed suipsius notitiam pollicetur, quam si pręstat, cęterarum ab eodem conditarum rerum, & accesio super

uacua,

uacua, & apprehensio facilis, & inquisitio ridiculosa uidebitur. Hunc igitur habeo, de quo sperem, hunc habeo quem adorem, quem pie utinam & iudices mei colant. Quod si faciunt, sciunt Philosophos multa mentitos, eos dico, qui Philosophi dicuntur, ueri enim Philosophi, uera omnia loqui solent. Horum tamen ex numero, nec Aristoteles, nec Plato est, quem ex omni prisca illa Philosophorum acie, ad uerum propius accessisse nostri dixêre Philosophi. Isti uerò ut diximus, sic amore solius nominis capti sunt, ut secus aliquid, quàm ille de re qualibet loqui, sacrilegio dent. Hinc maximum nostræ ignorantiæ argumentum habent, quod nescio quid aliter de uirtute, neque sat Aristotelicè dixerim, en crucibus dignum crimen, perfacilè fieri potest, ut non diuersum modò aliquid, sed aduersum dixerim, nec malè illicò dixerim:

Nullius addictus iurare in uerba Magistri: ut de se loquens Flaccus, ait:

Illud quoque possibile est, ut id licet aliter dixerim, atque ijs omnia iudicantibus, sed non omnia intelligentibus dicere, aliud uisus sim. Magna enim pars ignorantium, ut ligno naufragus uerbis hæret. Neque rem unam benè aliter dici putat, tanta uel intellectus, uel sermonis quo conceptus exprimitur, inopia est. Equidem fateor, me stylo uiri illius qualis est nobis, non admodum delectari, quamuis cum in sermone proprio, & ducem, & copiosum, & ornatum fuisse Græcis testibus, & Tullio auctore didicerim, antequam ignorantiæ sententia condemnarer. Sed interpretum ruditate, uel inuidia ad nos durus, scaberque peruenit, ut nec ad plenum mulcere aures possit, nec hærere memoriæ, quo fit ut interdum Aristotelis mentem, non illius, sed suis uerbis exprimere, & audienti gratius & promptius sit loquenti. Neque illud dissimulo, quod sæpè cum amicis dixi, nunc ut scribam cogor, non ignarus, magnum mihi hinc famæ periculum instare, magnumque & nouum eius quæ mihi obijcitur ignorantiæ argumentum, scribam tamen, nec iuditia hominum uerebor. Audiant me licebit omnes qui usquam sunt Aristotelici, scio quàm facile solum hunc peregrinum & exiguum conspuent libellum, est enim in conuitia pronum genus, sed de hoc libellus ipse uiderit, quo se linteo detergat, modo me ne conspuant, sat est mihi. Audiant Aristotelici, inquam, omnes, & quoniam Græcia nostris sermonibus surda est, audiant quos Italia omnis, & Gallia, & contentiosa Pariseos ac strepidulus straminum uicus habet, omnes morales, nisi fallor Aristotelis libros legi, quosdam etiam audiui, & antequam hæc tanta detegeretur ignorantia, intelligere aliquid uisus eram, doctiorque his forsitan nonnunquam, sed non qua decuit melior factus ad me redij, & sæpè mecum & quandoque cum alijs questus sum, illud rebus non impleri, quod in primo Ethicorum Philosophus idem ipse præfatus, eam scilicet Philosophiæ partem dixi, nõ ut sciamus, sed ut boni fiamus. Video nempè uirtutem ab illo egregiè diffiniri & distingui, tractarique acriter, & quæ cuique sunt propria seu uitio, seu uirtuti, quæ cum didici, scio plusculum quàm sciebam, idem tamen est animus qui fuerat, uoluntasque eadem. Idem ego, aliud est enim scire, atque aliud amare, aliud intelligere, atque aliud uelle: docet ille nõ inficior quid est uirtus, at stimulos, at uerborum faces, quibus ad amorem uirtutis, uitijque odium, mens urgetur atque incenditur, lectio illa, uel non habet, uel paucissimos habet, quos qui quærit, apud nostros præcipuè Ciceronem, atque Anneum inueniet, & quòd quis fortè mirabitur, apud Flaccum Poëtam quidam stylo hispidum, sed sententijs periucũdum. Quid profuerit, aut nosse quid est uirtus, si cognita non ametur? Aut quid peccati notitia utilis, si cognitum non horretur? Imò herclè si uoluntas praua sit, potest uirtutum difficultas, & uitiorum illecebrosa facilitas, ubi innotuerit, in priorem partem pigrum, nutantemque animum impellere. Neque est mirari, si in excitandis atque in erigendis ad uirtutem animis sit partior, qui parentem Philosophiæ huius Socratem circa moralia negociantem, ut uerbo eius utar, irriserit: & siquid Ciceroni credimus contempserit, quamuis cum illi nõ minus, quàm nostri, quod nemo nescit expertus, acutissimos atque ardentissimos orationis aculeos, præcordijs admouent, infliguntque, quibus & segnes impelluntur, & algentes incenduntur, & sopiti excitantur, & inualidi firmantur, & strati eriguntur, & humi hærentes ad honestissimos cogitatus, & honesta desideria attolluntur, ita ut terrena iam sordeãt, & conspecta uitia, ingens sui odium, uirtus internis spectata oculis, formaque & tanquam honesti uisa facies, ut uult Plato, miros sapientiæ, miros sui pariat amores. Quæ licet præter CHRISTI doctrinam atque auxilium omninò fieri non posse, non sim nescius, neque sapientem, neque uirtuosum, neque bonum aliquem euadere, nisi largo haustu, non de fabuloso illo Pegaseo, qui est inter conuexa Parnassi, sed de uero illo & unico, & habente

in cœlo scatebras fonte, potauerit aquæ salientis in uitam æternã, quam qui gustat amplius non sitit. Ad hæc tamen ipsa pergentibus, illi ipsi quos dicebam, multum conferunt, multumq́ adiuuant, quod de multis eorum libris, multi sentiunt, & de Ciceronis Hortensio nominatim, in se expertus gratè admodum profitetur Augustinus. Etsi enim nõ sit in uirtute finis noster: ubi eum Philosophi posuêre, est tamẽ per uirtutes iter rectum eò, ubi finis est noster, per uirtutes, inquã, non tantũ cognitas, sed dilectas. Hi sunt ergo ueri Philosophi, morales, & uirtutum optimi magistri, quorũ prima & ultima intentio est, bonum facere auditorem & lectorem, quiq; non solum docent, quid est uirtus, aut uitiũ, præclarũq; illud hoc fuscum nomen auribus instrepunt, sed rei optimę amorem, studium, pessimeq́ue rei odium, fugamq́ pectoribus inserunt. Tutiùs est uoluntati bonæ ac piæ quàm claro intellectui operam dare. Voluntatis siquidẽ obiectum, ut sapientibus placet, est bonitas, obiectum intellectus, est ueritas. Satius est autem bonum uelle, quàm uerũ nosse. Illud enim meritò nunquam caret, hoc sæpè etiam culpam habet, excusationem non habet Itaq; longè errant: qui in cognoscenda ueritate, non in adipiscẽda, & multò maximè, qui in cognoscendo non amando Deo tempus ponit. Nam & cognosci ad plenum Deus in hac uita nullo potest modo, amari autem potest, piè atq; ardenter, & utiq; amor ille felix semper. Cognitio uerò nonnunquam misera, qualis est dæmonum, qui cognitum apud inferos contremiscunt. Et quanquam prorsus incognita non amentur, satis est tamen Deũ eatenus, quibus ultra non datur ac uirtutem nosse, ut sciamus illum omnis boni fontẽ lucidissimum, sapidissimum, amœnissimum, inexhaustũ, à quo, & per quem, & in quo sumus, quicquid sumus boni. Hanc post Deum rerum optimam, quo cognito totis illum præcordijs ac medullis propter se, hanc autem propter illum amemus & colamus, uitæ illum unicum auctorẽ, uitæ hanc præcipuum ornamentum. Quæ cùm ita sint, non est forsitan his Philosophis nostris, etsi non sint Græci, de uirtute præsertim credere, ut iudices mei putant reprehensibile, & siquidem uel hos ipsos, uel meum forte iudicium secutus dixi aliquid, quamuis Aristoteles aliter, aut aliud dixerit, non ideò apud æquiores eorum iudices sim infamis. Notus enim mos Aristotelicus, in Timeo Platonis, & Chalcidio expressus. Hic (inquit) suo quodam more, pleni, perfectiq; dogmatis electio quod uisum sit, cætera fastidiosa in curia negligit. Si ab illo igitur fastidium aut neglectum aliquid dixi, uel non forsitan cogitatum, fieri enim potest, nec humanæ dissonum est naturæ, quamuis si hos sequimur, nec consonũ uiri famæ. Si hæc dixi quicquid est, neq; enim satis, quid sit illud noui, neq; hi satis ingenuè uerius me, certis pro criminibus impetunt, sed suspitionibus ac susurris, hæc ne sufficiens causa est, qua fluctibus sic demergar ignorãtiæ, ut in uno errans, in quo ipso possum, his errantib. non errasse, factus sim omniũ reus, & in omnibus semper errare, nilq; omniũ scire damnandus sim? Quid ergo dicat aliquis, an & tu contra Aristotelẽ muris? Contra Aristotelẽ nihil, sed pro ueritate aliquid, quã licet ignorans amo, & contra stultos Aristotelicos, multa quotidiè in singulis uerbis Aristotelẽ inculcantes, solo sibi nomine cognitũ, usq; ad ipsius ut auguror, audientiumq́ fastidiũ, & sermones eius contra rectos ad obliquũ sensum temerariè detorquẽtes, nemo uerò me amantior, nemo reuerentior illustriũ uirorũ, & quod ait Naso:

Quotq; aderant uates, rebar adesse Deos.

Ad Philosophos & maximè ad Theologos ueros traho, ipsum uerò Aristotelem, nisi maximum quendam uirum scirem, non hoc dicerem. Scio maximũ, sed ut dixi hominem. Scio in libris eius multa disci posse, sed & extra sciri aliquid posse credo, & antequã Aristoteles scriberet, antequam disceret, antequam nasceretur, multa aliquos scisse non dubito, Homerum, Hesiodum, Pythagoram, Anaxagoram, Democritum, Diogenem, Solonem, Socratem, & Philosophiæ principem Platonẽ. Et quis inquient principatũ hunc Platoni tribuit, ut pro me respondeam, non ego, sed ueritas ut aiunt. Etsi non apprehensa, uisa tamen illi; propiusq; adita, quàm cæteris, dehinc magni tribuunt auctores, Cicero primum & Virgilius, non hic quidẽ nominando, sed sequendo. Plinius præterea & Plotinus, Apuleius, Macrobius, Porphyrius, Cẽsorinus, Iosephus, & ex nostris Ambrosius, Augustinus & Hieronymus, multiq; alij, quod facilè probaretur, nisi omnibus notum esset. Et quis non tribuit nisi insanum & clamosum scholasticorum uulgus? Nam quod Auerrois omnibus Aristotelem præfert, eò spectat, quod illius libros exponendos assumpserat, & quodãmodo suos fecerat, qui quanquam multa laude digni sint, suspectus tamen est laudator. Ad antiquum nempè prouerbium res redit, Mercatores omnes suam mercẽ solitos laudare. Sunt qui nihil per seipsos scribere audeant, & scribendi auidi alienorũ expositores operum fiant, ac ue-

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lut architectonicè inscij, parietes dealbare, suum opus faciãt, & hinc laudem quærant, quã nec per se sperant posse assequi, nec per alios, nisi illos in primis & illorum libros, hoc est, subiectum cui incubuere laudauerint, animosè idipsum & immodicè, ac multa semper hyperbole. Quanta uerò sit multitudo aliena dicta exponentium, an aliena uastantium, hac præsertim tempestate sententiarum liber, ante alios mille tales passus opifices, clara si loqui posśit & querula uoce testabitur. Et quis unquam commentator, non assumptum ceu proprium laudauit opus? Imò eo semper uberius, quo alienum urbanitas, suum opus laudare uanitas atq; superbia est. Linquo eos qui tota sibi delegere uolumina, quorũ unus est aut primus Auerrois, certè Macrobius, non tantum licet expositor, sed scriptor egregius, cùm tamen Ciceronianæ Reipublicæ non libros quidem, si unius libri partem exponendam decerpsisset, expositionis in fine quid addiderit notum est. Verè, inquit, pronũciandum est, nihil hoc opere perfectius, quo uniuersæ philosophiæ continetur integritas. Finge hunc non de libri parte, sed de totis philosophorum libris loqui. Pluribus quidem uerbis, non plus autem dicere potuisset, siquidẽ nihil integritati potest, nisi superfluum accidere. Quid uerò Philosophorum libris omnibus, qui uel scripti, uel scribendi sunt, contineri amplius potest, quàm Philosophiæ integritas, si tamen hæc ipsa uel omnibus contineri potuit, aut poterit libris, & non aliquid deest primis, & nouissimo defuturum est. Sed hæc hactenus. Scio ut dixi, durum me famæ scopulum adisse, tantorum non modò mentione Philosophorum, sed comparatione proposita, stylum tamen obiecta, nec reiecta excuset ignorantia, audaces facere solita & loquaces. Metus amittendæ gloriæ, aut nominis minuendi frenare solitus oratores, amicorum mihi demitur sententia. Quid metuam quæso? Non potest perdi, nec mihi iam minui quod amissum est. Quicquid dixero, aut id erit quod amici mei iudicant, aut plus aliquid, minus nihilo nihil est. Quando ergo quolibet flatu pulsus huc prodij, emergam ut potero, & id dicam quod me sæpè & interdum magnis quæsitoribus respondisse memor sum. Siquidem de Platone & Aristotele, si quæratur. Quauis nàm maior, clariorq; uir fuerit, non mihi tanta est ignorantia, & simultam iudices mei titubant, ut tanta de re ausim præcipitare sententiam, de rebus licet paruis continenda ac libranda est. Neque tectò me fugit, quanta sæpè de doctis hominibus inter doctos concertatio sit exorta. De Cicerone ac Demosthene, deq; ipso itidem Cicerone ac Virgilio, de Virgilio insuper atq; Homero, de Salustio ac Thucydide. Denique de Platone ipso & condiscipulo eius Xenophonte, deq; alijs multis, quorum omnium si indago difficilis atq; extimatio anceps est, inter Platonem atq; Aristotelem, quis sedẽs iuditiaria auctoritate pronunciet. At si quæritur uter sit laudatior, incunctanter expediam, inter hos referre, quantum ego arbitror, quod inter duos, quorum alterum principes, proceresq; alterum uniuersa plebs laudet. A`maioribus Plato, Aristoteles laudatur à pluribus. A`magnis & à multis, imò ab omnibus dignus uterque laudari, eo enim ambo naturalibus atque humanis in rebus peruenerunt, quo mortali ingenio ac studio perueniri potest, in diuinis altius ascendit Plato & Platonici, quanquam neuter peruenire potuerit, quò tendebat. sed ut dixi propiùs uenit Plato, de quo nullus Christianorum, & in primis Augustini librorum fidelis lector hæsitauerit, quod nec Græci, quamuis hodie literarum nescij dissimulãt, maiorum per uestigia Platonem diuinum, Aristotelem dæmonium nuncupantes. Neque me rursum fallit, quãta in libris suis in Platonem Aristoteles disputare sit solitus, quod quàm honestè, & quàm procul à suspitione inuidiæ faciat, quamuis alicubi amicum Platonem, sed amiciorem asserat ueritatem, ipse uiderit, simulq; hoc sibi dictum audiat. Facile est cum mortuo litigare, quem tamen multi boni uiri post obitum defenderunt, nominatim in Ideis, contrà quas ualidè omnes ingenij sui neruos, ille acerrimus disputator intenderat. Notissima Augustini ipsius ac secura defensio est, cui pium quoq; lectorem, non minus assensurum rear, quàm uel Aristoteli, uel Platoni. Vnum incidenter hîc dixerim, ut errorẽ meorum iudicũ, hisq; similiũ refellam, qui uulgi uestigijs insistentes opinari solent, & insolenter nec minus ignoranter obijcere, multa scripsisse Aristotelem. Neq; hic errant. Multa enim scripsit proculdubiò. plura etiam quàm cogitent, quorũ aliqua nondũ habeat lingua Latina. At Platonem prorsum illis & incognitũ, & inuisum, nil scripsisse asserunt, præter unũ atq; alterũ libellum, quod non dicerent si tàm docti essent, quàm me prædicant indoctum. Nec literas ego, nec Græcus, sexdecim uel eò amplius Platonis libros domi habeo, quorũ nescio an ullum isti unquã nomen audierint. Stupebũt ergo si hæc audiant. Si non credunt, ueniãt & uideant. Bibliotheca nostra tuis in manibus relicta, non illiterata quidem illa, quamuis illiterati ho-

minis,neque illis ignota est,quàm totiens me tentantes ingressi sunt. Semel ingrediantur, & Platonem tentaturi,an & ipse sine literis sit famosus, inuenient sic esse ut dico, meque licet ignarum,non mendacem tamen, ut arbitror fatebuntur, neque Græcos tantùm, sed in Latinum uersos aliquot nunquam aliàs uisos aspicient. Literatissimi homines, de qualitate quidem operum iure illi suo iudicent, de numero autem nec iudicare aliter, quàm dico,nec litigare litigiosissimi homines audebunt,& quota ea pars librorũ est Platonis, quota ego his oculis multos uidi,præcipuè Calabrum Barlaam modernum Graiæ specimen sophiæ, qui me Latinarum inscium, docere Græcas literas adortus, forsitan profecisset, nisi mihi illum inuidisset mors, honestisq; principijs obstitisset: ut solita est. Nimis iam post ignorantiam meam uagor,animo & calamo nimis indulgeo,redeundum est. Hæ sunt igitur amice,atque harum similes causæ, quę me amico,sed iniquo,mirum dictú,meorum iudicio sodalium obiecère, quarum ut intelligo nulla potentior, quàm quod licet peccator, certè Christianus sum. Etsi enim forsitan audire possim, quod obiectum sibi Hieronymus refert: Mentiris,Ciceronianus es,non Christianus, ubi enim thesaurus tuus, ibi & cor tuũ. Respondebo, & thesaurum meum incorruptibile, & supremam cordis mei partem apud CHRISTVM esse,sed per infirmitates ac sarcinas uitæ mortalis, quas nec dum ferre, sed enumerare difficile est,non possum,fateor, ut uellem sic inferiores partes animæ,in quibus est irascibilis,& concupiscibilis appetitus attollere, quin adhuc terris inhæreant, & quotiens quanto nisu humo illas auellere mœstus,& indignans retentauerim. Et quia non sic cessit,q tid hinc patiar,solus ipse quem testor,& quem inuoco, CHRISTVS nouit, qui fortasse miserebitur,ut salubrem conatum adiuuet imbecillis animæ, & peccati mole obrutæ ac depressæ.Interim non nego,multis me curis uanis ac noxijs deditum, sed in his non numero Ciceronem, quem mihi nunquam nocuisse, sæpe etiam profuisse cognoui. Quod dictum ex me nemo mirabitur, Augustinum si audierit, de se similia profitentem: de quo me supra proximè, sed alibi pluribus egisse memini, ideoq; nunc unum hoc dixisse contentus sim, non dissimulo, equidem me Ciceronis ingenio & eloquentia delectari,quibus ut innumeros silcam, Hieronymum ipsum usq; adeò delectarum uideo, ut nec uisione illa terribili,nec Ruffini iurgijs,sic stylum inde dimoueri,quin Ciceronianum aliquid redoleret, quod ipsemet sentiens, de hoc ipso alibi se excusat. Nec uerò Cicero fideliter ac modestè lectus aut illi nocuit, aut cuique alteri, cùm ad eloquentiam cunctis, ad uitam multis ualdè profuerit, nominatim ut diximus Augustino, qui ex Aegypto egressurus, Aegyptiorum auro & argento sinum sibi,gremiumque compleuit,ac tantus pugil Ecclesiæ, tantus propugnator fidei futurus,antè diù quàm in aciem descenderet,sese armis hostium circumcinxit. Vbi ergo de his,de eloquentia præsertim quæritur,Ciceronem fateor,me mirari inter,imò ante omnes qui scripserunt,unquam qualibet in gente, nec tamen ut mirari, sic & imitari,cùm potiùs in contrarium laborem,nec cuiusquã scilicet imitator sim nimius, fieri metuens,quod in alijs non probo. Si mirari autem Ciceronem, hoc est,Ciceronianum esse,Ciceronianus sum. Miror enim nempè, quinetiam non mirantes illum miror, si qua hæc ignorantiæ noua confessio uideri potest,hoc sum animo fateor,hoc stupore. At ubi de religione,idem de summa ueritate,& de uera fœlicitate, deq; æterna salute cogitandum incidit,aut loquendum,nõ Ciceronianus certe,aut Platonicus,sed Christianus sum,quippè cum certus mihi uidear,quod Cicero ipse Christianus fuisset, si uel CHRISTVM uidere,uel CHRISTI doctrinam percipere potuisset. De Platone enim nulla dubitatio est apud ipsum Augustinum,si aut hoc tempore reuiuisceret,aut dum uixit hęc futura prænosceret, quin Christianus fieret, quod fecisse sua ætate, plerosq; Platonicos refert idem, quorum ipse de numero credendus est. Stante hoc fundamento, quid Christiano dogmati Ciceronianum obstet eloquium, aut quid noceat Ciceronianos libros attingere, cum libros hæreticorum legisse,non noceat,imò expediat,dicente Apostolo: Oportet hæreses esse,ut & qui probati sunt manifesti fiant,in uobis. Cæterùm multum hac in parte plus fidei apud me habiturus fuerit,prius quisq; Catholicus quamuis indoctus,quàm Plato ipse, uel Cicero. Hæc sunt igitur argumenta ualidiora nostræ ignorantiæ,quæ uera esse gaudeo hercle,utq; indies ueriora fiat cupio. Profectò enim de quo mihi cum magnis uiris liquidò conuenit. Si quemcunq; Philosophum quãtumcunq; famosum, si denique Deum suum Aristotelem reuixisse,& Christianum factum audiant,ruditatis & inscitiæ arguent,& quem ante suspexerint superbi despicient ignorantes, tanta penuria, tantùmq; odium ueri est, quasi dedicetit,eo ipso quod ad sapientiam Dei patris à caliginosa & loquaci mũdi huius ignorantia sit conuersus.

conuerſus. Neq; mihi dubium eſt, quin Victorinus dum Rhetoricam docuit clariſsimus habitus, ita ut in Romano foro ſtatuam meritus accepiſſet, illicò ut CHRISTVM & ueracem fidem clara, & ſalutifera uoce confeſſus eſt, ab illis ſuperbis dæmonicolis, quorum offenſæ metu, aliquandiù conuerſionem diſtuliſſe eum in confeſsionibus ſuis Auguſtinus refert, hebes ac delirantiſsimus haberetur. Quod de ipſo etiam, Auguſtino eò magis ſuſpicor, quò & ipſe uir clarior fuit, clariorq; conuerſio, & quanto fidelibus utilior, gratiorq;, tanto CHRISTI & Ecclesiæ ſuæ hoſtibus inuiſior, mœſtiorq;. Quando apud Mediolanum in eiſdem confeſsionibus idem ipſe commeminit, magiſterio Rhetoricæ depoſito, ſub illo fideliſsimo ac ſanctiſsimo præcone ueritatis Ambroſio, ſcientiam cœleſtem atque iter ſalutis arripuit, & de Ciceronis expoſitore, factus eſt prædicator CHRISTI. De quo quid ſemel audierim narrabo, ut intelligas quantus hic morbus quàm peſtifer, quàm profundus ſit. Audiui uirum magni nominis, dum de Auguſtino placitum ſibi neſcio quid dixiſſem, cum ſuſpirio reſpondentem: Heu quàm dolendum, quod ingenium tale, fabellis inanibus irretitum fui. Cui ego. O te miſerum qui hæc dicis, miſerrimumq; ſi ſentias: Contrà ille ſubridens: Imò uerò ſtultum te (inquit) ſi ſic credis ut loqueris. Sed melius de te ſpero. Quid de me autem ſperaret, niſi ut contemptor pietatis in ſilentio ſecum eſſem. Proh ſuperum atque hominum fidem, ſic iam nemo igitur literatus horum iuditio eſſe poteſt, niſi ſit idem hæreticus & inſanus, ſuperq; omnia importunus & procax, qui per uicos ac plateas urbium, de quadrupedibus ac belluis diſputans, bipes ipſe ſit bellua. Quid autem miri, ſi delirum non modo ignarum iudicant, me amici mei, cum de hoc proculdubiò ſint grege, qui pietatem quolibet ingenio cultam ſpernunt, & religionem diffidentiæ aſſcribunt, neque ingenioſum putant, neque ſatis doctum, eum qui audeat in Ariſtotelem ſolum mutire aliquid, contra fidem catholicam diſputare, eamq; quò quiſque animoſius oppugnare præſumpſerit, expugnari enim nullo poteſt ingenio, nulla ui, eò ingenioſior apud iſtos, doctiorq;, quò ſidentius, fideliusúe defenderit, eò habetur obtuſior atque indoctior, & ignorantiæ conſcientia, fidei uelum aſſumpſiſſe, quo ſe contegat atque inuoluat creditur prorſus, quaſi non diſcordes ac trepidæ fabellæ, & nugæ inanes ac uacuæ ſint illorum, nec ſcientia certa de ambiguis aut ignotis, ſed opiniones uagæ & liberæ, & incertæ. Veræ autem fidei notitia & altiſsima, & certiſsima, & poſtremò fœliciſsima ſit ſcientia um omnium, qua deſerta, reliquæ omnes non uiæ, ſed deuia, non termini, ſed ruinæ, non ſcientiæ ſed errores ſunt. His tamen iſti animis, hiq; ſunt iuditijs ut neſciam, an non ſolum duo illi, de quibus ſupra dictum eſt, uel ſi qui ſunt ſimiles, ſed ſupremus omnium Paulus ipſe, non dico, cœperit diſplicere Iudæis, quibus ante placuerat, quod Hieronymus epiſtolam eius ad Galatas exponens, ait: Sed omninò, & Phariſæis & Pontificibus inſanire uiſus olim ſit, quod de lupo agnus, quod de perſecutore Chriſtiani nominis, factus eſſet Apoſtolus CHRISTI. Et his noſtris etiam uideatur. Poſſum ergo ignorantiam mihi obiectam, poſsim & ſi obijciatur inſaniam magnis comitibus cõſolari, & ſic facio, quin interdum & delector, & gaudeo, honeſtis ex cauſis, non ignorantiæ tantùm, ſed amentiæ reus eſſe. Cæterùm de me lætus, de amicis doleo, & ſi enim aliæ iuditio prætendantur cauſæ & forſitan leuiores, hæ quidem ſcelere, & impietate non uacant, illis mortiferæ & infames, mihi etiam glorioſæ, ut pro his cauſis non ſolum fama, ſed uita inſuper ſpoliari, ſi res tulerit æquiſsimo ſim paſſurus animo. Illud angit in primis, quod ueriſsima omnium, uel unica, uel inter tantas eminens obliqui cauſa iuditij, liuor eſt, qui multos ſemper, ſed nullos unquam ſanos, ac lucidos infecit oculos, coëgitq; falſum cernere. Res ſtupenda & noua, neque mihi unquam hactenus audita, nunc quod nolim in meo capite experta & cognita, amicis inuidiam ineſſe pectoribus. Amicis nunquam ſi non plena ac perfecta amicitia, quæ eſt ita, amicum ut ſe amare. Amant illi me, ſed non toto pectore, dicam melius toto amant pectore, ſed non totum me. Vitam certè corpusq;, & animam, & quicquid habeo præter famam, eamq; duntaxat literarum, horum ego uel omnium uel ſingulorum in manibus fidenter, nilq; hæſitans poſuerim, neque hæc exceptio aut odij, aut amicitiæ lenitioris, ſed inuidiæ eſt, ut dixi, etiam in amicitijs habitantis. Vel, ſi hoc auditu durum eſt, & hoc quoq; melius aliter eſt dicendum, ut non liuoris ſit exceptio, ſed doloris. Dolent forſitan, imo dolent utiq; apud doctos, apud quos mihi uerè ne an falſò literati hominis partũ nomen audiunt, ſe nec literatos eſſe, nec cognitos. Hinc ereptum mihi cupiunt, quod non habent, neq; ſi ſapiunt ſperant, magno uotorũ conflictatio, rerumq; diſcordia, cui bonũ omne uel maximũ uelis, eidem nolle uel minimum, non tàm puto, quia mihi id eſſe, quàm quod ſibi doleant deeſſe. Quærunt neque id fateor iniuſte,

iniustè, in amicitia pares esse, & id agunt, quoniam clari omnes esse non possumus, quod faciliùs censent, sumus omnium obscuri. Est nō inficior in amicis paritas pulcherrima, ubi enim insignitis pars una præponderat, non benè uidentur amicorum animi, quasi impares inuenti sub amicitiæ iugum mitti. Verum ea paritas amoris, ac fidei esse debet, fortunarum & gloriæ non ita, idq; ut ignotos sileam, Herculis ac Philoctetę, Thesei ac Perithoi, Achillis & Patrocli, Scipionis & Lælij probat imparitas. Ipsi tamen ut libet uiderint, quo animo erga meum nomen fuerint, qui erga me, ni fallor, haud dubiè sunt optimo. Ego autem amice, ne quid nescias, & ut noris, unde & quo animo tibi hæc scribo, inter Padi uertices, parua in naui sedeo. Ne mireris, si uel manus scribentis, uel oratio fluctuat, per aduersum hūc ingentem amnem, tota cum ignorantia mea nauigo, cuius olim in ripis multa scripsi iuuenis, multaq; meditatus sum, quæ illorum temporum sensibus probarentur, prius quam ij iuuenes senilem ignorantiam deprehendissent. O' sors hominū instabilis, Padus ipse quodammodo mihi compati uisus est, quasi studij nostri memor, & ueterum conscius curarū, quod quem iuuenem (si sine superbia dici potest) gloriosum uidit, senē cernat inglorium, famæq; præfulgidis exutum uestibus, meq; retrò assiduè ad ius meum ab iniquis iudicibus reposcendū, magno impetu & toto gurgite reimpellit. Verùm ego laboriosam mihi, & quibus minimè suspicabar, inuidiosam famę sarcinam perosus, & litium fugitans, & contemptus spretor, exuuias meas raptoribus charis linquo. Habeant sibi me cedente, si ut pecunia, sic & fama, dum habent eripitur ad raptorem transit, habeant sibi uel scientiam, uel hic apud stultos parem, scientiæ opinionem. Ego uel utraq;, uel profectò altera, hoc est, opinione scientiæ nudus, eò fœlicior fortassis, & ditior nuditate humili, quam superbis illi spolijs, & ut arbitror non suis. Vado igitur lætus, claro & graui fasce deposito, & obstantem Padum remis, uelis ac funibus supero, Ticinum repetens, studiosam & antiquam urbem, ubi nō modo uestimentum famæ uetus inter nautas perditum inueniam, si ea cura sit, sed carere illo, & si ualdè cupiam nequibo. Ego autem nitar semper, & optabo illiteratus dici, dum Vir bonus, aut non malus sim, ut uel sic quiescam, fesso nil dulcius est quiete. Hanc mihi semper ad hunc diem mendax, ut nunc audio, literarum fama eripuit, & hanc ipsam, seu falsa, seu uerax, ignorantiæ fama restituet, atq; ita uel serò tandem aliquando benè erit. Id tamen ut uereor frustra nitar, atq; optabo, tàm multi contra meos iudices sentiunt, ut non illic tantùm quo mihi nunc iter est, sed ubicunq; per hunc nostrum orbem suam hanc sententiam promulgarint, quamuis apud me in rem iudicatā transierit ut audisti, apud alios tamē in suum caput plurium ac maiorum iuditio recasura sit, præter unam illam forsitan, ubi hæc audent, urbem nobilissimam atq; optimam, ubi propter populi magnitudinem, multiplicemq; uarietatem, multi sunt, qui sine literis philosophentur, ac iudicent. Multa enim rerū omnium, & quod unicum ibi uel maximum malum dixerim, uerborū longè nimia est libertas, qua freti, sæpè ineptissimi homines claris nominibus insultant, indignantibus quidē bonis, qui ibidem quoq; tàm multi sunt, ut nesciam an in ulla urbe tot modesti, boniq; uiri sint, sed tanto maior est, ubiq; stultorum acies, ut sapientium indignatio frustrà sit, tàm dulce omnibus libertatis est nomen, ut temeritas & audacia, quod illi similes uideantur uulgò placeant. Hinc impunè aquilam noctuę, cygnum corui, leonem simiæ lacescunt, hinc honestos fœdi, doctos inscij, fortes ignaui, bonos mali lacerant. Nec malorum licentiæ, boni obstant, quod & numero illi superant, & fauore publico, expedire credentium ut quicquid loqui liber, & liceat, ita prorsus insedit illud Tiberij Cæsaris, in ciuitate libera, linguam, mentemq; liberas esse debere, liberè quidem esse debent, ita tamen ut libertas uacet iniuria. Vides ut ad finem propero, neq; peruenio. Multa enim interueniunt, quæ cursum orationis impediant, non quod ego ignorem, multò sapientius, multòq; grauius futurum fuisse, hæc & alia sæpè similia tacuisse. Sed difficile est inter aculeos non moueri. Sæpè ergo tales pulices, uel conterere necesse mihi fuit, uel excutere. Facile autem hos tulissem, si te facile perferentem cognouissem, in his enim, non inscitiam meam, quam libenter amplector, sed illorum insolentiam ægrè fero, sed ut dixi, tacitus hanc laturus nisi tu fuisses. Tuæ equidem & non meæ indignationi, tàm longis sermonibus morem gessi. De ignorantia mea tibi non epistolam iam, sed librum scribens, addidi de multorum ac penè omnium ignorantia, quæ se obtulerant festinanti, de quibus cogitare studiosiùs si detur, non libellus exiguus, sed ingentes texi queant libri. Quid enim quæso communius ignorantia? Quid uberius? Quid latius? Quocunque me uertam, in me illam, & in alijs, sed nunquam exundantiùs, quàm in meis iudicibus inuenio, quæ si tàm illis nota esset ut mihi, alienæ

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forsan ignorantiæ ferendis sententijs abstinerent, essetque ad tribunal illud iniquissimum atque ineptissimum perenne iustitium. Quis enim nisi impudentissimus, quod in se uidet damnat in altero? Excusatio una est, docti sibi uidētur, eò præsertim in tempore: nam quod constat post cœnam illa sententia lata est. Videri autem prima fronte potuerit, de meipsius ignorantia, nisi aliud addidissem. Nouus libri titulus, non stupendus tamen, ad memoriam reuocanti, ut de ebrietate sua librum scripsit Antonius Triumuir, tantò enim hoc turpior titulus ille est, quantò morum, quàm ingenij turpiora sunt uitia. Ignorantia quidem uel desidiæ cuiuspiam fuerit, uel insitæ tarditatis, at ebriositas uoluntatis, peruersique animi. Sicut autem ibi Antonius omnium ebriosissimum se fatetur, unum duntaxat excipiens, magni pròh pudor filium Ciceronis, sic & ego omnium ignorantissimum me non nego, sed non unum, imò quatuor fortassis excipiam, sed iam satis est, uereorque ne nimium, iamque uelut è turbidis fluctibus portum specto. Iam demum igitur alto animo feramus hanc seu falsam infamiam, seu ueram famam ignorantiæ. Nam neque falsum metuit, nisi qui parum uero fidit, neque uerum odit, nisi qui falsum amat. Si falsa est infamia, citò delinet, apud ipsos etiam auctores infamiæ, dum quid dixerint ruminantes pudor inuaserit. Apud alios enim nec incipiet quidem, nec ad quem diuertat patens limen docti hominis repertura est. Sin uera est fama quid tergiuersamur? An amore uani nominis labefacere nitimur ueritatem? Quid est autem in hoc ipso, quod magnopere generosum animum & humana noscentem, & cœlestia suspirantem torqueat. Dum cogitat, metiturque quantulum esse, quàm nihilo proximum, quod non dicam unus, alterque Philosophus, eorum quoque qui clarissimum scientiæ nomen habent, sed simul omnes norunt, quamque exilis rerum portio, omnium hominum scientia, uel humanæ ignorantiæ, uel diuinæ sapientiæ comparata? Dabis hinc mihi amice aurem, dabis fidem, atque hoc non recens, & nunc primum ad os ueniens, sed sæpè dictum, sæpiùs cogitatum credes, quemcunque horum, qui magna scientiæ fama sunt, seu ueterum, seu nouorum, ex illo illustrium grege, & nominum luce secreueris, & diligenter excusseris, inuenies, si rerum ueritas nec hominum clamor inspicitur, scientiæ modicum, ignorantiæ plurimum habuisse, quod ipsos si adsint, nec ingenuus pudor absit, placne fassuros mihi ipse persuadeo, & hoc Aristotelem morientem ingemuisse quidam ferūt, ut nemo sibi blandiatur, aut scientię opinione superbiat, sed Deo gratias agat, si quid ei forsitan supra communem modum obtigit, ad quod ipsum credendum non sit uelox, potiùs quàm sibi, quàm alijs de se credat, sibique non plausoris blandi, sed censoris in se rigidi, uice fungenti. Verè enim quisquis fauore seposito, quo & fallimus, & uicissim fallimur, apertisque oculis res suas aspexerit, multa in se flenda, pauca admodum plaudenda reperiet. Sed omissis quorum grauior est querela, de uirtutibus loquor, ad scientiam reuertamur, iam quid inops perdere metuat, ubi qui habentur ditissimi uerè inopes sunt, siquidem in hac ipsa portiuncula scibiliū rerum, philosophamur, tumidissimi & inquietissimi dissidemus, & magnæ uelut specie scientiæ superbimus, inque ipsis angustijs, qui maximi etiam sunt, uersantur, & pauca scientes multa nesciunt, & nescire se nisi insaniant non nesciunt. Verissimumque est illud Ciceronianum, quod quisque grauis Philosophus multò sibi deesse cognoscit, quem defectum quo quisque minus sentit & curat minùs. Ideoque doctissimos maximè uideas discendi auidos, & maximè ignorantiam intelligentes. Sanè in hac tanta scientiæ inopia, ubi implumes alas uento aperit humana superbia, quàm frequētes, & quā duri scopuli? Quot, quamque ridiculæ philosophantium uanitates? Quanta oppositionum contrarietas, quanta pertinacia? Quanta proteruia? Qui sectarum numerus? Quæ differentiæ? Quæ'nam bella? Quanta rerum ambiguitas? Quæ uerborū perplexitas? Quam profundè, quamque inaccessibiles ueri latebræ? Quot insidiæ sophistarum, omni studio ueri iter, uepribus ceu quibusdam obstruentium, ut nequeat internosci, quis illuc rectior trames ferat? Quam ob causam Cato maior pellendum censuit urbe Carneadem. Quæ'nam postremò hæc inter, hinc temeritas, hinc diffidentia maximorum hominum, & desperatio quædā apprehendendæ ueritatis Pythagoras, ait, de omni re ad utramque partem æquis argumentis disputari posse. Et de hoc ipso, an res omnis ex æquo disputabilis sit. Sunt qui dicant, altè obrutam ueritatem, & profundo uelut in puteo demersam, quasi ex imis terræ latebris, & non potiùs è summo cœli uertice, petenda ueritas, & uncis, ac funibus eruenda, non scalis gratiæ, & ingenij gradibus adeunda sit. Socrates ait:

Hoc unum scio, quod nihil scio.

Quàm humillimam ignorantiæ professionem, ceu nimis audacem reprehendit Archesilaus,

silaus, nec id unum sciri asserens nihil sciri. Ea gloriosa Philosophia quæ, uel ignorantiam profitetur, uel ignorantiæ saltem noticiam interdicit, circulatio anceps, ludus inextricabilis. Contrà Gorgias Leontinus Rhetor uetustissimus, non modò aliquid, sed sciri omnia posse credit, non à Philosopho tantùm, sed ab Oratore: nempè, qui, ut ait Cicero, omnibus de rebus Oratorem optime posse dicere existimauit, quod certè ipse non potuit, non posset autem optimè de rebus omnibus dicere, nisi optimè omnes nosceret. Idem sensit Hermagoras, qui non modò Rhetoricam, sed Philosophiam omnem, rerumq; omnium noticiam tribuit Oratori. Magna mediocris ingenij fiducia, & longè omnibus fidentior. Hippias scire se omnia profiteri ausus, ut non modò de liberalibus studijs, deq; uniuersa Philosophia, sed de mechanicis quoque plenam sibi gloriam usurparet: dicerem diuinum hominem, nisi insanum crederem. Sed quoniam iam nec sciri omnia, imò nec multa per hominem certum est, & confutata iam pridem atque explosa Academia, ac reuelante Deo, sciri aliquid posse constat, sit satis scire quantum sufficit ad salutem. Multi plus sapientes, quàm oportet periere, & dicentes se esse sapientes, ut ait Apostolus: Stulti facti sunt, & obscuratum est, insipiens cor eorum. Mihi ad sobrietatem sapere si contingat, quod sine multis, imò sine ullis literis fieri posse, illiterata utriusque sexus sanctorum cohors indicat, satis erit & fœliciter agi mecum existimabo, neque unquam mei me studij pœnitebit, & hos garrulos idiotas, qui falsò literarum nomine turgidi dici amant, quod non sunt, aut miserebor aut odero, aut ridebo, deque inanibus atque incognitis altercantes, neque illis iactantia, nec tumorem pestiferum, neque omninò aliquid, non ipsas certè diuitias inuidebo, nunquam ad se redeuntibus, sæpè foras effusis, seq; extra quærentibus. In finem, literati libens nomen pono, & iam posui, si indignum ut ueritati, conscientiæq; satisfaciam, alioquin ut inuidiæ, de re autem posteritas uiderit, si ad illam famæ passibus peruenero, si minus, oblitio. Viderit, inquam posteritas incorrupta, quam ab æquitate iudicij, non animorum perturbatio ulla, non odium, non ira, non amor, liuorq; ueri hostes impediunt. Viderit illa si me nouerit, Iudices enim meos proculdubiò non agnoscet, quippe quos nec ætas hæc nouerit, uix uiciniæ notos suæ, uiderit, iudicetq;. Et si horum sententiam approbet acquiesco, si rescindat, non ideo his irascor, sciens quanta sit in animis hominum potestas affectuum. Hi sunt autem, qui in me sententiam hanc dictarunt: fallor, unus enim quem sæpè hodie nomino, liuor fuit. Ille hanc digitis suis scripsit, quam nec amor potuit mutare, nec ratio, cur ergo irascerer amicis, pro eo, quod ab illorum hoste commissum est? Si iniquitatem filij non feret pater, nec filius patris, quanto minùs hostis iniquitas nocere debeat amico, præsertim illius carcere ac uinculis astricto, qui si quando sibi redditus fuerit, & suas, & amici iniurias sit ulturus? Sunt multa præterea, quæ iracundiam siqua esset exemplorum, comprimant compescant remedijs, nam quæ unquã uel doctrina, uel sanctitas, uel uirtus qualibet tàm excellens fuit, ut obtrectatoribus non pateret? Imò quidem, ut Liuius ait: Quò gloria maior, eò propior inuidia. & sic est. Quanquam enim incis malum sit inuidia, & alta, & animosè non ascendat, sed uiperæ in morem, iuxta Nasonis sententiam: humi serpat, familiare tamen illi est, alteque gloriæ radices audiùs insequi, clarisq; nominibus suum uirus infundere, non aliter quàm subterranei quidam uermes, qui proceras arbores radicum morsibus clandestinis, & tacita labe pertentant. Sic sæpe sæuit liuor, sed interdum magis æstuat, passionem animi silentium frangente, clamoribus, & Thersitem pede claudum, distortum eru ribus, humeris gibbosum, pectore concauum, caluastrum uertice, atque pruriginosum, & Agamemnoni Græcorum regi, & Achilli Græcorum fortissimo, detrahentem publicè. Ilias narrat Homerica, & Drancem Turno uerbis iniuriantem Aeneis Virgiliana testatur. Sed hic miri nihil. Est enim contrarijs inter se naturale odium. Quanta in D. D. Iulium, & Augustum Cæs. uel ab amicis, uel ab hostibus dicta sunt, illud supra fidẽ stupeo, quod Pescennius Niger uir fortissimus, progeniẽ Scipionũ toto Romano orbe prçcipuã, fortunatã potiùs dicebat esse, quã fortẽ? Nullus hic proculdubiò liuor erat, sed libertas inconsulta iudicij. Verum hæc & similia peregrina nobis, atq; longinqua sunt. Ad propinquiora ueniamus. Possem sanctos memorare, prçcipueq; Hieronymum, sed prophana materia, & de solis literis sermo est, itaq; illos attingã, sed non omnes, qui nostræ propiùs sunt querelæ: quis ergo in primis Epicurum in tolleranda superbia, siue inuidia, siue utraq; detrahẽtem omnibus non audiuit? Pythagoræ, Empedocli, Timocrati, quem amicũ licet totis uoluminibus lacerasse traditur, quod in Philosophia paululũ à se, suisq; insanis opinionibus discordaret, habẽt tamen, & hi tres, & alij quos discerpsit patientię materiã, quãdo idẽ & mitè Platonem

spernit,

spernit, & contumeliosissimè Aristotelem uexat, ac Democritum: à quo ultimo quæ sciebat in Philosophicis cuncta didicerat, & quem exigua mutatione uerborum in omnibus sequebatur, hunc acrius infamabat, nempe qui magistro caruisse gloriaretur, & uideri uellet. Secuti sunt in hac detrahendi libidine præceptorem suum Metrodorus atque Hermaeus, supradictos quoque Philosophos lacerantes, nec ullius magnitudini parcentes aut gloriæ. Fuit & Zeno ipse maledicus atque irrisor, qui Crispum uirum acutissimum, & eiusdem secum sectæ contemptum nominans, non Crispum, sed Crispam semper diceret, & non modò coætaneos, sed parentem Philosophiæ Socratem, conuitijs ac maledictis incesseret, Latinoque usus uerbo, credo ut peregrinæ linguæ mordacior esset iocus, scurram Atticum uocitaret, quo si ipsum Socratem, si sic illud, & non potius lætoria dici debet, in eundem apud quem hæc scripta sunt Ciceronē, post ab æmulis uersum est, quem ob insignem linguæ festiuitatem dixêre aliqui Consularem scurram. Dignus iocus, non illius uiri auribus ac moribus, sed ore potius, & scurrilitate iocantium. Iam Annei Senecæ in Quintilianum, atque in Senecam Quintiliani detractio nota est: erantque ambo uiri egregij, ambo Hispani, mutuis tamen morsibus sese carpunt, atque alter alterius stylum damnat, mirum prorsus in tantis ingenijs. Solent enim docti indoctis esse odio ac stupori, horum illi igitur, modò facultas affulserit, famam rodunt, doctis, facie licet incognitis, inter se cognatio multa est, nisi hanc liuor, aut excellentiæ appetitus abrumperit, quod in his proximis duobus, inque alijs de quibus ante diximus euenisse credibile est. Quibus quandoque cessantibus, nouum d[illegible] claros inter uiros esse uidetur æmulatio quædam, quasi uentis quiescentibus, tumes[illegible] Cuius duplicem rei causam apud quosdam lego, una est fauor discipulorum, atque [illegible] sunt, qui libentius quieturos contrarijs sententijs in certamen trahit. Altera uerò pa[illegible]as ipsa, quę sine sensu eorum, qui in comparationem adducuntur spectantium, iudicia in diuersum agit, ut quamuis in se concordes duo uiri & passionibus liberi, uideantur tamen inter se taciti, quasi duo propinqui montes, aut totidem turres excelsæ, de altitudine, èminentiaque contendere. Cuius exemplum, nisi memoria me frustratur, est supra memoratum, par uirorum Plato & Xenophon. Incidunt uerò nonnunquam non his modò, sed superioribus, & acriores dissensionum causæ, non inuidia studiorum, sed profundis flammantes odijs. Nam Salustij in Tullium, atque Aeschinis in Demosthenem, horumque in illos inuectiuæ, non ingenia neque stylos arguunt, sed mores amarumque aliquid & hostile, imò pacatum nihil in se continent, nullæ ibi facetiæ, nullus iocus, sed certamen longè aliud quàm quod de literis, aut pro gloria sumi solet. Cui collati, omnes meorum iudicum ac[illegible], ludi sunt æquissimo animo ferēd, dum prætet hos ipsos, quos audisti, mille alios memini, de solis literis concertantes, nominatim Homericos, Aristarchum ac Zoilum, Virgilianos, Cornificium & Euangelum. Ciceronianos, Asinium & Caluum. Dumque in animum Graius uenit, ferox fateor, sed minimè rudis princeps, qui cogitauit ut scriptum est, de Homeri carminibus abolendis. Cur enim sibi non licere dicens, quod Platoni licuisset, qui eum è ciuitate quam constituebat eiecerit? Sed & Virgilij & T. Liuij scripta, & imagines parum abfuit, quin ex omnibus bibliothecis amouerit, quorum alterum ut nullius ingenij, minimæque doctrinæ, alterum ut uerbosum in historia, negligentemque carpebat. At Anneum Senecam, & rum quidem, & nunc maximè placentem: Arenam esse sine calce dicebat. Et loquimur uiros: Cùm Leontium Græca mulier, imò ut Cicero ait meretricula, contra Theophrastum tantum Philosophum scribere ausa sit. Quis hæc audiens indignetur, in se aliquid dici, cùm in tales à talibus talia dicta sint? Nil superest aliud, nisi ut non dicam te, & aliquot paucos, qui ad amandum non egetis stimulis, sed amicos reliquos, censoresque simul meos precer atque obsecrem, ut deinceps me, & si non hominem literatum, at ut uirum bonum. Si ne id quidem, ut amicum: denique si amici nomen præ uirtutis inopia non meremur, at saltem ut beneuolum, & amantem ament.

LECTORI

LECTORI.

Epistolam habes inter eas, quas de rebus Senilibus inscriptas uides, statim in initio Libri octaui, ad Vrbanū V. Pont. Max. qua author gratulatur, à Papa, tàm diu exulantem Auenioni Ecclesiæ sedem (ut uocant) in Romanam Vrbem iterū translatā, id maximè quoq; persuadere conabatur, ne procerum quorundā Gallorum consilio, Pontifex uictus, Galliam repeteret, quam præ Italia, quantum orationis potest, author impugnat, hac motus quidam Gallus, quæ sequuntur scripsit.

GALLI CVIVSDAM ANONYMI IN FRANCISCVM PETRARCHAM INVECTIVA.

Homo quidam descendebat ab Hierusalem in Hiericho, & incidit in latrones. Verba ista domino nostro Papæ summo ac sanctissimo Ecclesiæ Pontifici, possunt satis propriè adaptari. Ipse namque homo est, quem secundum Prophetæ sententiam, dominus gloria & honore coronauit, cuius etiam subiecit omnia sub pedibus. Iste igitur homo descendit ab Hierusalem in Hiericho, cum de partibus Galliæ, se transtulit ad partes Romanorum. Hierusalem namq; uisio pacis intelligitur: Quantam autem pacem Ecclesia in partibus Galliæ reppererit, quantam humilitatem in magnis, quantam promptitudinem in paruis, & quantam obedientiam in omnibus sentit nunc, ac meminit ut experta. Sed ipse descendit in Hiericho, qui interpretatur luna, cuius mutabilitas inter mundi cætera patet euidentius uniuersis. Quid enim in rebus humanis est, uel inconstantius siue mutabilius quàm Romani? imò certè ipsa Roma, plusquam aliqua urbs, uel ciuitas, sæpius & pluries mutata est. Siquis enim cōsiderer ipsius initium, quod habuit ut dicunt in tempore Romuli honoris fastigium, quod habuit in tempore Augusti, & ipsius etiam in tempore præsenti miseriam, mutationi lunæ Romæ mutationem, uerè & realiter poterit comparare. A' principio namque lux eius, id est mediocris potentia aliqualiter apparuit, sicut luna cum dicitur [illegible], postea uerò notabiliter inualuit, sicut luna cum dicitur Amphiyarchos. Deinde uerò ad plenam perfectionem peruenit, sicut luna cùm dicitur Pancyclenos: postea uerò sicut ipsa creuerat, sic decreuit, & quasi ad nihilū est redacta. Ipsa namque est, sicut dixit Orosius, quasi inexplebilis uenter, cuncta consumens, semper esuriens, nihil alijs relinquens, nihil habens cunctis gentibus, & urbibus, quas miseras fecit, non solùm miserior, sed infœlicior est relicta. Miseriā cuius certè non potuissem credere, ni uidissem, occurreruntq; mihi tunc uersus cuiusdam dicentis:

Romæ sceptra iacent, & celsa palatia cœno.
Cæsaris alta domus nunc fit casa uilis egeno.
Roma modò nihil est, nihil est Romæ nisi signum.
Cæsar in urbe sua nil cernit Cæsare dignum.

Cur igitur iste nobis Galliæ paupertatem improperat? Constat enim illam partem Galliæ, de qua recessit Ecclesia, esse fertiliorem, uel saltem tàm fertilem, sicut Roma, siue pars Italiæ, in qua ipsa residet pro præsenti. Quid igitur ad propositum, si Galli, Roma iam adolescente, usum uinis & oleæ didicerunt? Suam arguit ruditatem, imò ex hoc uerecundari debent. Quia Galli in hac sagacitate hos præcedunt, Galli etiam pro certo paucitatem ciborum, & uinorum pro facili iactura recipiunt. Illud Lucani in v. attendentes.

Humanum paucis uiuit genus: & iterum illud Claudiani contra Ruffinum:

Viuitur exiguo melius natura beatos,
Omnibus esse dedit: si quis cognouerit uti.

Et iterum illud Horatij in epistola ad Bullatium:

Si uentri benè, si lateri, pedibusq; tuis nil
Diuitiæ poterunt regales addere maius.

Licet igitur non sint pauperes per rerum indigentiam, ditiores tamen sunt per sufficientiā, iuxta illud Maximiani: *Et rerum dominus nil cupiendo fui.*

Sed non sunt huiusmodi Italici, & spiritualiter Romani, qui semper lucris temporalibus inhiantes, nihil aliud cogitant, non aliud somniāt præter lucrum. Iuxta dictū Apostoli. Quæstum existimantes pietatē. Nullus esse ibi iocus, nullus ludus, imò, generaliter nullus actus,

in quo uirtus utili præponatur. L[illegible]uatur igitur ipse non de Galliæ, sed de suæ Italiæ paupertate, ubi ferè nullus habet bonorum suorum, imò quod deterius est, sui corporis proprij [illegible]tedatem. Animi enim pusillanimitate, tyrann[illegible]um subiecti dominio, ad egestatem Tan[illegible] & summam miseriam sunt redacti. Seq[illegible] in latrones. Licet secundũ quod [illegible]riter dicitur, commune dictum, non [illegible] omnino falsum, & secundùm Aristotelem: Fama [illegible] omn[illegible]al a sit, quam populi mult[illegible]lam[illegible]nt. Meum t[illegible]men calamum ab huiusmo[illegible] au[illegible]m, nisi me [illegible] teraci & pe[illegible], malè t[illegible]n ut credo aducitentis, uer[illegible]ia dedu[illegible]xisset, q[illegible] clesiæ à partibus Galliæ [illegible]cuturus, uocis concor[illegible]am [illegible] mutand[illegible] & [illegible]mperitis inuolutus, senten[illegible]m turpius inchoauit, per [illegible] de Ae[illegible], domus Iaco[illegible] d[illegible] popul[illegible]aro. Audisti blasphe[illegible] & bene per Israel, & domum Iacob ecclesiam int[illegible] tamen [illegible] Barbaros nominando ipse procul [illegible]. Si enim Gal[illegible] il[illegible] Ecclesia uerè & realiter, & per propri[illegible] Ae[illegible], fa[illegible]e[illegible] est, [illegible]m. Si uerò per similitudinem, [illegible] ac [illegible], al[illegible] m[illegible]um. Ae[illegible] enim interpretatur tene[illegible], [illegible]ia candida. [illegible] candor d[illegible]tur, unde [illegible]asi corpore candidi. Quæ c[illegible] est [illegible] as. Horrere profectò [illegible] Prophetæ maledic[illegible] dicentis: Ve[illegible] dicitis m[illegible] bonum, ponentes lucem [illegible] & tenebras lucem. Aegyptus etiam [illegible] interp[illegible] intelligitur, angustia siue [illegible]atio. Vnde ibidẽ dicit glosa: In exitu de Aegypto, id est, Ecclesiæ de angustia. Quam [illegible] angustiam Ecclesia passa sit in Gallia, ego sine dubio non audiui. Vidi enim eam ibi [illegible]ibus quietam & tranquillam, non iniuria tyrannorum lacessitam, non inscitia popu[illegible]urbatam, nec maiorum oppressam potentia, sed beneuolentia & obedientia omnium [illegible]atam pariter & dilectam, Ecclesiæ igitur exitum de Gallia nõ debuit dicere de Aegy[illegible] aduerte quæso quod sequitur: Domus, inquit, Iacob de populo barbaro. O uere [illegible]mpro[illegible]ium, uerè admirabile & ineptum, & non è tali uiro saltem, sic improuidè p[illegible]o[illegible]m. Sicut enim ipse dicit: Mendacium quod in alterius prorumpit iniuriam, est [illegible]m [illegible] populum Gallicum, uocat populum barbarũ. Sed quid est esse barbarum? [illegible] esse extraneum & ignotum legibus, inordinatum moribus, indisciplinatum, [illegible]nestum? Quo[illegible]ic, ut oportet intelligat, inter Gallos non quærat barbariem, [illegible] & remanet apu[illegible]. Quis enim mentis compos, sani capitis, & ueri iudicij ra[illegible]. [illegible]rbarum dice[illegible] Gallicum, in quo est temperantia in uictu, mundicia in ha[illegible] clementiæ, suauita[illegible] facundiæ, in uerbis ueritas, in factis honest[illegible]s, in corde [illegible] operi[illegible] & agi[illegible] corporis: Iuxta illud Iulij Cel[illegible] populi tamẽ huius ini[illegible] V. de b[illegible] Cæsaris. Galli (inqui[illegible]) homines sunt aperti, minimeq; inuidiosi, qui [illegible] per insidias dimicare consueuerũt. Vbi er[illegible] quæso est, tam no[illegible]. Sed c[illegible] Romanorum realem barbariem narrat beatus Bernardus [illegible] scribens. Quid tam notum seculis, quàm proteruia Romanorum, [illegible] affecta, gens immitis & intractabilis, [illegible]bdi nescia, nisi cum non [illegible]: [illegible] ubi habitas, increduli & subuersores sunt tecum Romani, [illegible] in sancta uel sancta, sedit[illegible] inuicem, æmuli in uicinos, inhuma[illegible] ne[illegible]inem a[illegible]es, amat nemo, superioribus infideles, inferioribus im[illegible] ad petendum, ad negan[illegible] ingrati cum acceperint, gran[illegible] operantur exi[illegible]a, blandissimi a[illegible]res, mordacissimi detractatores, [illegible]itores. Sunt n[illegible] igitur mor[illegible] ingenia barbarorum. Sed hic diceta[illegible] Forsitan [illegible] hic alienigena, & malè de ignotis potuit iudicare. Respõdeo pro certo, [illegible] esse uerisimile, imò nec credibile, tantum uirum sine cognitione [illegible] experientia sic lo[illegible]tum. Sed ut omnis de medio extu[illegible]tur su[illegible]itio[illegible]ccasio, aduertat Iuuenalem Itali[illegible]um, [illegible] uerba Vmbricij socij sui, qui ob multitudinem u[illegible]orum de Roma recesserant, dol[illegible]do commemorans, in III. Satyra primi libri sic ait, inter cætera:

Nam quid tàm mi[illegible]erum & tàm solidum uidemus, ut non
Deterius credas [illegible]orrere incendis lapsus
Tectorum [illegible]os & mille pericu[illegible]a [illegible]æue Vrbis.
Hic tunc Vmbritius, quando artibus, inquit honestis
Nullus in urbe [illegible]cus, nulla emolumenta laborum.
Cedamus patria. uiuant Arturius istic
Et Catulus, maneant qui nigrum in candida uertant.

I[illegible] autem Artu[illegible] & Catulus fueru[illegible]t duo lenones, & hominum deceptores. Sequitur:

Quid Romæ faciam? Mentiri nescio, librum
Si malus est, nequeo laudare, & poscere, motus
Astrorum ignoro, funus promittere patris
Nec uolo, nec possum, ranarum uiscera nunquam
Inspexi, ferre ad nuptam quæ mittit adulter
Quæ mandat, norunt alii: me nemo magistro — *Fur erit.*

Ecce ergo, quomodo [illegible] Italicu[illegible] q[illegible]am [illegible] cus Ro[illegible] dauit. Cum enim dicit: Q[illegible] Romæ fa[illegible] m [illegible] Cùm autem dicit. Librum. &c. Ipsos esse adulat[illegible] C[illegible] rum. &c. & poscere motus astrorum ignoro [illegible] it de supe[illegible] uan[illegible] pinionis insania. Cum autem dicit: ferre ad nuptam [illegible] rehēd[illegible] eos de [illegible] atio-nis infamia. Cum autem di[illegible] it. Me nemo magistr[illegible] fur erit, repre[illegible] en[illegible] it e[illegible] d[illegible] j malitia, ut merito dictum sit, quod D. N. Papa descendēs, [illegible] m est à Hieru[illegible] a[illegible] richo incideret in l[illegible] o[illegible]. Taceo quæ sequuntur [illegible] licet [illegible] hauerunt eum [illegible] pl[illegible] impositis abier[illegible] semiuiuo re[illegible] to. Ad [illegible] c [illegible] t [illegible] ab ipsi Roma[illegible] risue incolis co[illegible] ciui[illegible], Pater [illegible] reuerendorū Ca[illegible] nalium collegio, aliqualiter impugnetur seu e[illegible] m [illegible] uenerabilium Ca[illegible] nalium sublata de medio magna ex parte, ex quibus cum [illegible] Summo Pontifice unum [illegible] pus efficitur, ipse semiuiuus membris deperd[illegible] is relinqua[illegible] [illegible] læ. & multa alia gratia [illegible] uitatis non prosequar, & quia nec uelo, nec opus est, omnia eius [illegible] a singillatim dec[illegible] e-re, quatuor solum inter cætera eius dicta mihi satis sufficit [illegible] ittere. Primò [illegible] m pro[illegible] illum miserum aggressum ad Italiam huc Romam D. N. Papam mirab[illegible] ter f[illegible] cundo [illegible] m & domino [illegible] Cardinales ad uirtutem hortatur & p[illegible] d[illegible] a [illegible] ense, R[illegible] danum & partes finitimas terribiliter [illegible] t. Quar[illegible] Ital[illegible] liam ac Romam glorificat, & exaltat. Primò igitur quan[illegible] m [illegible] D. N. [illegible] pæ f[illegible] c[illegible] quòd si intelligat fœlicitatem, secūdùm uirtutem operari, [illegible] de[illegible] Ari[illegible] X. E[illegible] hicorum dicens. Erit uita fœlix secundùm uirtutem opera[illegible], [illegible] m [illegible] & uirtuosè operantem. D. N. Papam esse fœlicem non dubito: sed ho[illegible] e[illegible] e, ut d[illegible] t p[illegible] eius aggressum non concedo, imò firmiter credo, illam uiam [illegible] m ad mu[illegible] nes, tàm speculatiuas, quàm practicas, & tàm contem[illegible] latiu[illegible] m actiuas [illegible] ed[illegible] tum magnum, & obicem extitisse, quoniam secund[illegible] m Arist[illegible] sup[illegible]. [illegible] tribu[illegible] & [illegible] ont[illegible] nt bea[illegible] m, [illegible] litias enim [illegible] fer[illegible] t & impedi[illegible] t. Si autem pe[illegible] tatem, iuxta [illegible] m Bo[illegible] tertio de Consol[illegible] ne [illegible] ligat [illegible] tum omniu[illegible] aggregati[illegible] ne, perfectum, secundùm deductionem eiusdem B[illegible] n eodem [illegible] m [illegible] cl[illegible] tatem in ipso summo Deo esse necesse est, propter quod talis stat[illegible] n habi[illegible] tis in patria reseruatur. Vnde & iuxta Salomonis sententiam: Nemo fœlix di[illegible] ac[illegible] Mutabilitas enim fortunæ mortalium, nomen fœlicitatis annihilat. Quod [illegible] e [illegible] uem-quam forte mortalium contingeret, non tamen secundùm n[illegible] torum op[illegible] tium, præpote[illegible] b[illegible] & [illegible] u[illegible] us, & magnis honoribus [illegible] matis. Qu[illegible] d [illegible] Boëtius primo de Consolatione dicebat:

Quid me fœlicem totiens iactastis amici?
Qui cecidit stabili non erat ille gradu.

Vnde & Aristoteles sententiam Anaxagoræ, X. Ethicorum repetens dicit: Videtur autem Anaxagoras non diuitem, neque potentem, extimare fœlicem, dicens. Quoniam non u[illegible] que admirabitur, si hoc inconuen[illegible] s ap[illegible] arcat multis, isti enim iudicant, qu[illegible] su[illegible] t extra sen[illegible] tes solum: Vnde & [illegible] Ana[illegible] a[illegible] oras cu[illegible] dam a se petent[illegible]. Quis'nam esset be[illegible] us? Nemo, inquit, ex his quos tu fœlices e[illegible] Sed eum i[illegible] lo num[illegible] o reperies, qui a te ex miseris esse creditur, nō erit ille diuitijs a[illegible] rib. a[illegible] ndans, sed aut exi[illegible], au[illegible] no ambi[illegible] o-sæ doctrinæ, fidelis & pertinax cultor in fece [illegible] quam in fronte beat[illegible] r. Causas autem qua-re non d[illegible] ntu[illegible] diuites, & potentes fœlices, satis tangit Aristotele[illegible] primo & decimo Ethi-corum. Has tangit Seneca in Tragœdia Herculis Oethei [illegible] cens:

Aurea [illegible] umpunt tecta quietem	*Vigilesq́[illegible] a noctes.*
O si pateant pectora ditum	*Quantos in[illegible] agit*
Fortuna metus.	*Pectora paup[illegible] ecura gerit*
Tenet & patula pocula f[illegible].	*Sed non trepida ten[illegible] ipsa manu.*
Carpit faciles uilesq́, cibos.	*Sed non stri[illegible] s re[illegible] ieit enses.*

Et Lucanu[illegible] n V — *O uitæ tuta facultas*
Pauperis, angustiq́ lares. O munera nondum — *intellecta Deum.*

Vi[illegible]

Virgilius etiam in libro de Culice de ista materia inter cætera sic ait:

Quis magis aptato queat esse beatior æuo:
Quàm qui mente procul puras sensusq; probando
Non auidas agnouit opes, nec tristia bella.
Nec funesta timet ualidæ certamina classis, &c.

Sequitur: *illi dulcis adest requies & pura uoluptas.*

H[illegible]ius autem sententiæ narrat exemplũ notabile Valerius Max. libro V. de Gyge rege Ly[illegible]rum, qui de statu infimo ad re[illegible]um ditissimum peruenerat, quo inflatus animo, cum ab [illegible]o[illegible]ne petijsset, an quisq; mo[illegible]um ipso esset fœlicior. Aglaum Sophidium esse fœlicio[illegible] Apollo respondit, hic tamen erat Arcadum pauperrimus, sed ętate iam senex, terminos [illegible] nunquã excesserat, paruuli ruris fructibus, atq; uoluptatibus contentatus. Ex quo [illegible]du[illegible]it Valerius, magis probare ridens tugurium, quàm tristem curis & solitudinibus au[illegible] paucasq; glebas pauoris expertes, quàm pinguissima Lydiæ arua metu referta, & unũ [illegible]ut al[illegible]erum iugum boum facilis tutelæ, quàm exercitum, & arma, & equitatum uoracibus expensis onerosum, & usus necessarij horreolum, nulli nimis appetendum, quàm thesau[illegible]s omnium insidijs & cupiditatibus expositos. Si igitur curæ & sollicitudines mundanã fœlicitatem impediunt, cur ergo iste pro reditu ad Italiam D.N. Papam fœlicitat? Vbi non solum ipse, sed & omnes sequaces, curis & sollicitudinibus sunt repleti, & metu multiplici tri[illegible]ulantur. Et qui uidit testimonium perhibet. Vidi enim omnibus arma imperari, for[illegible]ia præparari & uallari, uidi fugam in campis, congregationes in uillis, imò quasi ubi[illegible]rmidinem. Et quis est, qui non uidit aut audiuit, Viterbiorum congressionem funo[illegible]omanorum commotionem iniuriosam, rebellionem Perusinorum & obstinationem [illegible]am, & generaliter tyrannorum contradictionem odiosam? Vbi igitur non est animi [illegible]itas, & corporis securitas, qualis quæso potest esse hominis fœlicitas? Dicit etiã Ari[illegible]n primo Ethicorum: Non esse eum fœlicem, qui malos habet filios. Quales autem [illegible]Papa spirituales filios habet, ibi Deus nouit, nec oportet plus dicere, nisi quod scripsit [illegible]y[illegible]es in Cantico: Generatio hæc peruersa, & infideles filij. Et iterum: Si aduentus ad Ita[illegible]ta D. Papam fœlicitat, & spiritus quo ductus est in desertum, ipsum moueas ad regres[illegible]n'ne ipsius regressus [illegible]i contingat, ipsum faciet infœlicem? Absit. Omnia enim sibi li[illegible]Li[illegible]u[illegible]t enim sibi ire, [illegible]et etiam & redire, nescio tamen si subeat posse cũ uoluerit. Scio [illegible]en secundum Senecam in Tragœdia Agamemnonis: Nunquam esse seram ad benè a[illegible]um uiam, & quem pœnitet peccasse penè esse innocentem, non dico ipsum peccasse. [illegible]t. Spir[illegible]s enim bonus duxit eum ut credo, nec dicam ipsum malum, sed multò melio[illegible] reducat. Nunc igitur ad eius prædicationem & exhortationem regredior, mirabilis [illegible]rorsu[illegible] & [illegible]audita nouitas, uirum cœcutientem acutè uidentibus uiam, & rectum iter o[illegible]endere. [illegible]is enim huius alti collegij, se esse mortalem ignorat. Quis etiam aliquando [illegible]æ æternitate non cogitat? Quis eorum non nouit, totum quòd hic uiuitur, uel ha[illegible]etur in[illegible]stabile, imò transitorium & caducum. Crederem namq; tantos uiros talia ignorare [illegible]ec ea aduertere, nephas est. Nullus enim eorum, quantum ad hoc, uel ignorat quòd hic sit, [illegible]uerbis talibus indigebat, hinc pro certo potuit uerisimiliter dubitare, ne sibi illud Euã[illegible]gelicum obijcerent: In peccatis natus es totus, & tu nos doces? Et iterum: Medice cura tei[illegible]sum. Et iterum: Rabbi ubi habitas? Quòd si profectò consideret, exhortationis causam & materiam, prope se reperiet amplam ualdè, uideat enim & consideret, quòd in terra quam inhabitat, uiget iniuria pro iustitia, pro pietate nequitia, ubi tàm uiolenta oppressio subditorum repperitur, ubi uera fide procul abiecta, nephariè quasi hæreditate Dei sanctuariũ possidetur. Et breuiter ubi iuxta dictum Ouidij:

Viuitur ex rapto, non hospes ab hospite tutus.
Non socer à genero, fratum quoq; gratia rara est.

C[illegible]nsideret igitur modum ibi uiuendi & regendi, & infinitos modos quibus ut ipse nouit, [illegible]iter extorquetur pecunia: & talibus loquatur & prædicet. Sed quid plus Non'ne in Me[illegible]lano uidi abominabile idolum super altare Dei, hominis scilicet armati imaginem, seden[illegible]s super equum de cand[illegible]o marmore fabricatum, & in loco ubi corpus CHRISTI sacra[illegible]m[illegible]sueuit sacrari uel [illegible]eponi, collocatum? Est ne igitur illud sub dissimulatione transeũ[illegible]m? Non ne est formidandum, ne Deus suam uindicet iniuriam? Dicit enim Psalmista: Vi[illegible]d[illegible]um superexaltatum, & eleuatum sicut cedros Libani, & transiui, & ecce non erat. Nam [illegible]cundùm Senecam in Tragœdia Thyestis:

Vbi non est pudor nec cura iuris, *Sanctitas, pietas, fides instabile est regnum.*

Et in tragœdia Oedipi: *Inuisa nunquam imperia retinentur diu:*

Iii a Et in

Et in Octauia de prospera fortuna dicit idem:

Crede (mihi) obsequentis partium, leuis est Dea.

Si igitur Deus patiens est, ad tempus non est aliqualiter confidendum, quoniam indutus est dominus uestimentis ultionis, quoniam ipsi uindicta est, & ipse retribuet abundanter facientibus superbiam. Consideret igitur iste prædicator egregius, quantum Deo adiuuante ipsius prædicatio, siue exhortatio multis posset proficere, & quod habet in foribus, quos facundiæ suæ lenitate mulceat, & profunditate scientiæ dirigat exhortando, dimittatque in oculo remoto festucam: trabem magnam de proprijs oculis remouendo. Nunc igitur ueniamus ad uini Beunensis, quam certè nec demeruit, nec libēter audiui blasphemiam, Rhodaníque & illarum partium iniuriam. Quis enim mentis compos, talis uini, imò uero potiùs tanti boni maledictionem non horreat? Ait enim: Vtinam nunquam fuissent uites illæ, paulo minus dixerim uites ullæ, si CHRISTI Ecclesiæ usque adeò uenenosam uindemiam petituræ erant. O nobilis uindemia, O uenenum prætiosum, super cætera uina dulce salutiferum & iucūdum, quàm misera, & inepta est tuæ maledictionis occasio, propter quód non intres in os eius, & dulcis sapor tuus per eius fauces non transeat. Ferè enim Ouidij maledictionem demeruit, qua miseræ uetulæ maledixit: scilicet nec uinum potet, quoniam sit uel pingue, uel acre. Credit'ne tantos uiros ita gulæ deditos & affectos, ut propter huius uini carentiam, Italiam fugiant & horrescant: Absit hoc maximè, cum illud uinum haberent de facili si placeret. Sed quid facit hoc? Sine dubio, credo, quòd audita & experta Romanorum malitia, Italorumque pluuium perfidia, imo quasi omnium mores mali, huius autem malitiæ fidem habuerunt ex auditu, hanc autem nunc de facto facie ad faciē contemplantur. Non igitur propter uina Italiam fugiunt, siue Romā, sed propter sæuitiam, & magnā perfidiam, de proprio capite dubitantes. Illud Euangelicum attendentes. Cum persecuti uos fuerint in una ciuitate, fugite in aliam. Sed etiam Rhodanus ut & ipse arciat, quid meruit? Si inquit) Ecclesiæ Dei causam daturus erat exilij. Sed quale rogo cum Ecclesia in Auinione passa est exilium. Vbi in potestate uiguit, & in securitate quieuit, & in tanta ueneratione habita est? Non'ne etiam summi & altissimi domini uicarius, cuius est omnis terra & plenitudo eius, in aliqua parte terræ patitur exilium? Non'ne solis Romanis debitor est? Absit. Vbicunque enim pro utilitate fidei Catholicæ statuit residere, sedes sua est, nec sine causa dictum est. Vbi Papa, ibi Roma. Sed dicit, in Auinione nihil boni esse, nisi aduectū aliunde. Sed ubi, quæso, est bona urbs uel ciuitas, quæ bonis non egeat alienis, nisi forte dicat Romam, in qua tātæ & tales sunt plateæ, ut pro bladis & uinis cunctis eius ciuibus credantur sufficere. Quòd non abundantiam & sufficientiam, sed defectum arguit manifestum, & iterum illa nobilis ciuitas Venetorum, quam & super alias sic extollit, quid habet aliunde nisi aduectum? Vir igitur discretus, uerbosas & inanes declinat argutias in nostro etiam uico straminum, quem fragosum nominat, deridendo ab ipsis puerulis lacerandas. Audeo tamen dicere motus aliquantulum iniuria, sed ueritatis tamen limitem non transcendens, quod fragor consimilis in tota Italia non auditur. In Auinione uerò esse & fuisse omnium bonorum affluentiam, & patet, & patuit per effectū. Vnde & dominus Anselmus à domino rege missus, hæc & multa alia quæ D. N. Papam reuocare poterat ab incœpto luculenter ostendens, malè fuit per istum salua reuerentia, redargutus. Quod si certè uixisset, uiuis rationibus ostendisset, nec credebat se loqui ad coquinæ magistrum, seu cocorum principem, sed ad Ecclesiæ dominum, & summum Pontificem, quem tanquàm bonum patrem decet atque oportet curare de omnibus. Sed quid dicit Terentius:

Veritas odium parit.

Propter quod uerum fuit, quod factus est ei inimicus uerum dicens. Quid etiam Rhodanū & loca confinia, sic sine ratione uituperat? Recordatur Iustinum libro XLIII. referentem: quod tempore Tarquinij regis ex Asia Phocensium iuuentus in ultimos Gallæ sinus nauibus profecta, Marsiliam inter Ligures, & feras gentes Gallorum condidit, namque Phocenses exiguitate ac macie terræ coacti, studiosiùs mare, quàm terras exercendo in ultima oceani ora procedere, in sinum Gallicum ostio Rhodani deuenerunt, cuius loci amœnitate capti reuersi domum, referentes quæ uiderant, plures sollicitauerunt, quos secum adducentes Marsiliam fundauerūt. Quid igitur iste dicit malas domos Rhodani & palustria loca, cū antiqui taliter maria peruagantes, amœnitate loci capti, ibi potentem urbem condiderunt. Potentem certè dico utpote cuius auxilio etiam ipsa Roma de Gallorum manibus sit redempta. Scriptum enim ibi est, quam reuertentes à Delphis Marsiliensium legati, quo missi munera tulerant Apollini, audierunt à Gallis urbem Romanam esse captam, incensamque. Qua in re domi nunciata, Marsilienses aurum & argentum publicum, priuatumque contulerunt, ad explen-

ad explendum pondus Gallis, à quibus pacem redemptam cognouerãt. Non igitur iste seu etiam Romani, loca circa Rhodanum siue horum incolas dedignentur, quorum beneficio sunt redempti, & quorum auxilio factum est, ne adolescens Roma tunc pauper & misera, ultimum excidium pateretur. Nunc autem ad aliqualẽ defensionem Galliæ inuitus & coactus regredior, sciens comparationes inter has regiones odiosas, laudem autem Galliç omnimodam, Gallorumq́ue uirtutem multis & illustribus repertas auctoribus, nec uolo, nec opus est recitare, nec omninò etiam has silere. De Gallis enim ita dicit Solinus, Galliæ inter Rhenum & Pyreneum, item inter Oceanum & montem Gebennam porriguntur præpinguibus glebis ac commodè prouentibus fructuarijs, plerisq́ue consitæ uitibus & arbustis, omni ad usum animantium fœtu beatissimæ, riguæ aquis fluminum & fontium. Hæc ille. Et quid ultra de bonitate terræ dici potest? De uirtute autem Gallorum multis repertas scriptoribus, possem plures codices adimplere. Vnus tamen pro multis sufficiat, & ut breuius fiat aduertat Pompeij Trogi breuiatorem Iustinum libro XXIII. sic dicentem. Galli abundanti multitudine, omni eos non caperent terræ, quæ eos genuerant, trecenta millia hominum ac sedes nouas quærendas, uelut examen miserunt, & portio in Italia consedit, quæ urbem Romam captam incendit, & portio Illyricos sinus per strages barbarum penetrauit, & in Pannonia consedit. Gens aspera, audax & bellicosa, quæ prima post Herculem, cui ea res uirtutis admirationem, & immortalitatis fidem dedit, alpium inuicta iuga, & frigore intractabilia transcendit, sibi domitis Pannonijs, per multos annos cum finitimis, uaria bella gesserunt. Hortante deinde successu, diuersis agminibus, alij Græciam, alij Macedoniam omnia ferro prosternentes petiuere, tantusq́ue terror Gallici nominis erat, ut etiam reges non lacessiti, ultrò pacem ingenti pecunia mercarentur. Item libro XXV. dicit idem: Gallorum ea tempestate tantæ fœcunditatis iuuentus fuit, ut Asiam omnem uelut examen quoddam implerent, demum neque reges orientis sine mercenario Gallorum exercitu ulla bella gesserint, neque pulsi regno, ad alios quam ad Gallos confugerunt. Tantus autem terror Gallici nominis, & armorum inuicta fœlicitas erat, ut aliter neque maiestatem suam tutam, neq́ue amissam recuperare posse sine Gallica uirtute arbitrarentur. Hæc ille. Quid igitur iste Gallos atque Galliam uituperat? Fateor enim, & uerum est, Italiam magnam partem & bonam orbis esse, nec intentio cuiusquam est, uel fuit, ut credo, sic eam deprimere, ut isti uenati contradicat. Sed quia sermones secũdùm subiectam sunt intelligendi materiam, cum dominus Anselmus de Italia loquebatur, intelligebat de Italia seu illa parte Italiæ, ad quam ipsa curia transmigrabat. Comparando igitur partes, quas dimittebat partibus, quas adibat, si uerum locutus est nouit Deus. Non igitur oportuit propter ista ciuitatũ Italiæ, quasi usq́ue ad cœlos diuitias atq́ue magnitudinem eleuare, maximè quia Galli magnam earum partem depulsis Italicis fundauerunt. Dicit enim Iustinus supradictus libro XIX quòd Galli cùm Italiam uenissent sedibus Tuscos expulerũt, & Mediolanum, Comum, Brixiam, Veronam, Pergamum, Tridentum, & Vincentiam condiderunt. Et etiam ipse testatus in libro XX. plurimas alias Italiæ ciuitates, imò sine dubio, quas omnes alienæ nationes fundauerũt. Secundum enim quòd ipse scribit, ibi aliquantulum diffusiùs, Tusci à Lydia uenerunt, Venetos capta Troia Antenore duce misit. Adria Græca urbs est, Arpos Diomedes condidit, Pisæ in Liguribus Græcos autores habent, & in Tuscis Tarquinia à Thessalis, & Spinambris. Perusini originem ab Achæis ducunt, Latini populi ab Aenea conditi uidentur, Falisci Nolani, Abellani, Chalcidensiũ coloni sunt. Sabini, Sãnites, Tarẽtini Lacædemone profecti, spurijq́ue uocati sunt Turinorũ urbem condidisse Philoctetẽ ferunt, ibiq́ue adhuc uideri monumentum eius, sagittasq́ue Herculis quæ fatum Troiæ fuerunt. Aepeos Metapontum condidit, dicuntq́ue ibi esse ferrãmenta, quibus equum Troianum fabricauit, propter quòd omnis illa pars Italiæ maior Græcia appellata est. Cur igitur iste tantum de suis ciuitatibus gloriatur, quas isti alienigenæ Italicæ gẽtis miseria aut nullas, aut desertas inuenerũt? Quid etiã Italorũ grauitatẽ & scientiã sic extollit? imò etiã in tantã porũpit iniuriã, ut dixerit. Nullus doctus in Gallia. Certè in Gallia sunt & multi, & plures præfuerunt, salua reuerẽtia ualdè docti. Non recordabatur credo de Hilario Pictauiensi, de Fotino episcopo Smirnensi, de Potherio Lugdunensi, de Vincentio Leurinensi, de Saluiano Marsiliensi, & de Prospero Aquitanico siue Aquitanensi, & pluribus alijs ualdè doctis. Non habebat etiam ante oculos aliquos alios satis nouos, scilicet Vgonem & Richardum, de Sancto Victore, Petrum comestorem, Alexãdrum de Halis, Henricum de Gandauo, Petrum Aureoli, Guilielmum Antisiodorensem, & Ioannẽ Scoti, qui uocatur subtilis, & plurimos uiros alios magnos. Quòd si forsan dicat, quod ipse intelligit, quòd nullus de quatuor doctoribus, suam scientiam didicit in Gallia, uerba tamen ipsa prima facie turpè sonant, maximè cum in illo passu, Italiã laudando,

dando, Galliam pro posse uituperet. Quod & si fortè uerum sit, possem ego multos uiros Gallicos subtiles & ingeniosos, omniq; scientia clarissimos, sicut & iam prædixi etiam nominare, & uerè concludere. Nullus doctus in Italia. Quis enim Italicorum naturalis Philosophiæ secreta penetrauit & reuelauit abscondita, ut non multò melius quidam, imò plurimi non Itali, ubi quæso legitur Tullij Physica, Varronis Metaphysica, seu cuiusquam illorũ Philosophia naturalis? Aliquos certè ipsorum libros bonos atq; humanæ uitæ proficuos composuisse fateor ualdè multos, longè tamen (teste Deo) Ethicæ Aristotelis postponendos. Sed etiam quid ad Romanorum laudem de Latinitate loquitur, cum inter Romanos & Latinos tanta sit differentia, tanta sit uel fuerit discordia, sicut inter Gallicos & Anglicos? Cur igitur Romani, sicut & nos de Latinis literis gloriantur? Sed dicit: Oratores & Poëtæ extra Italiam non quærantur. Et quid est? Non'ne optimi Poëtæ Statius & Claudianus Itali sunt, quorum Statius est Tullensis, uel ut alij dicunt Tholosanus, & Claudianus dicitur Viennensis. Multos alios uerò, gratia breuitatis non nomino. Antiquitùs tamen ipsa Roma, in istis specialiter in Poëtis præualuit, quòd in suo Architriulo aliqualiter tangit Ioannes Anglicus, nobis quasi naturaliter inimicus. Cum de nostra urbe Parisiensi, Inter alia loqueretur ueritate coactus, illam inter cæteras magnificans, ita dicens: Parisius terra iuns, crisea metallis, Inda libris, Græca studijs, Romana Poëtis, Attica Philosophis, mundi rosa, balsamum orbis, sidonis ornatus sua mensis, & sua potu, messe ferax, inoperta rubis, nemorosa racemis, plena feris, piscosa lacu, uolucrosa fluentis, dites agris, fœcunda mero, mansueta colonis, mũda Deo, fortis domino, pia regib. aura dulcis, amœna situ, bona quolibet omne uenustum, omne bonum, si sola bonis fortuna faueret. Iste igitur Ioannes Linguarum multarũ, & urbium excellentissima quæq; Parisius, & uerè attribuens sicut credo, quoniam laus plusquàm uera, quàm dabit hostis erit, tanquàm excellentissimum urbis Romæ poëtas nominauit, quos tamẽ à ciuitate bene ordinata, tanq̃ ueritati cõtrarios Plato censuit esse pellẽdos, ut recitat Augustinus de Ciuit. Dei lib. X. C. X1111. Propter quod ipsi Græco Platoni palmam dandam esse pronunciat, sicut patet ibidem. Sed dicit: Habes urbem cõquassatam, fateor, sacram tamen. Nescio quid per urbem intelligat. Si intelligat urbem, loca sacra ac ipsorum sanctorum reliquias, ipsam certè concedo esse sacram, sed tunc uolũtariè & improprijssimè locutus est. Sed si ipsas plateas, domosq; sicut dicit conquassatas uocat, urbem ibi non inuenio sanctam, nec debuit dicere urbem sacram, sed sicut dicit Iuuenalis: urbem sęuã. Et certè benè sæuam quæ sua sæuitia tot ualentes homines interfecit, tot innocentes uiros iugulauit, quæ tot sanctos & iustos peremit crudeliter, & necauit, quæ quasi sua cupiditate totum orbem spoliauit, nõ solum inimicos prosecuta, sed & benè meritis iniqua semper extitit & ingrata. Non'ne Africanus superior, qui non solùm concussam, & confractam armis belli Punici Remp. sed etiam exanguem atq; morientem Carthaginis dominam reddiderat, eius clarissima opera iniurijs pensando, à patria depulsus, atque in exilio mortuus est? sepulchroq; suo iussit scribi: Ingrata patria, nec ossa quidem mea habebis. Vel habes cineres enim suos sicut ait Valerius, ei negauit, quam in cinerem labi passus non fuerat. Nihilo minor uirtute posterior Africanus, duabus urbibus, Numãtia atq; Carthagine Romano imperio imminentibus ex rerum natura depulsis, raptorem spiritus domi inuenit, mortis punitorem in foro non reperit. Scipio etiam Nasica, qui pestifera Tyb. Gracchi manu saucibus oppressam Remp. strangulari passus non est, propter iniquissimã uirtutum suarum apud ciues extimationem, sub titulo legationis Pergamum secessit, & quod uitæ superfuit, ibi sine ullo ingratæ patriæ desiderio peregit. Infinitas autem alias ingratitudines Romanorum gratia breuitatis pertransco, est'ne igitur dicenda urbs sacra tantis uitijs & ingratitudinibus maculata? Cuius ingratitudo non solùm patuit in antiquis & suis principibus, sed etiam in Ecclesię ministris & summis Pontificibus, quorum aliquos fugauerunt, aliquos occiderunt, & uniuersaliter quasi omnes aliqualiter uexauerunt. Sed dicit: Hanc siquidem Romulus fundasse, Brutus liberasse, Camillus instaurasse laudantur. Quicquid de isto sit uel scribat, multi tamen auctores autentici, de fundatione urbis Romæ atq; causa nominis aliter senserunt. Nam secundùm Solinũ quidem dicunt nomen Romæ ab Euandro primo datum, à natura uerò Valentia uocabatur, seruataq; significatione impositi prius nominis, Romam Græcè Valentiam nominatam, quam Arcades quoniam habitassent, in excelsa parte montis, deriuatum est deinceps ut tutissima urbium arces uocarentur. Heraclidi placet, ut capta Troia quosdam ex Achiuis in ea loca ubi nunc Roma est deuenisse per Tyberim, deinde suadente Roma, nobilissima captiuarum, quæ his comes erat, incensis nauibus posuisse sedes, struxisse mœnia, & ab ea Romen uocauisse. Agathocles scribit, Romæ non captiuam fuisse, sed Asconio natam, Aeneæ neptem, appellationis cuius causam fuisse. Traditur etiã proprium

nomen

nomen Romæ, ueruntamen uetitum publicari, quoniam quidem, ut non enūciaretur arcana sanxerunt, ut sic notitiam eius aboleret, fides placidꝙ taciturnitatis. Valerium deniqꝫ Soranum, eò quod etiam interdum eloqui ausus fuit, peremerunt. Aliqui autem dicunt ꝙ illud nomen celatura fuit febris, urbi sic impositum, in honorem Februæ matris Martis. Hoc aūt esse uerum nō assero. Scio tamen beatum Augustinum ipsam febrem ciuem nominasse Romanam. III. de Ciuitate Dei. C. XII. quod propter hoc dictū fuisse credo, quia Febris ipsam Romā, quasi naturaliter & hæreditariè inhabitat. Quicquid tamen fuerit de Romæ fundatione & nomine, si etiam ut cōmunius dicitur, à Romulo fundata sit, non est magnū. Vnde & Iuuenalis in fine tertij, cuidam ciui Romano de sua origine gloriantiait sic:

Attamen ut longè repetas, longeq; reuoluas,
Maiorum quisquis primus fuit ille tuorum,
Aut pastor fuit, aut illud quod dicere nolo.

Id est, latro & homicida dicit glossa ibidem. Non est igitur hoc magnum, cum etiam secundum eorum opinionem, & turpiter genitus fuerit & nutritus, ut aiunt enim ipsi, Remū atqꝫ Romulum expositos, lupa suis aluit uberibus, propter quod nō est mirum si Romanorum mores sunt lupini. De istis autem Romulo atqꝫ Bruto, quos ad Romæ gloriam hic adducit: loquitur Orosius libro secundo, ita dicens: Romulus raptas Sabinas, improbis nuptijs cōfœderatas, maritorum & parentum cruore dotauit. Interfecto primo auo Numitore, dehinc Remo fratre, arripuit imperium. Regnum aui, muros fratris, templum soceri sanguine dedicauit. Sequitur de Bruto: Brutus Consul apud Romanos primus, primum regem Romæ, ... scelum exæquare parricidio: sed & uincere studuit, quippè duos filios suos adolescentes, totidemqꝫ uxoris suæ fratres, reuocandorum in urbe Regum placito insimulatos, securi percussit. Est ne igitur, hoc magnum, uiros facinorosos ut suos fundatores & patronos ad laudem huius urbis nominare? Furium Camillum, quem ipse dicit Romam restaurasse, ingratissimi ciues ab ipsa urbe Roma depulerunt. Nec tamen ego nego, in ipsa urbe Roma multos ualentes uiros extitisse, quorum præsentes Romani non sequentes, à prædecessorum suorum ualida probitate degenerant, ubi & in quo quæso Romæ nunc est Horatij Coclitis fortitudo? Q. Crispini mansuetudo? Fabij Max. moderatio? Catonis fiducia? Q. & Mutij Scæuolæ constantia? Valerij Publicolæ sufficientia? Scipionum militia & continentia? Lucij Pauli abstinentia? Varronis uerecundia? Curtij audacia? Iulij Cæsaris clementia? Pōpeij patientia? Fabricij iustitia? Reguli fidelitas? Q. Considij liberalitas? M. Marcelli pietas? Q. Metelli humanitas? Omnium enim istorum derelinquentes uestigia, insequuntur uitia peiorum. Benè enim retinent Septimij auaritiam, Catilinæ perfidiam, M. Drusij superbiam, Sergij Galbæ sæuitiam, Clodij Pulchri luxuriam, Caij Sergij uoracitatem, Crassi cupiditatem, Syllæ & Marij crudelitatem. Istis enim Romani uitijs maculati, de prænominatorum ualentium solo nomine gloriantes, tanquam & ipsi tales essent, stultè & inaniter superbiunt. Dicit enim Horatius:

Magnum hoc fore dico
Non patre præclaro: sed uita & corpore pulchro. & Iuuenalis:
Quis generosum dixerit hunc, qui
Indignus genere & præclaro nomine tantum *Insignis.*

Propter quod uersus finem tertij libri dicebat.

Malo pater tibi sit Thersites, dummodo tu sis
Aeacidæ similis, Vulcaniaq; arma capessas.
Quàm te Thersite similem producat Achilles.

Bonis igitur alienis, proprijs relictis uirtutibus, stultum est se credere decoratum. Nec etiā in oppressione gentium, & armorum antiquorum glorientur potentia, quorum ex maiori parte uirtus fuit sæuitia, sophisticata uirtute, palliata, nata cupiditate, nutrita superbia, omni uerò honore induata: Quod etiam testatur beatus Augustinus tertio de Ciuitate Dei. C. XIIII. dicens: Libidine dominandi Roma uicta, Albam se uicisse triumphat, & sui sceleris laudem gloriam nominabat. Quoniam (inquit) scriptura nostra, laudatur peccator in desiderijs animæ suæ, & qui iniqua egerit benedicitur. Falsa igitur tegmina & deceptoriæ dealbationes auferantur à rebus, ut syncero inspiciantur examine. Sequitur. Habet præmia laudis illa crudelitas, sed puto esse satius cuiuslibet inertiæ pœnas luere, quàm talium armorum gloriam quærere. Hic igitur sisto manū, calamumqꝫ ultra currere non permitto, ne styli insipidi satietas fastidium ingerat audiēti, omnisqꝫ bonus ciuis Italicus seu Romanus, si placet, mihi parcat, quia etsi iniuria pulsus scripsi, non tamen Salustio & suis auctoribus grauiora. Verum quia paruitatem meā tantam sublimitatem nō decet attingere consulendo, S.P.N.

ac summum Pontificem, nec moneo ad reditum, nec exhortor ad manendum, sed ipse tanquàm homo spiritalis omnia diiudicans, secundùm beneplacitum suæ semper faciat sanctitatis, ad ipsius Dei laudem, populiq; sibi subditi commodum & solamen, ut Dei & hominum gratiam commetendo, sempiternam gloriam assequatur.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. CONTRA CVIUSDAM ANONYMI GALLI CALVMNIAS AD VGVTIONEM DE Thirnis,

APOLOGIA.

NVPER aliud agenti mihi, & iam dudum certaminis huius oblito, scholastici nescio cuius epistolam imò librum dicam, uerius Homeliam ingentem pariter atq; ineptam, multo ut res indicat sudore confectam, & magni iactura temporis attulisti, dum è longinquo ueniens, amice hanc exiguam domum tuam me uisurus adisses. Vix fuit tempus, raptim trepidante oculo, tantā nugarum congeriem percurrendi, in quibus cùm multa essent tacito digna silentio potiùs quàm responso, hæserunt tamen nōnulla memoriæ, quibus respondendum credidi, ut ostenderem illum sibi, qui quoniā mihi nec uultu nec nomine notus est, nec quē percussus repercutiā scio, tu lueres immeritus, nec res noua est ut culpa unius, in supplicium uergat alterius, quibusdā nocuit uenenosa gustasse, & in caput alterius cōparata, alterius in perniciē reciderūt. Tulisti tu quod ille mecū fecerat, temetipsum confeceris, ille te uerbis & fastidio suę ruditatis impleuit, ego siqd defuerit reimplebo, tu ætate iuuenis morib. senex & pfessor iuris, sede medius & iudica, si suspectū Gallis natio te reddit, Itali ca ueritas ipsa, & quicunq; iustus iudex iudicet. Hic diuido. Primum quidem miror, unde hæc nunc, quoue à dæmonio meridiano? Epistola enim mea, quam hic Galliæ oppugnator, & oppugnator Italiæ lacerandam sibi difficilem certè prouinciam elegit ad F.S.Q. memoriæ Vrbanum V.R.P. ante hoc nisi fallor quadriennium, missa erat. Quid igitur rei est? Vt uel tot annis Orator iste tacuerit, uel nunc tandem caput extulerit, nisi quod parum suæ iustitiæ fidebat, sicut obstare suæ iracundiæ, nunc non potest? Dolent enim, æstuantq; dum ueritate tanguntur, more autem segnium bellatorum differunt, dum se clanculum aduersus incautos ulciscantur. Hæc profectò & longi silentij, & intempestiui alloquij causa fuit, tam clarissima ueri luce superatus obstupuit, atq; ideò ueritus se commisisse impari duello, substitit, donec emendicatis hostium stipendiarijs, ut sic dixerim, auxilijs, omnesq; quos inuenire potuit libros, siue unum manipulum florum, opus uerè Gallicū, & quòd Gallica leuitas, pro omnibus libris habet, in prælium secum trahens, auderet in aciem uenire, nilq; aduersario denuncians, è transuerso sagittas fragiles iaculari. Qui ne parum scholasticus uideatur, & capitula, & paragraphos, & externæ longam seriem scripturæ, suis nugis interserit, tāto nisu, ut ridiculus labor suus, penè omnes qui illas audierunt, aut legerunt, hyeme media sudare coēgerit. Compatior homini contrà uerum, tàm anxiè laboranti, & tamen mirum, dictù, quisquis eum susceptæ cōcertationis euentus exceperit, ipse iam se de aduersarijs suis fastidio uindicauit. Vinci potest, non inultus tamē, ita omnes affecit, sic capita omnium obtudit, ut pro se quisq; Neroneum illud exclamet: Vtinam literas nescirem: unusq; omnium sermo esset. Literato stulto, nihil est, importunius. Habet enim instrumenta quibus suam uēcilet ac defendat amentiam, quibus cæteri carentes parcius insaniunt. Vt uerò iam tandem his præludijs modus sit, [illegible] locutor iste, non scribentis epistolam, sed sermocinantis in morem, pro fundamento sui sermonis, Euangelicum illud assumit. Homo quidam descendebat ab Hierusalē in Hierichò & [illegible] qua Hei mihi, quid est hoc, quòd ego audio, ex ore præsertim [illegible] hominis, pròh superum fide? O ineptum ac turpe principiū fabellæ, eo ne igitur miseriarum ac uæsaniæ uentum est, ut quicunque Christicola, maximeq; Pont. Rom. Auinione digrediens, Romam petat, à Hierusalem descendere dicatur in Hiericho, & non

potiùs ex

potiùs ex sentina profundissima uitiorum omnium, imò quod ex inferno illo uiuentium, In Hierusalem dicatur ascendere. Huccine igitur res prolapsa est, ut Auinio probrum ingens, fœtorque ultimus orbis terræ, Hierusalem dicatur? Roma uerò mundi caput, urbium regina, sedes imperij, arx fidei Catholicæ, fons omnium memorabilium exemplorum, Hiericho nuncupetur? O cor saxeum, O lubrica & effrenis lingua, quæ nam hic feralis monstra licentia? Nam ista temeritas, ne dicam rabies loquendi? Dicam Mimus impropriè, blaterandi, utque sermone utar Homerico, quod uerbum sæpè dentium seras transiuit, debuit faucibus uox hærere, neque in apertum prorumpere, doctis, pijsque omnibus stomachum concussura. Dicam certè quod sentio, si quid fuisset ingenij pudor, è manibus calamum extor[illegible]let, ne sede prorsus orationis, tale iaceret fundamentum, super quo boni nihil posset [illegible]dificari. Quid enim nisi pessimum, quæso, dicturus sit, qui in ipso sermonis exordio, Petri sedem Romam, deprimens uerbis inanibus, cœlotenus illam mundi fecem, turpemque barbariem nititur attollere? Sensi equidem in uerbis illius hominis descend[illegible]tis, imò uerò habit[illegible] in Hiericho, seu Rom. Pont. descendere facientis, graue sibi ac molestum barbari n[illegible]. Sic deformes quæque formosè dici amant ac uideri, nec ulla est tàm turpis quæ obie[illegible]ct[illegible] turpitudinem, non in contumeliam trahat, non mutatur autem ueritas, rerum hum[illegible] affectibus, alioquin quis non naturæ bonis ornatissimus esset & fortunæ? Non habe[illegible]em, quo mihi succenseat ille uir, hanc ob causam dico, si ad barbari nomen irascitur, [illegible]r non mihi, neque enim ego nominis huius inuentor sum, sed Historicis omnibus atque [illegible]aphis, qui tàm multi sunt, ut eos una epistola uix capiat. Quorum quis est omniũ, [illegible]rbaros Gallos uocet? Rei huius indaginem sibi linquo, ut industriam eius exer[illegible]orias euoluat, inueniet credo unde mecum in gratiam reuertatur. Iste autem decla[illegible] multiplicibus uerbis hærentem ossibus barbariem tentat excutere, multa de Gallica m[illegible] elegantia disputare, quorum omnium ut scias, quàm uera sint cætera, uictus tempe[illegible] primam ponit. In quo mihi quidem tàm aperto mendacio irridere uisus est potiùs [illegible]lare. Quid enim nisi irrisio est, in aliquo id laudare, cuius cõtrariũ publicè notum [illegible] omne humanum genus interroget, una uoce contrarium respondebit. Si præter [illegible] hominum fidem habet, quærat à Sulpitio Seuero, & inueniet ab illo, omniũ qui[illegible]co iuditio Gallorum disertissimo, obiectam Gallis edacitatem, ea uerò nisi fallor, ab h[illegible] barbaro laudare, uictus temperantiæ est aduersa. Mitto alia, non enim Gallicos mores [illegible] de eis quid sentiam satis in epistola ad Vrbanum uideor dixisse. Quamuis enim [illegible]ate morum Franci olim dicti, & feroces aliquando habiti, nunc tamen longè alij, le[illegible] homines sunt, facilis ac iucundi cõuictus, qui libenter adsciscant gaudia, curas pel[illegible]do, ridendo, canẽdo, edendo, & bibendo. Puto intelligẽtes ad literã illud sapiẽtis [illegible]ũ, quòd se uel dixisse nõ contentus, per quam sæpè repetijt. Non'n[illegible]elius est, in[illegible] comedere & bibere & ostendere animæ suæ bona de laboribus suis. Et iterum: Omnis [illegible] homo qui comedit & bibit, & uidet bonum de labore suo, hoc donum Dei est. Et ru[illegible] itaque [illegible] est bonum, ut comedat quis & bibat, & fruatur lætitia ex labore [illegible]. Et præterea: Vade ergo (inquit) & comede in lætitia panẽ tuum, & bibe cum gaudio [illegible] tuum. Et nõ solum quod hoc bonum esset, sed quod bonũ aliud non esset, adie[illegible] [illegible]n, quòd non esset bonũ homini sub sole, nisi quòd comederet [illegible] biberet, atque gauderet, & hoc solum secum afferret de labore suo. Quis quæso tanti [illegible] non [illegible]deret libenter, ac biberet & gauderet? Sapientes Galli, qui & per seipsos hæc sapiunt, & sapientibus crediderunt, inque consuetudinem, naturamque uerterũt. At quod eodem libro ait idem: Cogitaui in corde meo, abstrahere à uino carnem meam. Ceu Gallicanis legibus contrariũ aduersantur, ac respuunt: Hactenus excusasse sufficiat epistolæ meę principium, illud improprium, ut ipse asserit, & ineptum. Ego quid de re magna, summo hominum scripturus, magis proprium fateor, non inueni, nec adhuc uideo, præter hominem illum suum descendentem ab Hierusalem in Hiericho, quid accommodatius materiæ, quid in rem aptius dici possit, nec prorsus intelligo, quid principio illi desit, nisi sola forsitan scri[illegible]entis auctoritas. Fingunt enim Galli se, credantque quod uolunt, licet enim cuique de se, suisque rebus, opiniones fauorabiles, atque magnificas animo fabricare, suntque qui hoc faciũt, [illegible]t ille ait, fœlices errore suo, ad hoc opus sanè nulla gens promptior, quàm Galli. Cæterùm [illegible]incentur ut libet, barbari tamen sunt, neque de hoc inter doctos dubitatio unquã fuit, quãui[illegible] ne id quidem negem, nec negari posse arbitror, esse Gallos barbarorum omnium mitiores. Sed hic barbarus nostrarum rerum uituperationes, suarum laudibus intermiscens, n[illegible]nati tantùm, sed furentis in morem, nullo ordine multa in os stomachi ipsos euomuit. Magnum, credo, aliquid sese extimans, cui impunè maximis obtrectare, malitia temporum sit

permissum. Quorum ego partẽ magnã sciens transeo, quod nec responso certè, nec audientia dignum duco. Atque in primis uarietates urbis Romæ, quas hic quidem, usque ad curiositatem ridiculam prosecutus est, figuras lunæ uarias Romano statui comparando, quasi Roma sola, & non urbes, ac regna omnia, multoq; magis singuli homines mutentur assiduè, & temporali uicissitudini tam obnoxij, donec peruenerimus ad æterna. Babylon illa uetustior funditùs ruit, Troia itidem & Carthago, Athenæ insuper & Lacedæmon, & Corynthus, iamq; nil penitùs nisi nuda sunt nomina. Roma autem non in totum corruit, & quanquam grauiter imminuta, adhuc tamen est aliquid, præter nomen. Muri quidem & palatia ceciderunt, gloria nominis immortalis est, quid hic uelut in re insolita lunæ uarietatibus opus erat, nisi ut Astrologum, imò ut Lunaticum se probaret? Indignetur Gallus ut libet, non prius almæ urbis, quam totius orbis fama decrescet siue deficiet, semper altissimus mundi uertex Roma erit, & si propter inuidiam, aut odium, aut segnitiem, causamúe aliam & Pontifices, & principes illam sui deserant, gloria illam comitabitur, illi autem ubicunque & undecunque fuerit, Rom. Pont. Romaniq; Principes uocabuntur. Quid hic Gallus strepit? Quid Barbarus fremit? An mentior? Negabit magnum aliquod fuisse, cuius post tot secula reliquiæ, nunc etiam tantæ sunt, ut nec Gallia, nec Germania, nec ulla barbaries, se illarum gloriæ conferre audeat? Non præsumet id credo, quamuis natio sit contemptrix omnium & miratrix sui. Sed quid aget iste. Laudabit Galliæ tabernas, pulchra laus sobrij hominis, quas tamẽ ego illac nuper transiens, & euersas uidi, & desertas. Laudabit patriæ quietem, quam profectò turbidam, inquietamq; prospexi, sed non est ibi mutatio, quanta est Romæ. Quis hanc rem, reiq; causam non uidet? Minutarum rerum ruina magna esse non potest, procul absunt ab hoc metu, nunquam cadet ex alto, qui in imo iacet, Roma igitur ex alto cecidit, non cadet Auinio. Vnde enim caderet, aut quomodo decresceret, quæ est nihil? Pudet me fateor erroris eius, qui cum uideatur aliquid legisse, non erubuit summis ac præclaris infima rerum & abiectissima comparare, quodq; est stultius, anteferre. Sed excuset eum utcunq; natalis zonæ dulcedo quædam fœminea, non uirilis, & qui multum in rebus hominum usus ualet, ac præsertim rudium, uiri enim egregij, uirtutis ope uincunt omnia. Certè magni homines fuerunt, qui in media orti barbarie, & nutriti pudore, tamen originis se Romanos dici uoluerũt, splendore nominis gloriosi, quos quoniam omnibus noti sunt, enumerare non attinet. Gallus noster, ut uideo, nollet esse non barbarus, & libenter in cœno ubi educatus est residet. Parcendum imbecillitati animi, consuetudine obruti atq; assurgere non ualenti. Nam & lutum suibus, & palus ranis, & tenebræ uespertilionibus gratæ sunt. Illud autem quis excuset, aut quis ferat, quod uilissimi loci studio, optimis, nobilissimisq; detrahere, & affectu incondito atq; insulso, uirtutem tentes opprimere? Ita enim quærit quasi nesciat, id quod omnibus Christicolis notum est, atq; utinam, non Sarracenis, paganisq; etiam notum esset, ne tàm latè ludibrio haberemur. Et quam (inquit) angustiam Ecclesia passa sit in Gallia, ego sine dubio non audiui. Surdaster est, imò surdus omninò, qui tonitruum non audit, multa hic de quieto & prospero Ecclesiæ statu, intra cloacam illam palpitando prosequitur. O carnalis homũcio, nihil habens spirituale, uerè unus ex illorum grege, de quibus agens Cicero: Nihil (inquit) animo uidere poterant, ad oculos omnia referebant. Ergo nec angustia, nec molestia ulla est, nisi dum corpus in carcerẽ & uincula conijcitur? Quid si animus peccatorum nexibus coarctatus, miseri seruitij iugum subit? De hoc barbarus iste non cogitat, non uidet hæc igitur, nec audiuit, quia scilicet aures, oculosq; in carne habuit, quos si in spiritu habuisset, audisset utiq;, uidissetq; miras & miseras angustias, quas nulla cõpedum durities, nullus carcer æquauerit, uidisset morũ ueterũ ruinã, quæ multò est grauior ac funestior, quàm murorũ. Et quærit, quasi solus in Hierusalem peregrinus, quam angustiam Ecclesia passa sit in Gallia. Ego aũt quæro ubi'nam gentiũ parem pati potuisset angustiã? Et ô quàm multa se hic stylo offerunt, sed frenandus est, ne prodeat quo nõ decet, imò quidem decet, sed non expedit eò maximè, quia ut in Epistolis ait Cicero: Desperatis Hippocras uetat adhiberi medicinam. Et nisi satis odiorum ueritas inuisa conflauit, neq; ideò mentiri incipiam, sed tacere, & orationis hanc partem spontè prætereuehar, quod si boni discipuli habet ingeniũ, qui magistri titulo gloriatur, multa ex his paucis eliciet, quibus intelligat Romana ecclesia, quid in Gallis angustię passa sit, meq; uera loquutum uel in silentio fateatur, est tamen laudatoris illius certa quidem, utq; est mos præsens, non insulsa caliditas, licet enim turpibus blanditijs bonũ opus Episcopiũ occupatur, ad quod obtinendum, sciat se alijs quàm uerborũ retibus indigere, ne dum enim falsæ nugæ & inanes, sed omnis illic eloquentia Ciceronis, in hac parte succũberet, Vnum ei posset opitulari. Posset ut ego mẽtitus uideat Episcopus fieri, quod si accidat gaudebo, quamuis uerborũ aduersario

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profuisse, homo enim prodesse homini dum possit, fatigari nunquam debet, quoque minus est gratiæ, minor amicitiæ nexus aut sanguinis, eò maius est meritum. Sit episcopus igitur me fauente, candidamq́; ut aiunt togam, sui habitus, nigris atq; deformibus maculis, inquinet, dum uel turpibus, placidisq́; mendacijs, falsis laudibus, adulationibus uiro indignis. Deniq;, uel eorum gratia, uel mei, ueriq; odio, perueniat quò suspirat. Sit Episcopus Placentinus, aut Laudensis, sit episcopus Metiensis, sit episcopus Adulensis & mitram fallarijs debitam mercatur, mihi qui episcopatum nolo, quiq; eum gradum, sæpè olim mihi non oblatum modò, sed ingestum semper recusaui, præferens cunctis opibus libertatem, nihil blanditijs opus est, loquor ergo liberiùs, chariusq; mihi est odium uirtute quæsitum, quàm barbaro mihi erit, si successerit dignitas parta mendacio, his omissis, ad id uenio, quod aduersus urbem Romam conuitiator hic murmurat, ubi illud mirum, quod uulgares homines atque inopes rationis, suas non dicam iniurias, sed offensas quaslibet magni extimant, cum sic negligant alienas: ubi enim populum barbarum nominaui, quod si non blandè, iustè tamē feci, ceu gladio ictus exclamauit, nec in me, uel aliter excandescēs, quàm in CHRISTVM olim principes sacerdotum. Audisti (inquit) blasphemiam? Nec aduertit qui uideri doctus uult, in solam diuinitatem esse blasphemiam, ipse autem almæ urbi uenenosæ detractionis contumelias irrogando, esse credit excusabilis, tanta est barbari, & tàm temulenta præsumptio. Quamuis non ego blasphemiam ut ille, sed blasphemiæ proximū dico, urbem sacram prophano conuitio lacerare. Quanta seruorum audacia, quanta proteruia, ubi semel dominorū uinculis elapsi sunt, non ualentes aliter se ulcisci, contra dominos maledictis insurgunt, effunduntq; in uentos dolorem animi ulcerosi, & quasi canes inualidi metu latrāt. Recordatus hic barbarus antiqui seruitij, & adhuc penè callosum Romano iugo collum habens, fugitiuus seruus, de domina sua procùl tremebundus obloquitur. Quæ ô si filijs suis, illis dico maioribus, Deus omnipotens pacem daret, fraternamq; concordiam, quàm citò, quàm facilè rebellantem barbariem, iugo illi ueteri, Italicis ut olim uiribus adiuta, compesceret. Id si antea fuisset incognitum, nuper apparuit, dum uir unus obscurissimæ originis, & nullarum opum, atque ut ratio docuit, plus animi habens quàm constantiæ, Reip. imbecilles humeros subijcere ausus est, & tutelam labentis imperij profiteri, quàm subitò erecta omnis Italia, quantus ad extrema terrarum Romani nominis terror ac fama peruenerit? Et quanto grauior peruenisset, si tàm facilè esset perseuerare quàm incipere? Eram ego tunc in Gallijs, & scio quid audierim, quid uiderim, quid eorum qui maximi habebantur, in uerbis, inq; oculis legerim, negarēt modò forsitan, negare enim aculeo absente, perfacilè est, uerè autem, tunc omnia pauor cōpleuerat, adeò adhuc aliquid Roma est. Sed de his nil amplius, ne barbarum meum fortè acriter cogitantem, quid est Italia, quid sua barbaries, quamq; rerum paritas, nulla proportio uero iuditio mentiente, ad desperationem metus impellerem. Quanquam quomodò ego illum uel cogitare, uel sapere aliquid rectum credam, qui quodā loco sui sermonis interroget, quid per nomen Sacræ Vrbis intelligā. Nec uidetur audiuisse ciuili cautū lege, ut is locus, ubi non dicam liberi, sed serui etiā corpus, nec corpus modò integrū, sed pars corporis humo condita est, religiosus habeatur. Quod religiosa igitur uideri debet Vrbs Roma, ubi tot fortiū atq; illustriū, ubi tot principū integra corpora, ubi deniq;, quod in hac re maximè extimandū censeo, ut urbs ante omnes alias sacra sit, tot Apostoli gloriosi, tot sancti martyres, tot almi pontifices ac doctores, tot sacratæ uirgines requiescunt: omnis profectò sacri nescius & prophanus, haud dubiè totus est, qui Romam meritò sacrā dici, seu dubitat, seu miratur. Et certè si ciuili Iure leges sacratissimæ nominant, idq; nemo sanè mentis unquā arguit, quàm sacra dici potest urbs, legū domus augustissima, & eorū omniū qui Latinas condiderunt leges, aut altrix, aut genitrix. Quid notissimæ aūt rei argumenta conquirimus, cum expresse sanctissimam urbem Seneca, & non sacram modò, sed sacratissimā ciuitatē nuncupet lex ciuilis? Quam hic fortasse dispiciūt, quia nō Auinione, per protonotarios Papæ, nec est dictata Parisius, per magistros scilicet Parlamenti. Sed quid illi facias inepti? Quærit enim admodū curiose Gallus noster, quid est quod Vrbano fœlicitatem urbis extulerim, an quia secundùm uirtutē operari fœlicitas una sit, an quia in suam sedem reduxit ecclesiam exultantem, primum namq; fatetur, at secundū negat. O' ceruicositas, Deo & hominibus odiosa. O' cristati Gallorū uertices ac superbi, æque falsum asseuerare, & uerum negare dispositi. Ego autem utrumq; confiteor. Nam & secundùm uirtutem agere, fœlicitas uitæ huius, & ad fœlicitatē uitæ alterius, uia est, & uirtuosius quoquam nego, fieri ab homine potuisse, quod Ecclesiā pro qua CHRISTVS sanguinē suū fudit, de sanguinib. liberasse, suamq; in sedem è cœno illam erutam reduxisse, modò in finem generosum illud, sanctumq; propositum tenuisset? Quid ni igitur mirer, uirtutem uiri illius, quę tanta fuit, ut uix

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mihi possibile uidetur uirum talem in illa natum esse barbarie, nisi à Satyrico didicisset, summos posse uiros, & magna exempla daturos, ueruetum in patria, crassoq; sub aëre nasci. Neque illud ignorarem humani generis, rerumq; omnium creatorem, patris ubique potentiæ, atque ad illam exercendam, nec impediri locis, aut temporibus, nec iuuari. Cæterùm ut norit hic barbarus, quantum ab eius oppositione dissentio, ego & uirtutem illius uiri, & in primis factum propositum illud miror, & contrarium sentientis nō sani hominis, sed Galli caput ægrotantis ac pituita grauiter laborantis existimo, nec omninò illi, aliquid præter constantiam defuisse. Itaq; sæpè nunc mihi ad memoriam redeuntem, acri simul ac fideli increpatione compello. Heu Pater Beatissime quid fecisti? Vnde illa mollicies? Quis te fascinauit, ut principium tàm grandè desereres? Qui te autē clarior, si quod gloriosissimè cœperas, ad extremum spiritum perduxisses, ad quem ut patuit, iam propinquum ueniensq; grabatulum tuum, ante proximam Petri aram, cuius hospes ac successor eras. Fieri iuberis? CHRISTOq; & sibi gratias agens, qui tibi hunc animum, atq; hoc consilium præbuissent, in illo loco sanctissimo fœlicem animā emisisse. Quis te, oro, & uixisset honestius, quis æquanimiùs obijsset? Si quis enim fortè post te, ad obscœnum illum fornicem, Ecclesiam reduxisset, culpæ ille reus suæ rationem CHRISTO reddere, tu facti conscius eximij, recto calle isses ad superos, nunc tu ipse, heu, quis te perdidit? Tu inquam, dicam quod in animo est, spontè ad uomitum redijsti non audiens Petrum iterum exclamantem: Domine quo uadis? His illum, horumq; similibus lamentis exagito, quæ sibi scribere meditabar, & iam cœperam, si mori paululum distulisset. Valde enim cum facie licet incognitum, dicam uerius, uirtutem eius mihi, mundoq; notissimam amaui, & familiaritatem secum, quanta esse poterat, in tanta rerum omnium imparitate contraxeram. Vti ergo tota eius patientia, atque humanitate decreueram, utraque fœliciter, iam pridem dum adhuc in illa miseria moras traheret, acri quadam expertus epistola, quam ipse non patienter modò, sed gratanter, ac benignè recepisse, seq; illam diligenter perlegisse, & in ea multa benè, & eleganter dicta, utor ad literam uerbis suis, & tàm uerborum elocutione, quàm sententiarum pondere. Laudanda comperisse respondit atque in finem, ut Gallo nostro luem excitem, dignatus est, meam, ut ipse ait, prudentiam & eloquentiam, quas ego confiteor non agnosco, ac zelum quem ad commune bonum me habere & dixit, ego non dissimulo, & multipliciter commendare, seq; me uidendi auidum, & gratijs atque fauoribus prosequi dispositum profiteri, quæ profectò non diceret, aut dixisset, si tàm malè usus essem loqui sibi, (arguendo moram eius, ad id quod expetebat, in loco illo pessimo atque turpissimo, & hortando, ut ad sedem sibi & Ecclesiæ debitam se transferret) quàm barbaro huic nostro, ad quem omninò nil pertinet, usus sum. Et literæ quidem apostolicæ thesauri instar penes me sunt, eruntq; dum uixero, non tàm quia Papæ, quàm quia optimi & sanctissimi uiri sunt, nec tàm ideò, quia laudes meas, quàm quia illius pię testimonium uoluntatis, euidentissimè protestantur. Post hęc autem anno elapso, cum & ipse Romam petijsset, & ego uoti compos, illam sibi alterā epistolam misissem, quæ hunc barbarum in furorem uertit, scripsit ille mihi iterum, quibus in literis parūper questus, quod cognito eius desiderio, ad uidendum siue uisitandum eum essem tardior, de..iū ipsam eam tarditatem excusans, sub obtentu meæ aduersæ, ualetudinis ad extremū etiam, iubere regibus solitus, me rogauit, ut quàm primum, siue personæ meæ periculo aut incommodo possem ad se pergerem, cupidè tunc etiam me uisurum, & animi mei quieti consulere intendentem. Et ego parèndi auidus, ibam, nisi me casus horribilis ex itinere medio retraxisset, ita mihi tantum illum Patrem, quem uidere nō contigit, amare saltem licuit ac uereri, atq; eius acta laudare, illud in primis, quod hic barbarus, nec laudare, nec uituperare audet, quamuis ut sentis libenter id faceret, nisi quod nondum sic ex omni parte depuduit, inter barbaros quoque adhuc reuerentiæ aliquid, sed perexiguum est uirtutis, quam ipse ego ubenus laudarem, nisi perseuerantiam defuisse conspicerem. Illud tamē in silentio respondentē audio, non potuisse unum se tot susurronibus obstare, contra CHRISTVM atque eius Ecclesiam coniuratis, quam excusationem nec admitto, nec respuo, quod & uerum scio, & si fundatus esset super firmam petram, non dubito flatus tales alto animo potuisset contemni. Parcat illi CHRISTVS, cuius negocium agenti, ea tepiditas intercessit, illi uerò gaudeant & triumphent, qui nunc in inferno uiuentium Benuense uinum bibunt, nec Prophetam audiunt exclamantem: Expergiscimini ebrij & flete, & ululate omnes qui bibitis uinum in dulcedine, quoniam perijt ab ore uestro more Prophetico rem futuram quasi præsentem, imò iam præteritam narrat, & quasi iam euenerit, quod necessariò euenturum est, & si enim nondum perijt, peribit ilicò. Tempus est enim ut iamiam uilissimæ istæ dulcedines, in amaritudinem conuertantur, & an ego cæcutiens, ita enim iste me uocat, qui hæc quasi præsentia iam hinc

uideo,

uideo, an ipse magis exoculatus, qui fulgore panni captus, exigui nihil audet, aut cogitat, praeter Episcopatum quem mendacio fidens, stulta & cupida mente praeoccupat? Non aũt facile dictu, quàm me delectauerit uiri huius ingenium, tàm rectè, tàm propriè Pharisaeorũ ... qui ueritatem, Deiq; opera praedicanti responderunt. In peccatis natus es to- ... & tu doces nos? Et eiecerunt eum foras. Quid quaeso conuenientius poterat sectae illius ... mus, contra eum, qui quem factis expugnare non potest, uerbis oppugnat, si ... paradisi amor proficit, nec inferni metus, aliquid saltem pudore proficeret? ... pro responso Gallus noster accipiat, cur Vrbanũ dixerit foelicem, tunc scilicet, dum ... simè operando, non se solùm, sed totam foelicitaret Ecclesiam. Atque ut me in sen- ... xum nonit, unum istis adijciam, modò cautum mihi sit, ne laesae maiestatis accuser. ... eundem sic insanus sum, ut Rom. Pont. legem ponam, cum ipse sit legifer omnium ... orum, aut legem sibi statuam, siue sedem, qui sedium dominus est cunctarum: si e- ... pud Cordubensem legimus Veios habitante Camillo, illic Roma fuit: quantò ma- ... Rom. Pon. habitat, ibi quoq; concesserim Romam esse. Vnum hoc si coelitùs da- ... ptarem, ut sicut tunc Camillus, ubi sicut Veijs omissis Romam rediit, ita nunc ... x, audebo enim dicere, temerariè forsitan, sed fideliter, & ni fallor uerè, quod si hoc ... et, cui diuinitas rei huius arbitrium dedit, non modò honestius, sanctiusq;, sed tu- ... let quàm in ulla penitus parte terrarum, nec ingenti pretio cogeretur à praedoni- ... mere suam, & Ecclesiae libertatem, quod praedecessor suus in sancta fecit Auinione ... nc & ipse grauiter in consistorio questus est, & ego dum sibi scriberem non silui. Q... Romae sedis angustiam Gallus iste nõ uidit, dum ad enarrandas foelicitates Auinio- ... no nisus, implumes alas explicuisset, sedem tectis, magnaeq; miseriae uel oblitos a- ... it, uel oblitus est. Vnum his nunc etiam pari fide ac simplicitate subnectã, non o- ... nec oportere Pontificem Rom armata manu Romam petere, tutiorem illum facit ... tas, quàm gladij sanctitas, quam loricae, arma sacerdotum sunt orationes, lachrymae, ... ia, ... uirtutes, & boni mores, & abstinẽtia, castitas, humanitas, mansuetudo actuum & ... rum. Quid signis militaribus opus est? Satis esset crux CHRISTI illam solam tre- ... daemones, homines reuerentur, quid tubis aut buccinis? Sufficit Alleluia. Certè lu- ... Caesar, post tot bella, tot uictorias, non armatus urbem Romam, sed cum inermi exerci- ... imis uictor introiuit. Caesarem loquor, ut ad id de quo agitur, efficacius argumentum ... Si sic enim uenit Caesar, quid putemus Petrum? Scio aũt quid calumniator noster obij- c... ermis, inquit, uenit Petrus, atque ideò interfectus est: ita enim quodam apologetici ... o, Romam, multos innocentes homines iugulasse ait, atque ideò meritò à Satyrico ... et, nec intelligit, nolo dicere idiota, saeuum pro magno poni solitum, iuxta illud Ae... os primo:

Saeuus ubi Aeacidae telo iacet Hector.

C... fuisse magnum Hectorem non crudelem, constet illud eiusdem:

Maternis saeuum in armis Aeneas.

Q... atque scilicet Pium dicit, hic saeuum dixit, id est, magnum. Et est haud dubiè non ... quidem, sed insidiosa & prorsus hostilis obiectio. Multi (inquit perierunt Romae ...ed & multi quoq; in Gallijs & alijs in urbibus, plures tamen Romae. Quis non ... et hoc unde? Plures eò conueniebant, nempe ad mundi caput & imperij sedem. Pereun- ... tem causa fuit, non regionis atrocitas, sed religionis aduersitas, & uolebat CHRISTVS ... bem suam, quam & temporalium dominam iam fecerat, & spiritualium facere dispone- ... uberiore sanguine suorum martyrum consecrare. Romanus fuit non inficior Nero, qui ... ccidit Petrum, sed Romani fuerunt, qui Neronem occiderunt. Idem de Domitiano, de- ... e multis dici licet, uertat se quocumque libet detractoris ingenium atque odium, Ro- manos inueniet qui sanctos condemnauerunt, multosq; qui uindicauerunt. Nec tantum post ... lorum & martyrum, sed sui proprij sanguinis, quamuis ignaros rei, Romanos ta- men ultores sibi CHRISTVS elegit. Romanus fuit itaque CHRISTI ultor, cum Gallus fue ... crucifixor, ut post dicam. Audiamus nunc Gallum seu uerius coruum nostrum, qui can- ... lumam fusco mendacio denigrauit, & didicit Caesarem atque Antonium salutare. ... mus, inquam, & rauco strepitu suas amentias repetentem. Quia enim uinum Benu- ... upero, ut ipse ait, ut ego fateor, non adoro, rursus exclamat: Et audistis (inquit) blas- ... indigna uiro & pudenda prorsus exclamatio, uerùm minus forsan impropria, ... rior fuit. Nam quid scimus, an iste sit illorum unus, quorum Deus uenter est, ut ... Si sic, est enim qui contra uinum loquitur, utiq; contra uentrem, atq; ita con- tra Deum suum loquitur, & uideri potest species blasphemiae. Ego autem nec contra uinũ, nec

nec contrà aliquod Dei donum loquor, sciens quoniam omnia quæ fecit Deus bona sunt, sed ebrietatem, gulamq́ uitupero, quam non Deus, sed humana sibi fecit improbitas. Et quoniam sępè bona aliqua: culpa abutentium mali materiam esse compertum est, ut uinum ebrietatis, aurum auaritiæ, ferrum sæuitiæ, formaq́ libidinis, optarii ego, ut cum damnosa quorūdam Beneuensis uini sitis, & noceret Ecclesię, & frenari aliter non posset, uinū ipsum, unde ea nascitur, è medio tolleretur. Hanc potor egregius blasphemiam uocat, quasi, quod absit, contra CHRISTVM aliquid sim locutus, pro cuius reuerentia & amore, uinum illud, quamuis in se bonū odi, fateor. Et quid mihi iratus Gallus occinat, non impertinens est audire. O' nobilis uindemia (inquit) & uinum pretiosum, & hoc forsitan nō ineptè uenenum, inquam, non corporum, sed mentium: his addidit. Super omnia uina dulce salutiferum, & iucundum. Hoc utiq́ non ineptum modò, sed falsum est. Sed omittamus de uinis loqui, ne quem despicimus imitemur. Quàm misera est (inquit) tuæ maledictionis occasio. O' quam flebiliter suæ fœlicitatis iniuriam fert: i nunc, nega uini dolium loqui, nega Bacchi sacerdotem, qui contra uinum suum, suasq́ delitias hiscere ausum, dicat esse blasphemū? O' cœlū: O' terra, O' humanum genus, O' Catholica plebs fidelis, CHRISTO, Deo nostro, suæq́ fidei uinū Beneuense præponitur, nec ipsius CHRISTI decus aut uoluntas, sed uini illius opportunitas, ad summæ rerū cōsilium euocatur, & ego tanti mali causam perosus, penè sacrilegij reus agor, cùm non solum tamen illud uinum accusem, sunt & alia quędam, de quibus tacere iubet Plato, iubet pudor. Transeamus igitur hinc, & id potiùs audiamus, qua se, suūq́ bonum summum, imprecatione fraterculus hic flammatus, ulciscitur. Propter hoc (inquit) non intres in os eius & dulcis sapor tuus per eius fauces non transeat. Quid uobis uidetur? An nō satis se magnificè ultus est? Et sanè nil peius optare mihi poterat, quàm quod sibi pessimum iudicaret. Mihi autem affecto aliter & nutrito, ea imprecatio leuis est, si nec Beneuense, nec omninò uinum ullum biberem, tamen lætè uiuerem, itaq́ gustui fideliter respondeo, quod pater Augustinus de olfactu Ciceroniano penè ulus uerbo. De illecebra quidem (inquit) odorū non satago nimis, cùm absunt non requiro, cùm adsunt non respuo, paratus eis semper carere. Ita mihi uideor nisi forsitan fallor, ita ego de omni uino mihi uideor, quamuis & ipse multò faciliùs falli possim. Ab experientia quidem, & sanctorum patrum ab exemplis, ab Anneo demùm Seneca didicisse potui, quod satis est uitæ hominum, panis & aqua, uitæ hominum dixit, sed non gulæ, quam sententiam carmen nepos eius expressit:

Satis est populus, cereq́;, fluuiusq́;.

Sed non populis Galliarum, neque ego si essem Gallus hoc dicerem, sed Beneuense uinum, pro summa uitæ fœlicitate defenderem, hymnis, metris & cantibus celebrarem. Sum uerò Italus natione, & Romanus ciuis esse glorior, de quo non modò princeps, mundiq́ domini gloriati sunt, sed Paulus Apostolus, is qui dixit: Non habemus hic manentem ciuitatem, urbem Romam patriam suam facit, & in magnis periculis, se Romanum ciuem, & non Gallum natum esse cōmemorat, idq́ tunc sibi profuit ad salutem. Sed hic barbarus, ad uituperium sacræ urbis, cuius laudibus nec linguæ omnium disertorum, nec libri omnes sufficiūt, os impurum aperire ausus, multa dicit, quæ nec relatu quidem digna sunt, quod grauissimū Romanæ gloriæ uulnus est, contra illam Bernardus durissimis conuitijs armatus inducitur. Nota res est, qui de consideratione agens, fortè si diligentiùs cuncta considerasset, gentem famosissimam omnium, quæ sub cœlo sunt, partius infamasset, fecit tamen, & licere sibi debuit, calamo suo scribere quod occurrit, quid hic dicam? Non ego contra sanctum uirū loqui uelim, cùm maximè, quem in quibusdam scriptis meis ualdè aliquādo laudauerim. Qui si sanctus non esset, quantumlibet magnus in reliquis, facilis esset & expedita responsio. At nunc quidem, & si non contra sanctū, de sancto tamen loqui nihil prohibet. Multa quidē loquendo & scribendo, multa redeunt in animum, quæ dilapsa uidentur. Damnauit iste nūc recolo, Bernardus Clareuallensis Abbas, de quo sermo est, Petrum Abaelardū literarū quendam uirum, hic iratus Berengarius Pictauiensis, uir & ipse nō infacundus ac discipulus Petri, contra Bernardum librum unum scripsit, non magni quidem corporis, sed ingentis acrimoniæ: de quo post modum à multis increpatus se excusat, quod adolescens scripsisset, & quod sibi uiri sanctitas nōdum penitùs nota esset. Horum certè neutrū mihi competit, nam nec de Bernardi sanctitate sum dubius, & adolescens esse desij, sed illud dico, quod licet hodie procùldubio sanctus sit, fieri potest, ut dum ad Eugenium scripsit, nondum forsitàn sanctus esset. Sanctitas enim sicut omnis uirtus, nō cum homine nascitur, sed studio quæritur & augetur, & frequentatis actibus in habitū transit. Itaq́ mihi aliud assumo, quod in quadā excusatoria epistola ad Episcopum Mimaten. Berengarius idem ait. Non'ne Abbas homo est? Non'ne nobiscum nauigat, per hoc mare magnum & spatiosum, inter reptilia, quorum

non

[illegible] numerus Cyrus nauis, & si prosperiori feratur nauigatione, tamen serenitas maris [illegible] est. Ego uero Bernardi nauem portum iam tenere non ambigo, sed dum scriberet, [illegible] non tenebat. Homo erat, & in carne positus, passionibus subiacere poterat no- [illegible] Ioannis os aurei, nō de sanctis quibuslibet, sed de ipsis Apostolis. Nam & si an- [illegible]quit) homines tamen sunt, & si uinci à carne nō possunt, quasi iam spirituales, ta- [illegible] possunt, quasi adhuc carnales. Potuit aliqua forte lacessitus iniuria Bernardus [illegible] multa [illegible] homines dicunt, quorum postea illos pudet, esto autem esset ira [illegible] motus, ex aliqua ortus [illegible]sa. An non naturale inter aliquas nationes est o- [illegible] prolectò Gallorum gentem [illegible]issimam, nomini Romano apud Crispum, & de [illegible] gens Gallorum [illegible] de infensissimo odio in Romanum nomen apud Liuium [illegible] & [illegible] realiter ex[illegible]mur. Vt essent tamen hæc omnia, nec ita u[illegible] nec odium [illegible] impulerit, & fuerit [illegible] sanctus dum id scriberet, quā[illegible] Ambrosianæ senten- [illegible] ubi ait: Quis autem mitens [illegible] sui, ac fuæ [illegible] laudari, qui & [illegible] se habere quod doleat, [illegible] uidet sibi supercilie [illegible] timet? Quis [illegible] in h[illegible] corpusculo positus debeat, ubi quicquam uendicare de meritis. No- [illegible] ua. Sed ita fuerit sanctus in uita, quid hic [illegible]sponsionis inueniam? Non reprehē- [illegible]dum, sed laudatores hoc uituperatore, eodem ipso nec negante, nec indignante [illegible] iam. Ambrosius in prooemio epistolæ ad Romanos de eis loquens: Hi enim [illegible] fuit omnium gentium, mirum ualdè. Nec excipit Gallos. Mox super textu, [illegible] testari dicit Apostolum. Quod cum Romani regnent in mundo nec excipit [illegible] subiecerunt se fidei Christianæ. Dicet autem Gallus, Romanorum iste potentiam [illegible] non uirtutem laudat? Audiat ergo quod sequitur: Erant enim (inquit) doctri- [illegible] abiles & boni operis cupidi, studiosiq; magis agendi bene, quàm sermonis. Sed [illegible] strepet Gallus, [illegible] domestico, non credendū, quoniam sit ciuis Romanus Am- [illegible] quod ne[illegible] nequit. Nec intelligo tamen, quid irato hosti plus sit fidei quam placa- [illegible] Hieronymus autem [illegible] opponet, qui & Romam laudat, & laudatam dicit ab Apo- [illegible] de suo quoniam in ipsa epistola ad Vrbanum scripsi, nil nunc amplius dico, sed ipsius [illegible] aliud coniungo, qui secundo libro in epistola ad Galatas. Romanæ [illegible] (inquit) laudatur fides, ubi tanto studio & frequentia ad Ecclesias & martyrum se- [illegible] curritur, ubi sic ad similitudinem cœlestis tonitrui anima resonat, & uacua idolo- [illegible] templa quatiuntur, non quod aliam habeant Romani fidem, nisi hanc, quam omnes [illegible] Ecclesiæ, sed quam deuotio in eis maior & simplicitas ad credendum. Quid hic [illegible] dicet? An consonat hic Bernardo, in eo maxime, quod ille incredulos primum, de [illegible] tandem etiam proditores uocat, nimis si dici licet hostiliter? Vbi est autem ista [illegible] potius obseruata publicè & priuatim, etiam hostibus Romana fides, cu- [illegible] plena est. Illud quoque, quod his interposuit, temerarios in sancta illos [illegible] est ferè omnibus scriptoribus, quæ Romanis attribuit grauitatem. Quid [illegible] tàm temeritati dissonum quàm grauitas? Sed audire Gallum hic uideor protestan- [illegible] Romanum hostem in testimonium adducens, non credam ei planè hostis ex ore [illegible]ns, nec immeritò Virgilius ait:

Ipse hostis Teucros insigni laude ferebat.

[illegible] nunc autem Gallus, & [illegible]am insolentiæ dimittat, ut non semper placita, sed in- [illegible] incipiat audire, atq; ut uens opinionibus locus sit, concretum puluerem erro- [illegible] Galliæ leuitatis excutiat. Pyrrhus Epirotarum rex, hostis P.R. cum Cyneam do- [illegible] illum uirum, & insignis memoriæ laude conspicuum, pro cōponenda pace Ro- [illegible] misisset, & infecto negotio redeuntem, qualis esset Roma interrogasset, ille regum ur- [illegible] sibi uisam [illegible], Regum patriam se uidisse respōdit. Scilicet & hic ferè [illegible] esse, qu[illegible] Pyrrhus Græcia, quem regum sanè optimum fuisse constat & mi- [illegible] Videat Gallus & Bernardus, uideat inter reges optimos atq; mitissimos, & nō a- [illegible] modò sed hostibus minime [illegible] & immitem atq; intractabilem gentem, & in ex- [illegible] eos inhumana, quid intersit, nam quod æmulos et in uicinos, directè opponitur ei, qđ Machabeorum de Romanis legitur, quod nō inuidia, neq; zelus inter eos, nec ego [illegible] Tamen Gallo meo transcribere [illegible]tum illum cogito, & ut ipse mihi sultimum, quo ut [illegible]ar, nō egebam locum [illegible]gnasse suffecerit, legat ergo operis illius librum primum, [illegible] octauum & abundè laudatam uirtutem atq; potentiam inueniet Romanorum. [illegible] grandiloquentiam paruificentiæ coniunctam Romanis obijcit. Impropriè di- [illegible] Bernardo nunquam dixerim, sed impropriè, & ineptè ab hoc barbaro resincatū dico, [illegible] Græcis datur, iungo ego Græcis Gallos, qui licet inferiores ingenio, iactantia & lo-

& loquacitate superiores sunt. Romanis hoc uitium non conuenit, b[illegible] operis [illegible], ut repetam, quòd præmisi, studiosisq; magis agendi benè, quàm sermonis. De qu[illegible]ptum est:

Optimus quisq; facere, quàm dicere malebat.

Secundum uerò illis affricui se perridiculum, audeo enim dicere, quod me uerum dicere certus sum, & nihil facilè affirmare solitus hoc, affirmo, quod totius humanæ magnificentiæ supremum domicilium Roma est, nec est ullus tàm remotus terrarum angulus, qui hoc neget, quod si barbarus hic ignorat, aut torpet, aut stertit, aut plenè desipit & insanit. Quid enim magnificum, quæso, legit unquam aliquid aut audiuit sine nomine, & gloria urbis Romæ, ex quo Vrbs ipsa condi cœpit & crescere? De quo tempore scriptum est:

Nunc quoq; Dardanium fama est consurgere Romam.
Quanta nec est, nec erit uisa prioribus annis. & ab Ingenio altiore:
Illa imperium terris, æquabit Olympo. *Septemq; una sibi muro circundabit arces,*
Fœlix prole uirûm. & rursus idem:
Verum hæc tantum alias inter caput extulit urbes,
Quantum lenta solent inter uiburna cupressi.

De qua alter uir magnus: Nulla unquam Respub. nec maior, nec sanctior, nec bonis exemplis ditior fuit. Vellem scire quid nunc agit Gallus noster, sed sat scio, stupet, hæc ignota q[illegible] neq; à Gallis, neque è Gallinis, addisci possunt: Discuntur ab Historicis & Po[illegible]is ac [illegible]ptoribus rerum, nec stupet modò, sed irascitur, quoniam hæc tàm multa, tàm magna de Auinione ac Parisijs non habentur, quarum altera significatorem nõ habet in cœlo. Alteram Architriuius, de quo pòst uidebimus. Ante tamen, quàm ad laudes alias procedam, conuitijs respondendum est, quæ nisi fallor duo, nunc etiam supersunt, inuerecũdos Romanos ad petendum, i[illegible] gratosq; cum acceperint, ille uir sanctus ait. Vnum à tergo relinquebã frontosos scilicet ad negandum. Hoc est ferè nisi me fallit numerus, obiecto[illegible]m summa. Nam quod his additur, insuetam paci gentem, assuetamq; tumultibus ac bellis [illegible] negare uel[illegible]m, iam ipse fat[illegible]bitur, à Numa rege in Cæsarem Augustum, non nisi ter clausus Ianus, quibus exe[illegible]cendis, in utraq; fortuna tanta fuit uirtus, ut post hunc barbarum, patrio more tergiuers[illegible]ntem, nil in terris simile unquam extitisse, fidenter addiderim, nec futurum e[illegible]e omnibus n[illegible]tum sit. Videatur in omnibus Romanis bellis, cum fortitudine certasse [illegible]ustitiam. Sintq; i[illegible]a uerissima, quæ in libris autenticis scripta sunt, ut omnes gentes sciant P.R. & suscipere iu[illegible]è bella, & finire, atq; in omni fortuna eosdem animos habere, imò uerò magnitudinem P.R. admirabiliorem propè aduersis rebus, quam secundis esse. Et illud ab hoste etiam prædicatum, P.R. eò inuictum esse, quod in secundis rebus sapere, & consulere meminerint, & mirandum fuisse si aliter facerent ex insolentia, quibus noua bona fortuna sit, impotentes læ[illegible]tiæ, insanire P.R. usitata, ac propè iam obsoleta ex uictoria gaudia esse, ac plus penè parce[illegible]do, quàm ui[illegible]cendo imperium auxisse, quanquam quid ego ista minutiora perst[illegible]ngo, [illegible]æ si uelim cuncta complecti, omnes mihi scriptorum sæcularium libri illustres transcr[illegible]be[illegible]erunt. Quid est enim aliud omnis historia quàm Romana laus? Vnum inter alia est, [illegible]od n[illegible] modò accep[illegible]arem, sed aceruare propositum est, gentem subdi nesciam fateor, sed [illegible] lias, & præ[illegible]e, ne si hoc negare uoluero, magnitudo conuincat Imperij, quòd licet [illegible] manus barbaricas imminutum atq; debilitatum, & penè consumptum sit, Romanas inter manus tale fuit, ut omnia mundi illi admota, pueriles ludi fuisse uideantur, & inania nom[illegible]a, quanquam non sim nescius, quosdam leuissimos Græcorum, qui ut T. ait Liuius, & Parthorum quoq;, ut contra Romanum nomen gloriæ fauent, dictitare solitos, maiestatem Alex[illegible]dri Macedonis, uix quidem tenui fama Romæ cogni[illegible] non laturum fuisse P.R. uidelicet [illegible]o tot duces egregios, tot prudentium ac fortium uirorũ millia, uni furioso adolescenti po[illegible]se relil[illegible]ere? Neq; solum leuissimi Græcorũ, sed quòd T. Liu[illegible]s nosse non potuit, le[illegible]simus quidam nuper, uanissimusq; Gallorum. Idem dixit: & [illegible]omnis pudor perijt, ut non tantũ literis uil[illegible]ssimam hanc nugellam, sed Mimis etiam, carminibusq; mandaret. Nescio quidem cur, nisi quòd insignem, nec tam Græcum, quàm Italicum potatorem nouerat Alexãdrum. Et similitudo morum parit amicitias, & partas, & nutrit. Iratus uocor, imò quidem causam aliam scio. Tantum est enim odium Romani nominis, ut non Alexandrum modò, se[illegible] Sardanapalum Iulio Cæsari prælaturi [illegible]nt. Nempe illos nisi per famam non nouerũ[illegible] [illegible]serunt eo[illegible]n ferro uiscera resecantem, atq; insolentias castigantẽ. Disicentur tame[illegible] [illegible]pent, medij nunquam sibilis uipereis ueritas [illegible]tie[illegible]ir, Adamantino monte sol[illegible]d[illegible] per Rom[illegible]na gloria toto orbe resonabit, sempe[illegible] inuidentiũ illi nomen erit inglori[illegible] [illegible]a me. Sed de hoc ne in lõgum nimis exeam, nil amplius de omni enim ista materia, ab [illegible].

Liuio

Liuio, ab urbe cōdita libro nono, præclarißimè diſputatum eſt, ibi legat barbarus, & crepa-
[illegible]it: Hoc igitur quem confiteor articulo prætermiſſo, ad eos redeo quos negabo, obijcitur
Romanis impudentia ad petendum, ingratitudoq́ʒ accepti. Duo magna ſi uera ſunt uitia.
Quæ nunc tantis obiectionibus, niſi ueritas nuda, reſpondeat? Cōtra primum quidem mil-
[illegible] ſunt teſtes ſufficiant tamen in præſens tres populi, duo reges. Bello punico ſecundo af-
[illegible] penè ad ultimū Romanis, rebus atq́ʒ ærario exhauſto, Neapolitani legatos Romam
[illegible]um muneribus miſerunt, in quibus erant quadraginta pateræ auri magni ponderis, qui-
[illegible] capitolium inuectis, & ante pedes patrum expoſitis, orabant legati, ut munus de ſe
[illegible],ingens tamē deuoti[illegible]ne mittentium dignarentur recipere, & Neapolitanorum re-
[illegible]mnibus tanquàm proprijs ſuis uti. Neapolitanis gratiæ actæ ſunt, legatiq́ʒ cum mune-
[illegible]s remiſsi, au[illegible]i nihil acceptum eſt, præter unam, eamq́ʒ minimi ponderis pateram, ne a-
[illegible]rum munus ſpreuiſſe crederentur. Eodem tempore, & Prænestini legati, ipſi quoq́ʒ &
[illegible]ateras aureas attulerūt, & gratijs actis, remiſsi ſunt, auri nihil acceptum eſt. Poſt id tempus,
[illegible]rante adhuc bello, cum Carthaginenſes ad [illegible]onducenda ſtipendiaria auxilia, cum immē-
[illegible]p[illegible]ndere auri, & argenti in Hiſpaniam miſiſſent, capti nunc[illegible] à Fagutinis, cumq́ʒ omni co
[illegible] attulerant Romam miſsi per legatos, qui[illegible]us gratiæ actæ, aurum & argentū quod ho-
[illegible] arreptum, & in ſuam perniciem miſſum, ſuo quodam iure retinere poterāt, legatis re-
d[illegible]um, inſuper addita munera, ſolum nunc[illegible] hoſtium retenti, cōiectiq́ʒ in carcerem, ut aduo
[illegible] in conſilium non auaritia, ſed inimicitia reddetetur. Pyrrhus ille, cuius mentionem fe-
[illegible]s, ſentiens Romanos armis indomitos, muneribus aggredi inſtituit, itaque pro pace,
[illegible]yneam mitteret, magnā illi adiunxit uim auri, quo patritios ac Senatum, deinde or-
[illegible] equeſtrem, poſtremò plebem humilem reuocaret, ſiue tentaret, quid autem? Nemi-
[illegible] cuius domus muneribus pateret, inuenit. Qui ſi miſſus eſſet Auinionem, puto aliquod
[illegible]m oſtium inueniſſet. Per eoſdem dies Ptolemæus rex Aegypti, legatis Romanis ad ſe
[illegible]is, magna munera miſerat, quæ cum illi alto animo recuſaſſent, ad cœnam poſtridie
[illegible]ris, ſingulis aureas coronas in conuiuio deſtinauit. Quas cum ob honorem magni &
[illegible] hoſpitis recepiſſent, die illas proximo, ſtatuis regijs impreſſerunt, ut intelligi daretur,
[illegible]atem eos & honorificētiam regis acceptaſſe non aurum. Quàm inuerecundi ergo eſ-
[illegible]d petendum negata, qui tàm obſtinati erant ad oblata renuendum uiderit ipſe qui di-
[illegible]ntra ſecundum uerò obiectum, ſcilicet indignam gratitudinem, multi quoq́ʒ & reges
&[illegible]puli teſtes ſunt. Maſiniſſa in primis rex Numidiæ, Attalus & Eumenes Pergami, Hie-
ro [illegible]ciliæ, Deiotarus minoris Armeniæ, Mamertini præterea, innumeriq́ʒ alij. Quos attin-
[illegible] longum eſt. Sed ad ſummam & ſi aduerſus quoſdam ciues, ſeueri patris in morem du-
[illegible]r, non negetur, quam uel ſuum, Reiq́ʒ publicæ decus, uel illorum merita poſtularent, erga
[illegible]os non ſolum reges & populos, ſed humillimas quoq́ʒ perſonas nihil gratius P.R. de
quo ue[illegible]iſsimè [illegible] eſt. S. &. P. R. beneficij memor, & iniuriæ immemor eſſe ſolet. Eri-
[illegible]m. Romani domini, militiæq́ʒ intenti. Feſtinare, parare, alius alium hortari, hoſtibus ob-
[illegible]re, libertatem, patriam, parentes armis tegere, poſt ea ubi pericula uirtute propulerāt,
[illegible] amicis auxilia portabant, magis dandis quàm accipiendis beneficijs amicitias
[illegible] rurſus: Hoc in pectu[illegible] tuum demitte, nunquam P.R. beneficij uictum eſſe: nam
[illegible] ualeat, tu reſtis. Hoc proprie ſibi dictum Gallus accipiat. Scit enim, et ſi neſcit, ex-
[illegible]tres ſuos maiores interroget, & dicent ſibi, ante alios ille, ſic enim de ipſo ſcriptum
[illegible]rpore armis, ſpirituq́ʒ terribilis, nomine quaſi ad terrorem compoſito, Vercingetorix,
[illegible]ernus Galliarum rex, qui fortuna multis prelijs ſæpe, & magnis bellis atq́ʒ conatibus re-
[illegible]ntata, nouiſsimè in deditionem redactus, & maximum uictoriæ decus, ſupplex cum in ca-
[illegible]a ueniſſet, & phaleras & ſua arma ante Cæſaris genua proiecit. Et habes (inquit) fortem ui
[illegible]um, uir fortiſsime uiciſti. Non muto aliquid hac in re? Flori illuſtris hiſtorici uerba ſunt, u-
[illegible]m ſupereſt, Romana illa duritiës, ſiue ut eius uerbo utar, frontoſitas ad negandum. Et eſt
[illegible]nè difficile in uniuerſum pronunciare, tàm diſsimiles, tàm diuerſi ſunt hominum mores.
[illegible]bo autem è tot millibus duos uiros. Romanos ac Principes, qui inſimulationem publi-
[illegible]m ſingulari ſua laude diſcutiant. Iulium Cæſarem & T. Veſpaſianum. De quorum primo
[illegible]tum eſt Cæſar in animum induxerat laborare, uigilare, negocijs amicorum intētus, ſua
[illegible]gere, nihil denegare, quod dignum dono eſſet. Alter & ipſe nihil, ſolitus negare, non o-
[illegible]aiebat, quenquam à ſermone principis triſtē diſcedere. Atq́ʒ etiam recordatus quō-
[illegible]erecœnam, quod nihil cuiquam tota die præſtitiſſet, memorabilem illam, meritoq́ʒ
[illegible] uocem edidit. Amici diem perdidi. Sic enim de illo ſcribitur, & rurſus? Neq́ʒ ne-
[illegible]cquam petentibus, & ut quæ uellent peterent ultrò adhortatus eſt. Nō proſequor
[illegible]q́ʒ clementiam, morumq́ʒ dulcedinem, ſufficit ad obiectum negandi duritiem reſpon-

dere. Sed occurret. Et non sunt (inquit) omnes tales, certè nam si essent, non tanta esset eorū gloria. Magnum rerum atq; hominum decus est raritas, magnum imparitas ornamentum, si pares essent omnes, nullus excelleret. Det mihi aduersarius unum Gallum, uel omninò unum Barbarum, similem his duobus, & uicerit. Nescio quidem an ad cuncta responderim, nec tanti illa facio, ut in hac inquisitione multus sim. Optarem ego si fieri posset, ut ille u[illegible] tantus discussisset, non modò quid diceret, sed & contra quos diceret, fortasse etenim tacuisset, nec perpetuam illam famæ notam immentis immisisset. Sed irreuocabile uerbum, quāto irreuocabilior est scriptura, præsertim post obitum scribentis? Itaq; quòd scripsit, scri[illegible], cat ut potest, & rerum ueritas, cum contradictione linguarum, suo marte contendat sub incorrupt[illegible]s, non sum dubius, uictura iudicibus, aliorum sententias contemptura. Non potuit [illegible] sanctus errare, sed si homo, [illegible] Gallus, si Burgundio, si iratus errasset, non esset ut arbitror, inter prodi[illegible]a numerandum. Cæterùm q[illegible]ocunq; res uerg[illegible]t, non efficiet Barbarus, quin in loco famosissimo iuris ciuilis ita scriptum n[illegible] sit. Summa Reipub. tuitio, de stirpe duarum rerum, armorum atq; legum ueniens, uimq; [illegible]uam ex[illegible] de muniens, fœlix Romanorum genus omnibus anteponi natio[illegible]us omnibusq; domi[illegible]ri, tam præteritis effecit temporibus quàm Deo propitio in æternum ef[illegible]ciet [illegible]um ualdè. Romanorum dixit non Gallorum. Et ita secundùm Saluij Iuliani scripturam, q[illegible]æ indicat debere omnes ciuitates consuetudinem Romæ sequi & legem, quæ est caput Orbis terrarum, non ipsam alias ciuitates Romam dixit, [illegible]ō Parisios, & præterea legum corpus non Auinionē, sed Romanæ iustitię templum dicit, quin & legum originem, & summi pontificatus apicē ait, neq; enim dubitantem de hoc, imò aperta prorsus impudentia reluctantem barbarum istum norat. Qui eādem urbem, legum patriam, sacerdotij fontem uocat. Ego autem petita uenia occiduam hanc Hierusalem, unde homo ille descendit fœliciscimus ni redijsset patriam, potorum & uini multiplicis fontem uoco, confer nunc titulos, uincet Auinio, maximè si illos addidero mundo notos, mihi autem à pueritia longè notissimos, quos ut taceā uerecundia persuadet. Sed iam sensim fatigari incipio Romanæ urbis præconia colligendo. Quibus si diutiùs immorari uelim, tēpus mihi prius defuturum, quàm materiam intelligo. Parcendum & scribentis tædio & legentis, atq; in primis barbari illius, qui quàm amaro animo, quam tristis hæc uideat, audiatq;, quàm cupidè, si facultas detur, ex libris hæc omnibus rasurus sit. Non aliter scio, quàm si oculis uiderem, ita illū ex animoso nimis alloquio, nosce mihi uideor. Et quoniam in uno, eodemq; homine, Galli cristam atq; anseris linguam, monstri genus, & contentiosæ gen[illegible]is peruicatiam, noui illum exclamantem hinc exaudio. Vera erant ista dū scriberentur, sed mutata sunt tempora. Mutata itaq; tempora, & mutatos homines, mutataq; omnia, & in peius fateor. C[illegible]i enim quæso, non il[illegible]ud uatis auditum est:

Damnosa quid non imminuit dies.
Aetas parentum peior auis: tulit
nos nequiores, mox daturos *progeniem uitiosiorem:*

Sed uniuersalis ista mutatio est, quamuis necessariò, ut dixi, in rebus maioribus maior sit, & non solū in tot sæculis, sed in paucis annis, & in nostra ætate mutatio mirabilis, & mis[illegible]bilis facta est, & [illegible]i res prodeunt ut cœperunt, ualdè ut reor ad mundi exitum propinq[illegible], quis non dicam Gallus, sed Asellus hoc nesciat? Et si loqui ualeat fatentur, ego quid[illegible]tationes temporum legens, nonnunquàm tardior ad credendum, ex his quæ ipse nup[illegible]culis meis uidi, nil iam incredibile existimo. Veruntamen in hoc statu rerum, nunc etiam Romanos uiros bonos, & si amicè, si paternè non hosti[illegible]iter non tyrannicè tractarentur, satis affabiles, expertus dico, multis annis cum eisdē Romæ & alibi conuersatus, in uno planè fateor intractabiliores esse Romanos, quàm Hierosolymitanos Rhodani, quod nō tam ęquis animis cōiuges suas sibi eripi pati pos[illegible]unt, omni prius[illegible]q[illegible]m dedecus id laturi: nempe quorum in auribus adhuc sonat, uerbum illud uetus, Icilij ciuis su[illegible] Sæuite in tergum & ceruices nostras, pudicitia, saltem in tuto sit. Quæ uos toto orbe dignissima exaudiri, propter distantiam fortè in Gallias, & ad ripam Rhodani non peruenit, & qu[illegible]uis iste conuitiator nō contentus, Bernardi cōuitijs, auaritiam illis obijciat, dicens eos semper lucris temporalibu[illegible] hiantes, nihil aliud cogitare, nihil aliud somniare, ego pace eius, nihil hoc falsius dico. Nulla gens minus lucro dedita est, nunquam magna in urbe, tam pauci mercat[illegible]es, tam nul[illegible]œneratores inueniuntur, itaque præter principes, qui plures sunt, quam Gallus [illegible]ic cogitet, & maiores, nullus ferè in populo tanto diues est, ut nō magis uoluptatibus quam luc[illegible]is [illegible]cūberēt. Et de uitijs quidem hactenus, sin autem saltatrices suas claudas ac potrices, R[illegible]s matronis comparare uoluerint, sed eclypsabitur, mare tumultuabitur, terra tremet, e[illegible]o-nitus obmutescam. Cogitet Gallus & recogitet, odijq; uelum ab oculis mentis amouea[illegible] uidere for-

dere fortasis incipiet, quid intersit inter Romanam grauitatem, Gallicam leuitatem. Sed ipse, ut auguror, Romæ semper pauens, sic enim scripta eius indicant, ideoq; iudicij impos fuit, unus ex illis, de quibus ait Psalmista: Illic trepidauerunt timore, ubi non erat timor. Nec enim amicis formidabiles, sed amabiles sunt Romani. Gallus autem qui illos, nulla quidem alia causa nisi hæreditario quodam iure oderat, se ab alijs amari non posse existimabat: non iniustus metus fateor, sed iniustum odium, odisse qui nihil mali sibi facerēt. Et si patres eius, ab illorum patribus uicti, domiti, triumphati ac tributarij facti sint, sed illa transierint, non est causa odij, nisi mala mēs, malus animus, ut ait Comicus, implacatus, inflexibilis ad maliuolentiā obstinatus, & ô utinam quando amori non est locus, esset uicissitudo, & pantas odiorum, ut sicut illi nos oderunt in toto corde suo, in tota anima sua, & in tota mente sua: ita nos illos odissemus, aut ego fallor augurio, aut è uestigio litium omniū finis esset, idem ille, qui maioribus nostris fuit. Progredior autem meo, quidem, non illius ordine, quid nunc agit igitur, inquietus, & impatiens uarietatis homuncio, & quid putas? Aggrauat crimina, blasphemias coaceruat, & primo populum barbarum dixisse arguor, quem dicere aliter non poterā, nec debebam, nisi noua uocabula, rebus imponere uoluissem. Insuper & Beneuense uinū, de quo satis est dictū, & Rhodanum blasphemasse. Mirū quòd inter tot blasphemias uestimenta sua non scidit, ego uerò nil penitùs blasphemaui, sed optaui ut causæ malorum ingentium tollerentur, uenenosæ, damnosæq; uindemiæ tristis exilij. Quid Gallicus noster strepit. Quod (inquit) exiliū in Auinione passa est Ecclesia. Responsio odiosa non operosa, ipse sibi respondeat, quis sit, penitùs, qui hoc nescit, scit utiq;. Sed præcipitem in locum astu barbarico me impellit ut cadam. At quod Rhodanum exilij locum dixi, non debet quasi rerum inscius stupere. Turpe est enim docto uiro, de communibus admirari. Legat Bedæ librum de Temporibus, legat & Iosephum Scholasticum, deniq; notam omnibus euoluat historiam, inueniet filium Herodis Archelaum, ab Augusto propter eius scelera exilio damnatum, quo autem deportatum? Nempè Viennā Rhodani ciuitatem. Procedat Gallus noster ulteriùs, & uidebit Herodem illum qui cognominatus est Antipas similiter relegatum. Quò autem opinemur, nisi ad locum exilij Viennam? Procedat nunc etiam, & uidebit Herodem alterum Tetrarcham scilicet à Caio principe Lugdunum Rhodani relegatum, ubi cum uxore, quæ illum ad exilium coniugali pietate prosecuta erat, misera morte consumptus est. Sed nimis accelero, ubi Pontium Pilatum linquimus, qui iam antea magnorū reus criminum, Lugdunum quoq; à Tyberio fuerat deportatus? Dicat nunc Gallus, quanquàm sit dicaculus, me mentitum in epistola ubi ad Vrbanum scripsi, Rhodanum nō Rom. Pont. sedem esse, sed reorum atq; exilio damnatorum. Potest quidem non inficior, Ro. Pont. si uelit, non in Gallijs modò, sed in Hispanijs, aut Britānijs habitare: at quid expediens, quid honestū, sua ipsum sapientia non dubitare nō dubito, Sibylla uereor. Qui enim potuerunt unum senem, uerbis è propria opinione, quanto poterūt faciliùs unum iuuenem, in communi omnium sententia detinere? De hoc tamen CHRISTVS uiderit, sua res agitur. Ego quia plus nō datur, dum loqui potero, non tacebo. Potest Auinionē caput mundi præsentia sua facere, quid ni enim possit omnipotentis Domini uicarius, & Christiani caput populi? At si eam uelit, gloria & honore, ac deuotione fidelium Romæ parem facere, illi ipso domino esse [illegible] arbitror, qui facit mirabilia magna solus. Ecce autem inter loquēdum mihi quod sæpe accidit in animum uenit, de quo nihil incipēs cogitâram, gaudeant nunc igitur & exultent Galli, paruis & friuolis ex causis soliti gaudere, magna imò maxima res inuenta est. Gaudeant (inquam) & qui gloriantur in poculo glorientur, ubi apud historicos est mentio, de hoc exilio Lugdunensi, his utuntur uerbis. Pro ijs omnibus deportatus est in exilium Pontius uidelicet Pilatus Lugdunum. Et sequitur, unde oriūdus erat, ut ibi in opprobrium gentis suæ moreretur. Parua ne igitur gaudendi causa est tantum ciuem inuenisse. O mens hominum obliuiosa & improuida. Ego quidem ex Euangelio mirabar, quomodò in passione IESV CHRISTI Pontius Pilatus, tam promptè manus lauisset, quasi innocens à sanguine iusti illius. Nunq̃ facere hoc sciuisset, ni fuisset Gallus. Gens argutula, promptula, facetula, miror quod non etiam lotis manibus semel bibit, ut innocentior uideretur. Noueram ab adolescentia Pontium Pilatum Gallum esse, sed tempore mihi elapsus, in tempore redit, ut cum hoc præcone Gallorum communicato gaudio, gratularer Gallicis nationibus, tanto duce nobilitatis, ut iam frustrà Roma suos Cæsares, loquatur suos Scipiadas, suos Aemilios, suos & Marcellos, & Fabios, & Metellos, & Pompeios, & Catones, & Curios, & Fabricios, & Corunnos, & Decios, & Torquatos, & Flamminios, & Valerios, & Appios, & Papyrios, & Camillos. His, alijsq; omnibus respondebit Pontius, qui non de Hannibale, neq; de Carthaginensibus, non de Pyrrho, non de Macedonibus, non de Gallis, de Ger-

manis, de Britānis, de Hispanis, de Volscis, de Samnitib. collatis lignis, sed de IESV NAZARENO lotis manibus, illoto animo triumphauit. Nominatim Gallo nostro gratulor, qui bellum mecū & cū ueritate suscepit, nusquam credo triumphaturus de nobis, nisi in arcu parui pontis, & in uico straminum, famosissimis nunc locorum omnium nostri orbis, mulierculis, pueris'q; plaudentibus, & quicquid contra Italiam dictum fuerit consona uoce laudantibus. Fœlix natio, quæ de se optimè, de alijs omnib. pessimè opinat, grato saltem semper lætam mendacio. Sed non ne ego sim iniurius, qui sic famam Gallicæ gentis extenuem, quasi non sit eis alius uir illustris, nisi Pontius Pilatus? imò quidem & alij multi sunt, quos hic uir iratus in oculis mihi ingerit, & quæritur me dixisse. Nullus doctus in Gallia. Quomodò ego dicerem, de tàm magna prouincia tot studijs ornata? Nondum sic insaniam ut hoc dicam, sed cum de quatuor illis doctoribus agerem, quos post Apostolos, & Euangelistas primos fidei nostræ duces sancta habet Ecclesia, nullum eorum uel in Gallia ortum, uel in Gallia doctum dixi. Quid igitur an erraui? Benè autem ne Gallus intelligit? Sed calūniam struens, struit, ex me quæreris, nunquid essem oblitus Hilarium Pictauiensem? Minimè. Magnus quidem uir, sed non unus ex quatuor. Profert dehinc sancto agmine multa suorum plebis nomina, quæ ego non existimo ultra suam uiciniam nota essent. Misertus sum hominis, magna clarorum hominum, siue nominum penuria laborātis, & quam multos ad furtum credimus traxisset pauperiem, quo cupiditas non traxisset. Nempè inter cæteros quos ad Galliæ ornamērum trahit inuitos, unus est Vgo de Sancto Victore, cuius si sepulchri legisset epigramma, sciret non Gallum eum fuisse, sed Saxonem, nisi fortè quadam cognatione Barbarici, omnes Barbaros Gallos dicat. Sed disputator argutus aduertere debuit, non omnē propositionem esse uersatilem. Certè enim omnis Gallus est barbarus, sed non barbarus omnis est Gallus. At fortasse non homines aspicit iste, sed studium, ut quisquis Parisijs studuerit, Gallus sit, inuitus dicam, sed cogit, siue urget ueritas, est illa ciuitas bona quidem, & insignis Regia præsentia, quod ad studium attinet, ceu ruralis est calathus, quo poma undiq; peregrina, & nobilia deferantur. Ex quo enim Studium illud ut legitur, ab Alcuino præceptore Caroli regis institutum est, nunquam quod audierim Parisiensis quisquam ibi uir clarus fuit, sed qui fuerunt externi utiq;, & nisi odium barbari oculos perstringeret, magna ex parte Itali fuēre Petrus Lōbardus Nouariensis, quem ipsi Petrū Lompardi solent dicere, ut uideatur patris nomen esse non patri.c. Thomas de Aquino. Bonauentura de Balneo regio, atq; Aegidius Romanus, multi q; alij. At ne semper accusem excusabiles Gallos, nō negauerim si modicè literati sunt: nempè contra naturam niti sæpe labor est irritus. Natura autem Galli sunt indociles, iratus est barbarus. Non mihi autem irascatur, sed Hilario suo, qui primus hoc dixit. Testis est Hieronymus libro in epistola ad Galathas secunda. Farebitur forsan, quòd negare nequit. Sed occurret. Et quanquam Galli sint inquieti, & indociles indocti, habent tamē alias uirtutes, neq; enim solis in literis est humana fœlicitas, fortissimi um sunt, atq; inuictorio lissimi. Vellem hercle ita esset. Et si enim uerè barbarus, nullus amabilis multū ut minus tamen odibiles sunt, qui partiùs barbarizant, sed cōtrariū sæpissimè, & olim, & præsertim nuper apparuit, uerumq; experimento his temporibus deprehensum est, quod libro tertio belli Gallici Iulius Cæs. Nam ut ad bella suscipienda Gallorum alacer ac promptus est animus, sic mollis ac minimè resistens, ad calamitates perferendas mens eorum est. Et quid (ait) princeps historiæ? His corporibus, animisq; in impetu uis est, parua eadem languescit mora. Sed expecta ne properes. Audiamus Iustinum, nec obijciam Augustinum, qui quarto libro Ciuitatis Dei capitulo sexto de Iustino & Trogo, quem Iustinus abbreuiauit, mentione oborta. Quædam ipsos (inquit) fuisse mentitos, aliæ fideliores literæ ostendunt. Sed ut nil mentiti fuerint, & omnia uera sint, quibus hic barbarus totam fabulā suam replet, quid inde conficiet? Verset & reuerset ut libet, nihil ibi magnæ laudis inueniet, nisi quod multitudo Gallici populi, ingens fuit, ut eos scilicet Gallia non caperet. Quid hic, quæso, laudabile? Nempè & muscæ multæ sunt, & culices, & formicæ, pauci leones, paucissimi elephantes. Phœnix est unicus, & omninò signum nobilitatis est paucitas. Quis autem, quæso, tanto in populo unus aut alter illustris est habitus? Relegat illum historiæ locum, & quos inuenerit, nobis qui hoc nescimus annunciet. Est & aliud in ea multitudine gloriosum, quod mercenarij Regum Orientalium fuēre, atqui stipendiariorū nulla uita miserior, corpus atq; animam parua mercede uendentium, eat nūc & comparandi studio, ponat hos miseros, contra:

Romanos rerum dominos, gentemq; togatam.

At Gallos ferro omnia prosternentes, multas prouincias peragrasse, ut sit ita. Finem respicere sapientes iubent. Eorum certè qui in Italiam uenerunt, nullus omninò superfuit. Tribus

magnis

magnis prælijs, ad unum deleti omnes, ne quis in ea gente, ut ait Florus, extaret, qui incensam a se Romanam urbem gloriaretur. [illegible] qui in Græciam perrexerunt, nihilo melior fuit [illegible] primum me[illegible]o, [illegible] serio u[illegible] omnes occubuêre. Bre[illegible] dux illorum qu[illegible] in ea [illegible] nomen hab[illegible]t, uulnerum impatientia [illegible] ad[illegible]e trasfixit. Reliqui [illegible] incommo[illegible] multis a[illegible] atque attriti, & prætenti [illegible]bus periere, ut nemo ex [illegible] exer[illegible]itu, qui paul[illegible] fiducia uirium, etiam Deos commouebat, uel ad memoriam [illegible] cladis superesset. Testem ab aduersario citatum in [illegible] adduco Iustinum ipsum, cuius hic est quar[illegible] libr[illegible] finis. Et hæc sunt Gallorum expeditiones, hæc bellica gloria, pro uirtute impetus [illegible] impetum ruina. Credo [illegible]iam barbarum susceptis [illegible] certaminis pœniter, sentit enim nisi cerebrum bouis, neque animi habet aut [illegible]las, se ratione succumbere. Quid faciat igitur, [illegible] quod [illegible] solent, quibus a[illegible] defendêda urbem, non satis est animi, in arcem confugient. [illegible] quia Galliam non po[illegible] [illegible]bem illam unicam famosissimam, atque fa[illegible]lo[illegible]imam defendet, at[illegible]e ad id ipsum, [illegible] bone, quàm friuola implorantur auxilia. Multo quidem illaudatus esse maluerim, [illegible] tali laudatore laudari. Verum quidem h[illegible] mihi uideor assecutus, lic[illegible] forsitan in[illegible] ex omnibus quos legerim, nullus unq[illegible] [illegible]hosior Architriuio illo est, quem hic à [illegible] præconium: uelut alterum Ciceronem, aut Virgilium implorant. O` quæ monst[illegible]monis, quæ uerborum inculcatio, non tantùm lectori nauseam incutiens ac dolorem [illegible] sed risum eliciens & sudorem: Vsque adeo dum uult omnia dicere, nihil dicit. Vnum [illegible]is attingendum [illegible] cuncta conijcias. Rosa (inquit) mundi, balsamus orbis. [illegible] balsamum, o[illegible] rosam. Equidem ex omnibus ciuitatibus, quas multas ab [illegible] ætate, nunc ne[illegible], nunc [illegible]dendi, dicendique desiderio circumiui, [illegible]lentiorem [illegible] uidi, una excipio Aui[illegible]o, quæ in hac parte miseriæ principatum tenet. Pudeat u[illegible] [illegible], de tàm nota uarietate contendere, ne non tàm rei obscuritas uideatur, quàm [illegible] contendentis. Piget nunc illas ad insanias respondere, Auinionem carpsi, laudat [illegible]m, urbem fateor haud ignobilem, & tranquillo portu, & æquoreo prospectu, & [illegible] præcipuum habent, Romana fide ac deuotione laudabilem, sine qua (ut ait Cicero) [illegible] quem nostri imperatores ex Transalpinis bellis triumpharunt. Sed quo quæso ui[illegible] h[illegible]c p[illegible]ns, quò progreditur? Vt inter barbaros suos scire aliquid uideatur: nihil ad rem perti[illegible] illius u[illegible] originem interserit, quæ narratio ut plerunque ignorantibus euenit, con[illegible] uertitur. Nam & feras Gallorum gentes, & Gallicam continet feritatem, & po[illegible]no [illegible] Marsilienses aduentu suo Gallicam mansuefecisse barbariem, ut non Græciam in G[illegible]liam migrasse ipsius historici uerbis utor. Gallia in Græciam trãslatione siue aduentu, in [illegible] de Con[illegible]latione ad Helbiam matrem, agens Seneca, maximè trucibus & inconditis [illegible] populis se interposuerint. Hæc disputator callidus non uidit, contentus multa dicere [illegible] qualia [illegible] aduc[illegible]tens. Iam illud quale est, duos proferre non Italos Poëtas, quasi quos[illegible] subtraxerit Italiæ, sui sint. Statium scilicet & Claudianum, quem facere nititur Vien[illegible]in. R[illegible] legens, dixique mecum: O` quam malè tegeris iniustitia, nisi uelo silentij tegaris. C[illegible] melius quàm tussis, aut scabies, emergeris enim teque ipsam tuo prodis iuditio. [illegible] est igitur Claudianus? Errat Gallus in re Gallica, imò quidem Lugd[illegible]ēsis. Sed [illegible]iorem urbium u[illegible]initas. Illud inexcusabile, quod de quo loquitur non intelligit. [illegible]m fuerunt Claudiani Poëta alter, & paganus, alter præsbiter Christianus. Hic fateor Lugdunensis fuit disputator, acer satis, qui magnorum hominum inter cæteros Hilarij Pictauensis deprehendit errores: Ille autem, & unde fuerit etsi sciam, non dicam, ne Gallus insultet, uelle me patriam meam fat[illegible]s per seipsam Deo gratias florentem [illegible]no Pierio ciue no[illegible]b[illegible]are. Stat[illegible]m ori[illegible] [illegible]um non inficior, addo si libet Lucanum ex Hispania, cæterùm u[illegible]de[illegible]unque [illegible], nempè aliter nullus esset, uterumque deprehenditur, quod ego ipse in pal[illegible], carmen olim dixi:

Tyberins Latine docti, omnes per rura l[illegible]ut.

Itaque se Lucanus mul[illegible]s in locis Romanum uult uideri, ne tu, reor ullam patrij grauiorem habet iniuriam, q[illegible] quod [illegible]s in operis sui principio, si uera est fama, uerbum illud apposuit.

Corduba me genuit.

[illegible] quant[illegible] no[illegible]ius Romæ ciuem esse, quàm Cordubæ. Statius uerò suum Poë[illegible] [illegible]ude[illegible] iubet, ut Poëtam Italum longè sequatur, & uestigia semper adoret. Quid si [illegible] ru[illegible] Gallus? An non uidet quid alienigenę quoque de seipsis, & de nostris senserint? [illegible] Anticlaudianu[illegible] Ala[illegible], paulò minùs tędiosus Architriuio. Poëtę ambo bar[illegible] parte [illegible] diffitendunt, multum frustrà se torquent, mirum nisi etiam multum

 sudent.

ſudent. His contentus de Claudiano altero non laboret, quale illud eſt, quod inter Romanos & Latinos differentiam ut inducat, atq; ita literarũ gloriam Romanis eripiat, dicit inter eos magnas fuiſſe diſcordias, nec fallitur. Quid tamen ad rem ipſam, cùm inter Romanos ipſos & in eiuſdem mœnibus diſcordię fuerint, & bella ciuilia? An non omnes ideo Romani? [illegible]dia atq; diſcordiæ [illegible]ilitate ac patriam non mutant, quamuis imminuant uel eripiant charitatem? Certè de [illegible] inter [illegible] gentes orto, agens Liuius. Bellum (inquit) [illegible] ope parabat, ciuili ſimillimũ bello, prope inter parentes, natosq;. Deniq; [illegible] ferro certatum traditur, non tanquam duarum, ſed unius gentis, & belli ciuilis [illegible]. Si teſtem alium Gallus quærit, audiat Auguſtinum libro XVIII. Ciuitatis Dei. H[illegible] cul à principio de Græcis hiſtorijs agentem. Per Græcos (inquit) ad Latinos, ac demum ad Romanos, qui etiam ipſi Latini ſunt temporum ſeriem adduxerunt, qui gentem P. R. originis eius antiquitate rimati ſunt. Et iterum: Ex Græcis inquit) & Latinis ubi eſt ipſa Roma. Equidem literas Latinas à Carmenti Euandri regis matre repertas inuenio, & quantum opinari eſt, Palatino in monte, qui eſt unus è ſeptem, quos hodie Romanæ urbis murus amplectitur. Illic enim filij ſedes fuit, ubi nondum Roma erat. Et præterea docti uiri, in omni ſermone ac ſcriptura Romanam facundiam Latinam uocant, atq; econuerſo, ut duo ſint nomina, ſed res una. Eſto autem probat Gallus quod intendit, non Romanas eſſe, quibus utimur literas, ſed Latinas, quid hinc inde efficiet. Vtraq; gens Itala, eſt ut non [illegible] Romanæ, Italæ tamen ſunt. Neque ego in Epiſtola quam iſte ſibi delegit oppugnandam Romæ, ſed in Italia ortas dixi. Contentionis autem ſtudio, benè armatum [illegible]ſtem, plumbeo etiam pugione diuerberat, ne nil agere uideatur. Quid rurſus igitur [illegible] iam non ineptiam [illegible]cam, ſed inſaniæ, tantus enim ardor eſt, tantus impetus ob[illegible], ut quid loquatur n[illegible]tendat. Vbi quaſo (inquit) legitur Tullij Phyſica? Vbi Varronis Metaphyſica? O ſtulta percũctatio, Barbarus inſolens Græcis nominibus delectatur, & [illegible]a hoc dicit, tanquàm qui hos libros ſcripſit Ariſtoteles, Gallus ſit. Legi librum fraterculi cuiuſdam, cui nomen eſt Proſodion. In hoc ille Grammaticali opuſculo, impertinentiſsime euagatus, & patriæ ſuæ uano amore, Hiſpanum fuiſſe ait Ariſtotelem. Quem fortaſsis iſte phreneticus Gallum facit. Quid enim aliud ſonant uerba Tullio Italo ac Romano. Quid niſi Gallum obijciat illum, qui Galliam nunquam uidit? Credo etiam nec audiuit, ratione Græcus aut Macedo, patria Stagirites. Fatetur hic quidem Gallus, non ut reor ex animo, ſed urbanitate quadam Gallica. Italiam magnam partem, & bonam orbis eſſe ipſius enim uerba tranſcribo. Agamus ergo Gallo gratias, imò quidem ueritati, quę fateri illum cogit, quod ab alio dici ſcit moleſtè, & id ualdè laudare quod uehementer odit. Fatetur in[illegible]per & noſtrorum quoſdam ſcripſiſſe libros. Multos, humanæ uitæ utiles, longè tamen Ethicæ Ariſtotelis poſt habendos, miru[illegible] pugnę genus, cum uno cœperam duellum, is iam feſſus labente ueſtigio, alium fortiorem uelut in aduertenti obijcit. Quid enim commune habet Ariſtotelis Ethica cum Gallorum ignorantia? Vt uincat Ariſtoteles quid ad Gallos, niſi quod intenſum odium, quicquid hoſti detrahit ſibi aſſ[illegible]ibitur? Ego tamen externo, & ualido bellatore non moueor, ſed in mea opinione perſi[illegible]am ut reor experientia, ueritasq; adiuuant. De qua [illegible]oniam m[illegible] teria e[illegible] diſſerunt breuiter, nunc attingam. Scio Ariſtotelis Ethicam, [illegible] illius, a[illegible]enio profectos, quantum tamen ad id [illegible], a[illegible] quod [illegible] moralis inuenta eſt, hoc eſt, ut fiamus boni, ſicut idem [illegible] ne[illegible]los ſæcula [illegible] bros noſtrorum libris, non dicam pręferend[illegible]s eſſe, ſed [illegible] quod Tullius ipſe confirmat, multis in locis, ſed in [illegible] maximè. M[illegible] omnia noſtros aut inueniſſe per ſe ſapiẽtius [illegible] Græcos, aut accepta ab illis feciſſe meliora, quæ quidem digna ſtatuiſſent, in quibus elaborarent. [illegible] hoc igitur meum quoq; iudicium eſt, non ideo minus uerum quia Gallo fortaſſe non placeat, plus Ariſtotelem docere, plus Tullium animos mouere. Plus [illegible] illius mortalibus [illegible] acuminis, plus huius efficaciæ ineſſe. Ille docet attentius, quid eſt [illegible]us, urget iſte potentius, ut colatur uirtus. Quid ſit utilius uitæ hominum Gallus ipſe d[illegible]niat. Et cum Tullio Senecam pono, de quo Plutarchus magnus uir & Græcus, ultrò fatetur nullũ in Græcia fuiſſe, qui ſibi in moralib. poſſit comparari. Sed occurret Gallus in uia [illegible] dicet, origine hunc Hiſpanum, reſpondebo dignitate & conuerſatione, ſtylo inſuper ac ſtudijs Romanũ eſſe, & mihi ſufficere quod Gallus [illegible] non eſt, ſicut aduerſario ſufficit Ariſtotelem, Italum non fuiſſe. Non ſcripſit [illegible] Phyſicam, addo ego nec Ethicam, non ſcripſit Varro metaphyſicam, addo ego nec [illegible]mata. Sumus enim non Græci, non barbari, ſed Itali [illegible]. At ſcripſit Tullius O[illegible]rum libros, illa Ethica ſua. Scripſit de re familiari, ſiue d[illegible]o[illegible]a, illa æconomica ſu[illegible] ſcripſit de Republica, de re militari illa Politica ſua eſt. At Gallus titulos ſuos Græcos amat, &

quamuis

quamuis scientiam forte, nec Græcam habeat, nec Latinam, magnum se aliquid credit dum Physicam ructuat, metaphysicam spuit. Non scripsit physicam Tullius, scripsit autem de Legibus, de Academicis, de laude Philosophiæ librum, quo se ad rectum iter uitæ, & ad studium ueritatis adiutum ingenuè prædicat Augustinus. Quod de Aristotele nunquam dixi. An de Philosophorum, uel Gallorum aliquo dixerit, ego nescio, aduersarius fortitan meus scit, laudum anceps, sollicitus Gallicarū. Non scripsit Tullius Physicam, sed scripsit de essentia mundi, de natura deorum, de diuinatione, de fato, de senectute, de amicitia, de consolatione, de gloria de Tusculanis quæstionibus, de fine bonorum & malorum, partitionum, topicorum, de oratore, de optimo genere dicendi, de optimo genere oratorum. Rhetoricorum duo uolumina, tria autem epistolarum, orationes innumeras, quibus par eloquium nūquam fuit. Stupet barbarus ad hæc nomina peregrina, cum tamen pauca de multis attigerim, & maior multò rerum quàm nominum fulgor sit. Quid quod nec metaphysicam Varro scripsit, ingens accusatio docti uiri. At scripsit libros uiginti quinque humanarum rerum, sedecim diuinarū. Sed in ijs ultimis multa uani congessit, & à cultu ueræ diuinitatis abhorrentia. Agat diuinæ prouidentiæ, diuinæque misericordiæ gratias Gallus noster, quæ erroribus eum priscis, eductum ad meliorem ætatem, ueriq; Dei notitiam reseruauit. Nam & maiores suos Druides sacerdotes, multis Deorum nominibus falsorum, & uerissima superstitione obrutos habuisse nō ignorat, qui omnes Gallos, dite prognatos, assererent, & credulitatem publicam, inanis assertio merebatur. Nullo enim modo diuinarum illis uerum ueritas apparere illis poterat, quibus nondum uerus sol iustitiæ illuxerat. Elucebant tamen inter errores ingenia, neque ideò minus uiuaces erant oculi, quamuis tenebris, & densa caligine circumsepti, ut eis non erranti odium, sed indignæ sortis miseratio deberetur. Et quod idolis seruierunt, ut Hieronymus ait, non obstinationi mentis, sed ignorantiæ tribuendum esset. Magni quidem erant illi, sed in imo positi, nos parui autem in excelso, Deo gratias, collocati sumus. Intempesta fuit illis nox, nobis est lucidus meridies, nec propterea meliores, quasi sine mentis, sed propterea fœliciores dici possumus. Idque non de his duobus tantum, quos in manus habeo, sed de omnibus gentium Philosophis, ac Poëtis intelligo, quibus inter oculos mentis & ueritatis obiectum nubes impenetrabilis intercessit. Sed redeo ad Varronem. Non scripsit metaphysicam, scripsit tamen de Philosophia, de Poëtica, de lingua Latina, de Vitis patrum. Et quo feror? An Terentiani illud oblitus sum, cuius meminit Augustinus: Vir inquit doctissimus undecunque Varro, qui tam multa legit, ut aliquid ei scribere uacauisse miremur, tam multa scripsit, si multa uix quenquàm legere posse credamus. Libet ... tur indignari. O uiri maximi, O Latini eloquij præclarissi. sydera, ô ingeniorum, rerumque omniū sors immitis, hûc ne igitur uestri labores, uestræque uigiliæ peruenerunt, ut Gallorum ad tribunal barbarico iuditio rei effetis, quod physicam, & metaphysicam non scripsistis. Iam uerò deliramenta illa, nō prosequor, ut res adducit innumeras, nil ad propositū pertinentes, atque inops mercator omnes suas merces, simul explicat. Inter alia Iustini sui partem ... ex quam traicribendo, Vrbium Italicarū narrat auctores: de quo Higinus quidam in... librum fecit. Legat autem, quem dixi Senecæ librum ad Helbiam, ibi reperiet omnes ferme gentes, alteram ex altera exortas, sic mote cœlestiū, & terrenam uoluntur. Multi alienigenæ in Italia urbes condiderunt, quis hoc nescit? Quid ūc ad rem? Quæ autem mundi pars est, ubi non Itali, urbesque condiderunt? Romanum imperium ut ait Seneca, nempè auctorem exulem respicit, quem profugum capta patria, exiguas reliquias trahentem, necessitas & uictoris metus longinqua quærentem, in Italiam deduxit. Deinde uide quid addidit. Hic deinum (inquit) populus, quot colonias in urbem misit, ubicunque uicit Romanus habitat. Hæc Seneca. Vbi autem quæso non uicit, nisi forsan in Gallia: Roma à Troianis in Italia est condita, Troiam uerò quis condidit? Nempè Italus fuit & Tuscus. Vnde est illud apud Virgilium Troianorum ad Italiam aduentu. *Hinc Dardanus ortus*, hûc repetit Coloniam Agrippinam. Marcus Agrippa Augusti gener, ad sinistram Rheni ripam condidit, similiter & alias multas, per diuersa terrarum, sed hæc una nomen nunc etiam seruat autoris, Lugdunum, de quo multa hodie diximus, Paulus Romanus ciuis struxit. Tarraconem in Hispania Scipiones, Pa... orum urbem, & penè Gallis inuidiosam, tantæ suæ sedis auctorem Iulius Cæsar creditur condidisse. Idem de Gandauo, dū adolescens ibi essem a ciuibus audiebam, ... atribus per manus proditum memoriæ est. Totam præterea Rheni uallem colonis ab ... o missis habitatam inu... Verum hæc sedium mutatio, nō patriam ad quam per..., sed p gentes immutat. Itaque Galli in Asia Asiani, & Itali in Phrygiam profecti Phryges, post Troiæ excidium, in Italiam reuersi, Itali iterum facti sunt. Sic nostri in Galliam, ... Germaniam translati, naturam illarum patrium imbiberūt, moresque barbaricos. Et Me-

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diolanenses à Gallis conditi,atq; olim Galli,nunc mitissimi hominum, nullum seruant uestigium uetustatis:ita uis cœlestis humana moderatur ingenia. Conditarum sanè in Italia à Romanis,non est numerus,Bononia,Mutina,Pollentia,Parma,Placentia,& decus urbium Florentia,nolo nunc in alias mundi partes stylum cogere, atq; in hac curiositate diutiùs istam sequi,ne in quo alium rideo,ipse ab alijs sim ridendus. Quò nam uerò progreditur? Dicit Massilienses aurum misisse, quo à Gallis Roma redimeretur. Infulsè dictum,ut alia multa,ita enim loquitur,quasi salutem urbis Romæ Massiliæ tribuat,& reditionem ignominiosam Romanis improperet. Contrà ego,aurum missum non inficior, itaq; eam d[illegible] qua dixi urbis illius,in Romanos promptissimam fidem probat. Cæterum qui captam Romã & incensam fateor,auro redemptam nego,ferro nempè redempta e[illegible],& Gallo sanguine expiata. Historiæ patrem legat,ex hac ipsa urbe oriundum, unde hæc scribo illum lacteo eloquentiæ fonte manantem,ad quem uisentem usq; Romam de extremis Galliarum, Hispaniæq; finibus nobiles ueniebant,uiri,unius aspectum,ubi regię præferentes. Illum(inquam)[illegible] gat, & luce clarius suum uidebit errorem. Dicit Romæ multos esse tales malos & fuisse. Quis hoc enim nescit? Tres soli homines in mundo erant,unus fuit malus, cum illo qui mundum creauerat,fuerunt duodecim, unus fuit proditor. An non igitur meminit illud Iulij Cæsaris apud Crispum. In magna ciuitate, multa & uaria ingenia sunt. Fuerunt Romani ingrati,non id quidem nego. Non est autem is mos magis P.R. quàm omnium populorũ. Quis unquam populus gratus fuit? Gratitudo non omnium, sed paucorum est. Ingrati fuerunt, contra quos? Contra ciues optimos,illi autẽ ciues unde erant? Roma una omnibus patria. Erant ibi & boni,& mali,at plures mali. Vbi quæso unquam contrarium uisum est? Vbi unquam pro uno bono non fuerunt,uellem dicere multi,cogor dicere mille mali? Fuit Romæ proditor patriæ Catilina,alij quoq; quos odio dictante dinumerat,sed proditio illa quorum potius,quàm Gallorum fulciebatur auxilio? Gens radicitùs inimica, quæ inuisam urbem, per se nihil ausura,ab ipsis ciuibus, ut audere aliquid inciperet excitanda erat Romæ Catilina,sed & Cato fuit,qui de proditoribus sententiam tulit,fuit & Cicero uigil Consul, qui sententiam executus est,fuerunt & mille alij,quibus parem unum non habuit orbis terræ. At non fuit in Gallia aliquis Catilina? Crede ædepol. Fuit enim Catilina, quamuis ingenio malo,prauoq;,magna tamen ui animi & corporis. Hæc profectò uis non habitat inter Gallos, res illarum partium undique fragiles, exanguesq; sunt, nec boni, nec mali famæ inchoentur, sunt ibi, ut apud gentes alias mali, sed obscuri, quomodo enim mali cognoscerentur,ubi boni etiam sunt ignoti? Voluptatem ex regno ingens fama exaltat. Desinat oro, iam barbarus conferre summis infima,fusca clarissimis,& quid illud erroris, quod Italicum Satyricum de Romanis moribus sit conquestus. Addit etiam duos Romæ lenones illo tempore fuisse Arturitum & Catulum. Credidi,primum,& sic scriptum erat quod lenones dicerent,& mirabar quid sibi uelint hi lenones,intellexi illicò de lenonibus esse sermonem, & subridens [illegible]xi. Volo succumbere huic barbaro,quod inuitus facio, nisi cum in magna Roma duo fu[illegible] lenones,in parua Auinione sunt undecim. Scit enim ipse, & utinam nescirent alij [illegible]s illi artificio locus sit. Obijcit [illegible]bis pater multa, impatientiam tyrannorum, uellem h[illegible]re,sed nequeo in aliqua scilicet Italiæ parte,nam in alijs est libertas, quanta nusquam al[illegible] terrar[illegible]m,quod ego quidem nouerim, uera autem libertas ac perfecta, dum in hoc exilio degim[illegible]s,fateor nulla est. Si autem mihi locum aliquem sub cœlo omnis expertem ty[illegible]annis hic iactator ostenderit, illùc raptim cum omnibus sarcinulis commigrabor ibi[illegible] reliquiæ [illegible] cligam ac sepulchrum. Qua in re nouerit, me non facile falli poss[illegible] qui in his locis in quibus iste fœlicitatem statuit,ut prima pueritia educatus sim. Sanè [illegible] species tyrannidum explicare uoluerò,occurreret stylo longa nimis atq; odiosa mater. Sic satis taciturnus intelligi. Iam quod usq; adeò miratur equestrem statuam marmoream, idolum uocat,ipse super altare Dei uidisse Mediolani,longè rudis est admiratio. Non enim super sed secus altare,& in capella domestica illam uidit, quanto ego dignius mirer, uidisse Parisijs insignũ choros Ecclesiarum,sic consertos bustis & cadaueribus peccatorũ,quodq; est fœdius peccatricum,ut uix quisquam possit se flectere ibi, uixq; iter pareat ad altare. Sed Gallo censori rigido alienarum rerum, molli ut auguror suarum, responsio ista non sufficit, illum interroget cuius est statua, ille sibi summariè respondebit, paratus etiam maioribus respondere, sed iam satis, superq; satis est, cauendumq; nedum stulti sequor in[illegible], ipse sim stultior, contagiosus morbus est amentia. Exclamabit Gallus in finem, ut gr[illegible]llum audiat ignorantium, & Gallicæ gloriæ defensorem uocet. Multa igitur me ment[illegible] dicet,intus autem uelit,nolit,clara uoce,fatebitur,nil uerius dici posse, quanquam paratus ad omnia. Nempè Bruti factum non est ueritus damnare,qui amore uirtutis & libertatis, & patriæ,

triæ sese [illegible] tus, patrios affectus exuerit. Nescio hercle, an res ulla unquam hac uirilior facta [illegible], quā ille uituperat, reste fretus Orosio: qui licet non inelegans scriptor, tamen quod le[illegible] ntibus pronum est aduertere, in uituperatione Romanorum suum expendit ingenium, int[illegible] on [illegible] orsitan non mala ad [illegible] litandum, scilicet CHRISTI fidem, quanquam nec ab [illegible] nec ab ullo hominum sat laudari possit. Quia tamen, nec suo, nec cuiusquam menda[illegible] tas indigebat superuacuè. Neq; enim, ut in Bernardo mihi obstat reuerentia sanctitati[illegible] licet scripserit Augustino. Iam quidem Romulo obijciunt, & uiolentas nuptias [illegible] um celebrasse, & in reliquis ardentissimi uiri spiritus fuisse. Excusari potest facilius quam ne[illegible] ri. [illegible] nuptias quidem penè excusat ipsa necessitas. Quis est enim tam modestus, qui si [illegible] me ultima laborans, panem humili prece poposcerit, negatum nō si possit eripiat. At qui p[illegible] pulus uirorum erat, ita enim scriptum est, unius duntaxat ætatis, ad perpetuitatē nuptijs op[illegible] us [illegible] rat, hæc à finitimis repetitæ, non duriter modò, sed contumeliosè etiam denegatæ erant, credo præsagientibus iam uicinis, noua ex urbe uenturos, qui eos, reliquosq; mortales & terrarum orbem iugo præmerent, ea negatio ac repulsa, uiros fortes ac magnanimos incitauit, oratione itaq; mox arrepta, non ad stuprum, sed ad coniugium, & diuin[illegible], atq; humanæ domus societatem, negatas uirgines rapuerunt. Quod hic, quæso, tàm nefarium scelus e[illegible] quod in alijs urbibus quas nominare non est necesse, nuptias quoq; ad adulterium rap[illegible] & depulsos insuper maritos audiuimus, quid est quod Romulus solus arguitur, nisi [illegible] ulli grauis est percussus Achilles? Reliquum sanè uiri illius ardorem Florus excu[illegible]. [illegible] inquit) Romulo ardentius. Tali opus fuit ut inuaderet Regnum, & profectò, quod [illegible] doq; usquam regnum cernimus, aut regis inuadētis ardor fecit, aut ignauia populi fa[illegible] s. Non fecit natura reges primos, sed industria. Ad id deniq;, quod Camillū patria pulsum [illegible] cit, quid respondeam nisi Ciceronianum illud? Nouum crimen, & ante hunc diem [illegible] auditum. Nouum (inquam) & mirabile crimen exilium. Ecce quàm multa uir doctus ac[illegible] umulet pro defensione mendacij, quod oppugnare pro uiribus suum erat. Sed amicū Galli est mendacium, & amicum suum nullus oppugnat. Ego autem ueritatis non me satis ami[illegible] rear, nisi eius fidele patrocinium, cōtra quoslibet suos hostes. Proq; eius amore prompto animo & multorum, & maiorū odia, inimicitiasq; suscepero: quod cum facere iuuenis incœperim, non desistam senex. Tu amice ut hæc in barbari notitiam ueniant, curabis. Sibi qui[illegible] em, quoniam nihil mihi scripserat, nil rescribo, sed in literis tuis illius procacitatem contud[illegible] e suffecerit, sin fortassis eum uideris, quem ordo illo adulationum atq; mendaciorum in regno esse, (unde utinam tu abesses) admone eum non ut barbarū, sed ut hominē, quand[illegible] aliquid scribit, pro certamine gloriæ, ut nunc fecit, caueat saltē ab aperto mendacio. Nam q[illegible] æ [illegible] tra rationem uel sine ratione dicuntur, utcunq; nōdum quàm oratione defendun[illegible] am falsa, nulla defendit oratio. Adducit ergo uir ille pueriliter satis, Lucani uersiculū n[illegible] um, & in p[illegible] nentem ad rem, probationis non egentem.

Humanum paucis uiuit genus.

V[illegible] illam uult probare sententiam, naturam paucis esse contentam, qui quidem uers[illegible], & [illegible] pe[illegible] ipsum seor[illegible] m, sensum ad quem trahitur non respuat, ubi tamen positus e[illegible] e [illegible] uid son[illegible] r, hoc enim uult dicere, quod humanū genus uiuit paucis, id est, ad obse[illegible] paucorum, Regum uidelicet & principum, in numero pauci sunt. Cæsar enim ibi loqu[illegible] r, qui aliòt hoc ipsum expressius attigit, nō paucos, sed unum mundi dominum sese d[illegible] eus, ut non paucis, sed uni sibi uiuere humanum genus ostenderet: ubi ait:

Frustrà ciuilibus armis miscuimus gentes.

Si qua est hoc orbe potestas altera quàm Cæsari, si tellus ulla duorum est. Romanum enim non Gallicum animū habebat, in eo igitur doctus hic fallitur, quod paucis eo loco sextum e[illegible] m credidit, cum sit tertius. In eo quoq; quod Numitorem à nepotibus interfectum ait, pace tanti uiri, in historię communis labitur notitia: Numitoris enim frater Amilius interfectus, Numitor autem restitutus in regnum fuit, unde à fratre pulsus exulabat. Credo ibi pluta esse talia, sed hæc legenti se statim obtulerunt. Sperabat ut augurot barbaris suis loqui, atque ideò sibi licere omnia, non discreturus quid ueri in rebus, hinc multiloquium meum, illinc scriptum Galli. Patauii Cal. Martias.

Lectori.

Ad Clementem VI. Pont. Max. quem febre correptum audierat, hanc insequentem scripsit author Epistolam, quae cum ad manus aulicorum peruenerat, Medici cuiusdam conuitijs multis lacerata fuit, minabatur is quoq; in authorem Epistolae, nescio quas Philippicas se scripturum, Pontificu, Sodalium, amicorumq; ciebat, quam poterat entixe, atq; ambiebat fauores, auxilia & consilia. Petrarcha uerò admonitus clàm ab amicis, coactusq; purgare se, atq; aduersarij calumnias confutare, nititur.

CLEMENTI VI. PONT. MAX. FRAN. PETRARCHA S.

Febris tuae nuncius beatissime Pater, tremorem membris meis, & horrorem attulit, nec idcircò blandiloquens, aut similis dicar illi, de quo Satyricus ait:

Flet si lachrymas conspexit amici.

Et iterum:

Si dixerit aestuo sudat.

Sed illi potius, qui (ut ait Cicero) de salute P.R. extimescebat, in qua etiam suam inclusam uidebat. Mea quidem ac multorum salus in tua salute fundata est, non igitur simulatus est tremor, neque enim alieno periculo permoueor, sed proprio. Omnes qui de te pendemus, & in te speramus, te aegrotante sani fortè uidemur, sed non sumus. Verum quia tum semper, tum praecipuè, in hoc statu breuem decet esse sermonem, qui in diuinas aures, humano ore transfunditur, pauca tibi nunc animo affusus & uenerabundus loquar. Lectum tuum obsessum Medicis scio, hinc prima mihi timendi causa est, discordant enim de industria, dum pudet noui nihil afferentem alterius haesisse uestigijs. Nec est dubium (ut eleganter ait Plinius) omnes istos famam nouitate aliqua aucupantes, animas statim nostras negociari, & in hac sola artium euenire, ut cuicunque se Medicum profitenti statim credatur, cum sit periculum in nullo mendacio maius. Non tamen illud intuemur, adeò blanda est sperandi pro se cuique dulcedo, nulla praeterea lex quae puniat inscitiam capitalem, nullum exemplum uindictae, discunt periculis nostris, & experimenta per mortes agunt, medicóque tantum, hominem occidisse impunitas summa est. Horum turbam uelut inimicorum aciem Clementissime Pater intuere, instruat te illius infausti epigrammatis memoria, inscribi iubētis in sepulchro hoc solum:

Turba Medicorum perij.

In aetatem nostram potissimè uidetur incidisse, illud M. Catonis senis uaticinium, quandocunque Graeci ad nos literas suas, ac praesertim Medicos transmisissent, omnia corrupturos. Sed quia iam sine Medicis uiuere non audemus, sine quibus tamen innumerabiles nationes, fortè meliùs atque salubriùs uiuunt, & P.R. aetate florentissima, eodem teste Plinio, ultra DC. annos uixit. Vnum tibi de multis elige, non eloquentia, sed scientia, & fide conspicuum. Iam enim professionis suae immemores, & dumetis proprijs exire ausi, Poëtarum nemus, & Rhetorum campum petunt, & quasi non curaturi, sed persuasuri, circa miserorum grabatulo magno boatu disputant, atque illis morientibus, Hippocraticos nodos, Tulliano stamine permiscentes, sinistro quamuis euentu superbiunt, nec rerum effectibus, sed inani uerborum elegantia gloriantur. At ne quid à me hodie fictum Medici tui putent, quem saepe nomino Plinium, quod is & de Medicinis multa, & de Medicis plura, quàm quisquam, & ueriora diceret, in omnibus ferè huius Epistolae partibus ducem habui. Ipsum ergo audiāt. Palàm (inquit) est, ut quisque inter istos loquendo polleat, Imperatorem illicò uitae nostrae, necisque fieri. Sed ego longius quàm destinaueram, metu calamum urgente prouectus sum, ut uerò iam desinam, Medicum non consilio, sed eloquio pollentem, uelut insidiatorem uitae, siccarium aut ueneficū uitare debes. Huic quidem iure optimo dici potest, quod loquaci coquo Plautinus ille senex in Aulularia:

Abi (inquit) opera hic conducta est uestra non oratio.

Ad hoc & exactam tui custodiam, & (quae ad salutem corporis miris modis adiuuant) spem bonam, ac laetum animum habeto, si te, si nos omnes, si tecum aegrotantem Ecclesiam saluam cupis. Vale.

FRAN.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. IN LIBROS INVECTIVARUM, CONTRA MEDICUM QUENDAM, AD AMICUM,

PRAEFATIO.

QVATVOR Inuectiuarum libros dicam, an quid [illegible]liud, ad te misi, libentissime negauerimus, si uel negare tibi aliquid possem, præsertim obnixius postulanti, uel si illi iam in publicum nõ exilient. Ridebis interlegendo, & tacitus dices: Ille meus, unam amplius quàm putabam artem habet. Male loqui didicit. Benè ais, testor enim tuum caput, meum hoc artificium non fuit, non tum totus ind[illegible]cilis, mallem lentior. Sed hoc didici in his schol[illegible]s, ubi impertinens & ineptus conuictator docere non potuit quod nesciuit, meliora forsan in Academia, in [P]arnasso. Nescis quia sicut in pl[a]teis urbium rixantur aniculæ, in rostris lit[ig]ant cau[s]idici, in for[illegible]cibus [illegible]ernis ebrij, sic in scholis disputant Philosophi, & in syluis cogitant Poetæ. Didici quod [illegible]us, tempusq́; poscebant, imò uerò quod cogebat importunissimus magister. Quamuis e[illegible]n solitudine mea essem, ille tamen urbicus iurgator, nec solitudini, nec ocio meo parcens, [illegible] locorum faciem ueneratus [q]ui diuinum nescio quid inesse ipse si uideas, non neges in illis uc[illegible] mihi uideor dicturus, Pierijs penetralibus latitantem, conuitijs aggressus exciuit, in al[illegible] lon[illegible] in alijs consopitum curis, & hanc quam in me mirari[s] insuetam artem docuit uel in[uitu]m [illegible]llu[illegible]sero, quod & gloriosius aliqua de me loqui, & nescio an ineptis, sed certè necessarijs laudi[illegible]peram me cogit. Vtriusque rei excusationem in fine libri ultimi uidebis, unum propediem e[illegible]d eandem, quam mihi olim hostis imposuit, gloriandi necessitatem imposuerunt amici. A[illegible] Cænobius noster uir doctus, & quem Ausonijs armarum Musis, barbarica nuper laurus or[illegible] e[illegible] p nostris ingen[ij]s, mirum dictu, iudex, censorq́; Germanicus, ferre sententiam non expauit. Ille [illegible]micissime quidem admonens, efficaciterq́; coarguens, impulerit etiam qua nolebã, ut quod n[illegible] amplius euenturum suspicabar, pro excusatione mei nominis, nũc denuò gloriarer. Episto[la]m [illegible] ad me uidisti puto, aliorum uerò non ita, quibus stylus uarius, sed omnibus una mens est, mo[illegible]m his in locis, nisi fac reliquæ uitæ meæ consentaneam probare. Res[p]onsionem meam ado[illegible] una non capiebat epistola, & de fa[m]a totiens certare durum erat, quanquam tota res alto a[illegible]e[illegible]ui po[ss]et, ne tantorum uoces hominum contemp[s]isse dicere[r]. Libellum de uitæ meæ cursu [illegible] exui ubi si res meas, non dicam irreprehensibiles aut laudabiles, sed tolerabiles, excusabilesq́;, mi[illegible]ra uero & illi amico, & alijs miratoribus meis, siue amantibus, siue tentantibus, siue ex professo carpen[ti]bus [illegible]tro responsum erit. Hactenus Inuectiuarũ mentio, calamus tulit, cum quibus & librum istum [illegible]ctum, & canum morsibus lacerum, simul & uetustissimam meam quam postul[illegible] [illegible]ibus nihil mihi charius quàm uetustas ipsa, cuius uenerator, nostra ætate nisi fallor, nemo inde [illegible]fuit. Vale, Mediolani, IIII. Idus Iunij.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. CONTRA MEDICUM QUENDAM, INVECTIVARUM

LIBER I.

QVISQVIS es, qui iacentem calamum & sopitum (ut ita dixerim) leon[em] importunis latratibus excitasti, iam senties aliud esse alienam f[a]mam pruriẽti lingua carpere, aliud propria ratione defendere. Iniquum fateor inter nos certamen i[n]stituitur. Vbi me percutias habeo ubi te repercutiam non habes. Quod eni[m] [n]omen habere potest mercenarius, & infamis artifex? Profectò autẽ mihi tecum non de opibus aut de imperio, sed de solo nomine pugna est, cuius te egenum atq́; inopem esse, & siquid interdum [n]õ admonearis, intelligis. Quia tamen cogis ad id, ad quod nunquam sponte descenderẽ, & loqui aliquid necesse est, ne si (quod interdum in animum uenit) propter contempt[u]m rerum tuarum [illegible]io tu tibi forsan ex mea taciturnitate complaceas, petita non à te, sed a lectore uenia, [si q]uid contra morem meum dixero. Respondebo ad aliqua, multa enim tàm ineptè dicis ut quis-

quisquis ea responso digna duxerit, ipse meritò uideri possit ineptior. Primum itaque lectis tuis literis, risum me cohibere nequiuisse noueris, quònam enim alio modo clarius probare poteras, uerum esse quod negas, te, scilicet egressum tuis, alienis in finibus oberrare, magno cum eorum discrimine, qui nimium credulitate sequuntur, quibus sanitatis fructum pollicitus, nil nisi in tempestiuos flosculos inutilium uerborum ingeris, cum facto non uerbis opus sit. Quanto enim sudore, quantoque cum studio inanem, sed ampullosam & tumidam, plenamque conuitijs epistolam effudisti? Sed hic uester est mos, aduersus uerum iurgio certatis. Et enimirum, hoc ipso quantum tibi fideres apertissimè declarasti. Si enim non extremus perditissimusque omnium fuisses, non desperasses fieri posse, ille unus ex multis qui iuxta sententiam meam esses, in Rom. Pont. consilium euocandus. Imò uerò generosæ mentis id tuum erat, & si tantum spes gloriæ proposita sit, in id niti, ut unus iste tu fieres, quod si affectu tuo non esses uoti compos egregij, alioquin laudabili, saltem fuisses commendandus affectu. Ego quidem nam memini, non artificium, sed artifices improbaui, eosque non omnes, sed procaces atque discordes. Mirum dictu, ut sibi conscius tuus, multorumque animus indoluit & exarsit? Nescio quid hoc rei est. Argue tardos Philosophos, punge inertes Poetas, carpe incompositos oratores, nunquam Plato & Aristoteles, nunquam Homerus & Virgilius, nunquam Cicero aut Demosthenes miscentur. Increpa Medicos indoctos & temerarios, omnes propè frement, & insanient, quod antè non noueram, breui literula sum expertus, singulare quiddam hoc in genere dixerim. An fortè, ideò quia uniuersali maculæ nemo subtrahitur. Nolo id quidem opinari, nec dum despero, fore aliquem Medicum, cui probetur quicquid dixi, dicturus'ue sum, quique suam singularem laudem, in communi cæterorum infamia recognoscat, & (quod cunctis excellentibus ingenijs insitum reor) gaudeat se paucorum similem, dissimilemque multorum. Quod nisi ita esse crederem, frustra monuissem unum de multis eligendum, ut uerba mea repetam, non eloquentia, sed scientia & fide conspicuum. Tu tamen ille unus proculdubiò non es, quod si esses, nunquam discordes ac nescios Medicos increpanti, tàm uentosa respondisses epistola, profundissimè tangeris, tàm grauiter exclamasti. Nec puduit illud etiam, inter confusum murmur inserere, me Pontifici adulatum. Ego nec cuiquam adularer, cui propositum sit (uulgo etiam non ignotum) præter uirtutem ac bonam famam uniuersa contemnere. Quid enim me moueret, ut nunc fierem, quod ab annis tenerioribus nunquam fui? Percontare ipsum illum, de quo loquimur, & dicet tibi: Sæpè ultrò se mihi obtulisse, quantum tu optare (licet sis importunissimus) non auderes, meque propter amorem libertatis, quod tibi inexpertum & incognitum bonum est, omnia recusasse. Desine itaque lepram tuam, & ambitionis, auaritiæque malum, benè ualentibus imponere, tu palpator, tu non solum blandus, sed (si es ille quem puto) tædiosissimus etiam adulator, non modò Pontificum, sed & pauperũ latrinas, uilissimi speluncelli. Ego florentes syluas & solitarios colles ambire soleo, nõ nisi uel scientiæ cupiditate uel gloriæ. Id non ipse rapto, sed cachinno refellendum arbitror, quod inter anxiæ cõquisitas euadendi uias, quibus inenodabilem ueri laqueum tentas abrumpere, palpitãdo dixisti. Me forsan tui nominis inuidia tactum, illud scripsisse, quo tibi, gregique tuo famam eriperem. Egóne tibi misero inuiderem? Absit, auertat Deus, qui enim misero inuidet, necesse est sit ipse miserrimus. Ego tuum nomen eripere nitar inglorione? Procùl ab hoc periculo es. Ire potes toto securus orbe terrarum, quod ad famæ iacturam attinet.

Cantabis uacuus coram latrone uiator.

Erit qui fortè nares amputet, oculos effodiat, famam tibi nullus eripiet, quàm non habes, quid autem intolerabilius est homine insolenti? Qui ubi pudorẽ semel abiecerit, quicquid dixeris negabit, magna meretriciæ frontis impudentia est. Negas ecce Medicos discordare, quæ publica totius humani generis est querela. Vtinam tamen ita sit, malim esse mentitum, quanquam hac in re mentitus esse non possim. Cæterùm saluis omnibus errasse maluerim, quàm me ueridico, periclitari tot hominum milia, qui discordi, & uario prorsus incerto Medicorum imperio gubernãtur. Nempè quòd in summi Pont. cura nuper dicis fuisse concordes. Vide, non dico ne mentiaris (id enim iam uobis quotidianum atque uulgare est) sed ne maximis testibus ueritas uos ipsa confundat. Concordastis fortè postquam ille conualuit, qui quod nemo ne ipse quidem dubitat, multò antè conualuisset, si tu saltem per totum ægritudinis suæ tempus, in extremis Indiæ littoribus habitasses. O si, quod dominum horreo, (sed licet immortalis Dei uicarius, Deus est tamen ipse mortalis) si ergo tunc naturæ debitum persoluisset, quãta fuisset inter uos, & quàm indecisa discordia, de morbi causis, de humoribus, de diebus, de pharmacis: cœlum ac terram dissonis clamoribus impleretis, & tandem ipsam ægritudinis ignorantes. Tolerant qui sub auxilij uestri fiducia ægrotant. CHRISTVS autem

autem in cuius manu salus hominum sita est, saluum illum ignorantibus omnibus uobis fecit, & faciat precor, quantum sibi, quantum Ecclesię, cui præsidet est necesse. Vos Dei beneficium, & complexionis ac naturæ suæ laudem usurpantes, uideri uultis illum à mortuis suscitasse, & nunc tandem transacto periculo concordaus, non ineleganti uafricia, ne si Pater ille doctissimus, quiq; uel ingenio, uel experientia, non dicam omnia, ut tu adulator, sed multa cognoscit ac prouidet, discordare uos senserit, præcipites ancipitis uitæ duces abijciat, aspernat, atq; oderit. Sed mihi crede, ne quicquam rectè iacitur ante oculos pennatorum, nouit ille mores uestros, & si me interroges, propter cuiusdam speciem honestatis, & ne consuetudinem publicam damnasse uideatur, uestra potiùs uult fastidia, quàm quia ignoret, aliquanto grauius esse periculum, uitam suam nugis uestris, quàm fragilem sine gubernaculo carinam pelago, uentisq; cõmittere. Quod ad me attinet, iracundiam tuam minimè quidem miror, sciebam uerum esse Satyricum illud:

Accusator erit, qui uerum dixerit:

Nec minus illud Comicum:

Obsequium amicos: ueritas odium parit.

Quod cum communiter uerum sit, tum præcipuè inter illos, qui mendacio uiuũt. Illud miror, quod ira in rabiem, furoremq; conuertit. Nil enim tibi scripseram, quippè qui nunc (etiam inuitus) non intellecturum alloquor, at Rom. Pont. graui tunc ægritudine laboranti, metu ac deuotione dictantibus, epistolam scripsi breuem, sed nisi fallor, utilem sibi, tibi forte [illegible] ita, admonuiq;, ut turba dissidentium Medicorum, nec non etiam Medicum non scien[illegible] sed inanis eloquẽtiæ curiosum, quæ ingens nostris temporibus multitudo est, omni studio caueret. Quod licet grauissimè stomachens, me tamen neq; consilij mei pœnitet, neque me lapidandum credidi, si sibi licet non egenti fidele consiliũ dedissem, cui omnes, qui Christiano nomine gloriamur, nõ modò consilium, sed obsequium, insuper & obedientiam deberemus. Debuisti si sanus esses, nõ mihi rescribere, qui tibi nil scripseram, sed eidem illi scribere, ut sibi forsan aromatico illo tuo ac medicinali suadere posses eloquio, ut tibi seipsum, & res suas crederet, uitam ac salutem, nisi de tuis manibus non speraret. Contrà autem me, studijsq; meis deditos, nociuum atque inutile genus hominum declinaret, seu me Poëtam, seu quodlibet aliud dicere libuisset. Omnia enim tibi licere arbitror dicere, qui propter mei, quin potius ueri odiũ in Poëtas immeritos es inuectus. Ego tamen hac in re poëticè nihil scripsi, quod ita esse, nisi planè deliperes, ipse stylus indicio est. Cogeret me procacitas fortè tua, poëticè aliquid de te loqui, teq; omnibus sæculis lacerandũ tradere, nisi quia indignus uisus es, qui per me posteris notus esses, aut locũ in meis opusculis inuenires. Sed quid colores cœco? Quid surdo sonos ingero? Mechanice, res tuas age oro te, cura si potes, si minus interfice, & pretiũ posce cum occideris, id nulli imperatori, aut regi, sed tibi uni uitæ, necisq; domino, ut iactas, humani generis cœcitate permittiť. Vtere funesto priuilegio, optimè enim tutissimè arti cerebrum addixisti, quisquis euaserit, tibi uitam debet, quisquis obierit, tu illi præter experientiam nihil debes, mors naturæ aut ægroti uitium, uita tuũ munus est, iure igitur Socrates, cum factum de pictore Medicum audisset. Cautè (inquit) artem enim deseruit, quæ defectos suos habuit in aperto, eamq; cõplexus est, cuius error certa terra tegitur. Quid te autem non ausurum rear, qui Rhetoricam Medicinæ subijcias, sacrilegio inaudito, ancillæ dominã, mechanicæ liberalem? Nisi forsan illa te cogitatio has in insanias traxit, quæ si unquam caput tuum potuisset irrumpere, nunquã usq; adeò asininũ dicerem, ut scilicet, quoniã ætate nostra iniquissimos homines imperitare uiris optimis, facto rerum pessimo uidemus, ad artes quoq; speciẽ hanc tyrannidis trahendam, ac propagandã putes. Sed prius omnia, quàm huiusce rei arbitrium, fortunæ traditum uidebis: faciet illa Nerones, atq; Caligulas regnare, Dionysios atq; Phalarides in patria florere, Catonẽ intra pestes Libycas errare, mori Regulum in carcere, in paupertate Fabricium, Marcellũ in insidijs, in exilio Scipionem, hæc & his similia faciet, quotiens uolet, more solito iocari, Medicinæ suppeditare Rhetoricam non poterit, extra suos fines imperium non habet. Sed quid loquor? Nescio an prius, quàm ad finẽ suscepti sermonis ueniam, libeat mutare sententiam, ac fateri ius illam etiam in artib. habere. Quod nisi ita esset, nũquã tu de tanta ignorantia, tàm superbus incederes, cum multi interim uiri literatissimi mendicent, uerum ea non artium fortuna, sed artificũ dici debet. Ad id mihi respondeas uelim, si rebus omnib. fortunæ imperio confusis, artes quoq; cõfundere, & liberales mechanicarũ seruas facere (quod utrarumq; prohibebatis nomine) uoluisti? Cur nõ potiùs nauigationi, quàm medicinæ Rhetoricã seruã faciebas? Nauigationẽ certè sui generis, hoc est, mechanicarũ quidam duxēre, Rhetoricã, eò quod in primis

ptimis illi cui mercatura omnis subiacet, in peragrando orbe, lustrandisq; littoribus, atq; innumerabilium nationum conciliandis ratione animis, multa sit opus eloquentia. Vnde & Mercurium, quem sermonis Deum uocāt, inde dictum uolunt, quòd mercaturæ κύριος, hoc est, dominus esse uidetur. Quod cùm ita sit, cur non potius (ut dixi) nauigationi Rhetoricam ancillari præcipis? Quod æquanimius propter similitudinem latura sit, nisi quia ruditatem illam tuam, & caligantis ingenij cæcitatem occultare, nullo modo potes. Proximis tuis literis expecto ridiculosissimè rerum censor, ut lanificio iubeas subesse Grammaticam, Dialecticam armaturæ. Quid enim te rursus non ausurum putem, qui me os in cœlum posuisse dicas, quoniam Medicos diuinum, ac cœleste genus attigerim, cum tu impurissimum os aperire non sis ueritus, in Pliniū Secundum, uirum ex omnibus suæ ætatis doctrina, ingenioq; præstantissimum. Ita enim de illo scriptū uideo, nec excipitur Galienus coëtaneus (nisi fallor) suus. Vir & ipse non indoctus, sed in doctorū atq; loquacium abundantissimus successorum. Quæ autem ista dementia? Quæue ista uoluptas est? A pedite uulnus acceptum, equiti refundis innoxio, & soluta oratione, cùm sis læsus, iram ulcisceris in Poëtas, quasi Poëticum sit omne quod nescias, id si tibi permisero. Quid usquam quæso non poëticum relinquetur? Quid enim non te penitùs ignorare crediderim, qui ad experiendum ineptissimos sensus tuos, tàm pueriliter desudasti? Deus bone, quæ delirамēta? Quæ somnia? Insultas Poëticę, cuius nunquam faciem uidisti, laudas Medicinam, quam ego non improbo. Quis enim sanè mentis hoc audeat? Scio artem esse non inutilem, & serò licet à nostris hominibus receptam. Postea tamen in honore habitam, quinetiam inuentioni deorum (ut perhibent) immortalium cōsecratum, tàm magna res uisa est, ut humana non putaretur inuentio. Quam opinionem certioris fidei auctor in Ecclesiastico confirmans. Altissimus de terra (inquit) creauit Medicinam, quamuis ad omnia sit cōmune, quicquid nouimus, quicquid scimus, quicquid sapimus, quid nisi diuina inuentio, dominiq; donum est? Cùm in eiusdem libri principio scriptum sit: Omnis sapiētia à domino Deo est. At ne tibi de mechanicæ tuæ singulari, ceu laude complaceas, audi quid de agricultura altera mechanicarū, eodem scribitur libro. Non oderis (inquit) laboriosa opera, & rusticationem ab altissimo creatam. Quid habes quod super quemcunq; agricolā accolas? Ambæ artes uno de fonte prodeunt, ambas creauit altissimus, imò uerò quid habes, quod te agricolę cōferas, cum humanam ille uitam adiuuet, quam tu (licet contrarium professus) oppugnas, ille humano generi laborando prosit, tu noceas quiescendo, ille nudus in campis, fame sua publicam pariat saturitatem, tu phaleratus in thalamis, uoce tua publicam destruas sanitatē. In eo quidem non similiter concordamus. Quod effectus Medicorū dicis esse mirabiles. Quos effectus quæso te, nisi illud forsan inter miraculosa connumeras, quod uos sæpius, quàm cæteri hominū, imò uerò quasi cōtinuò ægrotatis? Itaq; magnis in populis, facies uestra solo pallore discernitur, iamq; in prouerbium abijt. Colorem Medici dicere, quotiens croceum hominem, aut tabescentem uideris. Parum'ne hic miraculo est, salutem alijs, quàm ipse non habeas polliceri? Esset profectò miraculum, nisi illud extenuaret assiduitas mentiendi. Nisi fortè ille mirabilior est effectus, quod qui se totum uestro consilio tradiderit, sanus esse nunquam poterit. Hi sunt Medicorum, nō tantum miri, sed stupendi etiam effectus, Medicorum uerò non omnium, sed multorum atq; in primis tui. Credo ego Hippocratem uirum doctissimum fuisse, puto Galienum (illo duce) multa primis inuentionibus addidisse, non detraho claris uiris, ne fiam tui similis, qui obtrectandi studio, me cum Plinio miscuisti, quem si intelligere posses, esses hortandus ut legeres, & teipsum in eo speculo intuens, uel deformitatē tuam corrigeres, uel desineres superbire. Sed crede mihi Gręcum hominem putares, cùm tamē is inter raros Latinæ eloquentiæ principes, in Saturnalibus numeretur. Si in literis tuis uideo, arrogans & ignarus es, alterum facit ut nil discas, alterum ut nil scias, quid enim de hoc tanto uiro somnias? Dicis enim quod quicquid ueri habet, ab antiquis Medicis accepisse, uos à quibus tot mendacia didiceritis non dicis. Sed quid rerum tempore gloriaris? Ignauissimorum quorundam hominū consuetudo est, ut cùm inter uitia senuerint, nulliq; pares sint, sola se præferant senectute. Atqui ne hanc ipsam unam gloriandi tibi materiā concesserim, in singulis enim te uerbis detegis, nihil esse, nihil sapere, nihil nosse. Computa annos, & reperies uirum illum omnes ferè quibus uteris Medicos præcessisse, quanquam quid attinet Medicorum antiquitate, nominibusq; confidere. Qui si ad lucē redeant, una uoce fatebuntur, nullos se hostes alios habere quàm uos, quorū uel turpi segnicie, uel ingeniorū hebetudine, sui labores ac uigiliæ perierunt, quiq; quotidie mentiendo illas arguitis fuisse mendaces. Lege si libet (& nisi ego quoq; tibi Græcus uideor) epistolam illam totam, quæ cùm ad hoc unū scripta esset, ut uniuersali Domino cautionem pareret, tibi nescio cui (imò quidem

scio

scio sed dissimulo) dolorem peperit ac furorē. Illam lege libet: Inuenies me nil omninò contra medicinam, nilq; contra ueros Medicos locutum, sed contra discerptores, atq; aduersarios Hippocratis, quod eodem plaudente fieri credidi, tu autem non cōtentus in me [illegible] ultra tridem contra Poëticam, ac Poëtas, quadam libidine uobis insita loquendi, de rebus peregrinis & incognitis, euomuisti. Non legeras apud Varronem Romanorū doctissimum, neq; apud Tullium, quem fidenter, licet fortè obstrepas, dixerim principē Latinorū, quid de Poëtis scriptum est. Verba enim ipsa, ne quid me mutasse, uel addidisse suspiceris ap[illegible]. A summis (inquit) hominibus, eruditissimisq; sic accepimus, ceterarum rerum studia & doctrina, & præceptis, & arte constare, Poëtam ipsa natura ualere, & mentis uiribus excitari, & quasi diuino quodam spiritu afflari. Quare suo iure, noster ille Ennius, sanctos appellat Poëtas, quod quasi deorum aliquo dono atq; munere, commendati nobis esse uideantur. Sit ergo iudices sanctum apud nos humanissimos homines, hoc Poëtæ nomen, quod nulla unquam barbaries uiolauit. Hæc Cicero. Multa sequuntur in eandem sententiam grauissima, innumerabilia etiam apud alios, quæ spontè prætereo. Neq; enim mihi propositū est, in auribus tuis nobilitare uelle Poëtarum nomen, quod tibi ignobile uideri, ea demum summa mihi notabilitas uidetur. Cur autem hæc narrē nescio, an te ridiculosior sim, si asino lyrā canam. Respondebis, audio sed nihil intelligo, & Poëtæ nomen nulla unquam (ut modò dixeram) barbarie uiolatum, atq; omni ex parte tibi incognitum, uiolabis plus quàm barbara feritate. Itaq; peropportunè audies, quod cuidam nuper tuæ professionis hominum [illegible] assensu, & approbatione multorum dixi. Cum enim uestro more, multa contra Poëtas hisceret, potiùs quam diceret, nunc Poëtam Ciceronem, nunc Plinium affirmans, quæsiui ab eo. Quid Poëtæ nomine crederet importari? Quod cum se nescire nō negasset, pro tempore historiam dixi, non inamœnam cognitu, magis ab auctoribus relatam, quam [illegible] quoq; dicam, puto si quid omninò aliud, quam de febribus audire potes. Hannibal uir bellicosissimus, bello uictus, à Romanis Ephesum ad Antiochum regem Syriæ profugerat, a quo lætissimè susceptus, eo quòd Romanorum odijs æstuanti, nullus unquam consultor tam idoneus uidebatur, in summo honore apud illum erat. Contigit autem Phormionem quendam nomine, secta Peripateticum, qui ea tempestate literarum scientia clarus habebatur, simul illic fortè apud regem esse, ad quem (si uellet) audiendum inuitatus, Hannibal, dum fama uir tactus annuisset. Seniculus non indoctus, & ut homo Græcus audax & uerbosus Phormio, credo existimans nihil se melius in præsentia tanti ducis, nihilq; conuenientiùs loqui posse, materiam rei militaris ingressus, in plures horas sermonem continuum protraxit. Denique dum qualiter sit ductandus exercitus, qualiter instruenda acies, qualiter capiendus castris locus, quando signum pugnæ dari, quando cani receptui conueniat: postremò quæ ante prælium, quæ in prælio, quæue post prælium sint seruanda copiosè disseruit, secutusq; esse plausus omnium, quæsitumq; ab Hannibale, quid sibi etiam uideretur de illo sapientiæ professore. Multos (inquit ille) stultos, delirosq; senes uidi, nullum tamen, quo magis delectarer, quam sene hoc, quippè qui tàm multa de rebus incognitis loqueretur. Quo dicto facetè admodum & illius, & uestram impudentem notauit audaciam. De omni enim materia loqui uultis, uestræ professionis obliti, quæ est si nescis urinas, & quæ nominare pudor prohibet, contemplari, nec pudet insultare his, quibus uirtutum atq; animi cura est. Eleganter de hoc Phormione loquens Cicero. Quid (inquit) aut arrogātius, aut loquacius fieri potuit, quam Hannibali, qui tot annis de imperio, cum P.R. omniū gentium uictore certasset, Græcum hominem, qui nunquam castra uidisset, nunquam deniq; minimam partem ullius publici muneris attigisset, præcepta de rè militari dare? Quanquā nō omninò par tua & Phormionis causa, multoq; iustius ego te rideo, quàm illum risit Hānibal. Ille enim de rebus licet experientia ignotis, at saltem lectione cognitis loquebatur, tu de his rebus loqueris, quarum non tantùm usu atq; arte es indoctus, sed ingenio etiam prorsus indocilis. Hanc historiam cum illi contērioso homini narrassem, quod erat ipse senex, sibi dictum credidit, quasi & senium ei & stultitiam exprobrassem, itaq; uehementer excanduit. Tu qua ætate sis non satis scio nisi quòd delirare sæpiùs solent senes, non quidem omnes, sed quorum iuuenilis ætas uilibus curis & obscœno artificio acta est. Quo autem ingenio sis, mihi incognitum esse noluisti, audiens ergo te uideo, mordendi auidum, sed ignorantia torpentem, algentis more aspidis coactum uirus. Non posse diffundere, nisi quod in fine multū liarum attritu, terrifi[illegible] concalescens, neq; tamen tàm morsu, quam sibilo metuendus, in me calcaneo tenus erigeris, ubi scilicet Boetium Seuerinū, aduersus sacras Pierides testē citas, atq; ut testimonio fidem quæras, cautissimus disputator, Patriciū illū uocas, quasi de Prætura, uel Cōsulatu quæstio sit, & quasi non multi testes, licet minimè Patricij sint, hac in re multū Boëtio præferēdi.

Verum

Verum absit ut huius, uel alterius fide digni hominis testimonium recusem, ad inquisitionem ueri, omne genus studiosorum hominum admitto, mechanicis duntaxat exclusis. Ille igitur quid, ab ægrotanus cura, scænicas meretriculas philosophico procùl arcet edicto. Viue bellator egregie, uniuersam poësim letali iaculo transfixisti. Certè si quid eorum de quibus tàm temerariæ disputas didicisses, scires scænicam illam, quam Boëtius notat, ipsos inter Poëtas in pretio non haberi, non autem uidisti, ecce quod iuxta erat, licet idipsum literis tuis ignoranter insereres. Quid enim ait: Veris cum Musis curandum, sanandumq; relinquite? Hæ sunt Musæ, quibus si qui usquam hodie supersunt poëtæ, gloriantur ac fidunt, quarum ope non ægra corpora mactare, sed ægris animis succurrere didicerunt. De quibus si loqui uelim, donec cerebro humido, ac fluenti tanta res insideat, amēs ero, neq; olim Amphionis, uel Orphei cythara tàm duram silicem mouere posset, neq; enim tam hirsutam tygridem lenire, quas tu ac omnes id genus fictiones, ueluti uero aduersas, mira plebei artificis temeritate, condemnas, in quibus tibi, tuisq; similibus studiosè abditus, allegoricus sapientissimus ac iucundissimus sensus inest, quò ferè omnis sacrarum etiam scripturarum textus abundat, quas te animo irridere non dubito, sed supplicium times. Quàmobrem ferā æquo animo, te Poetis quos ignoras, uanitate nouissima insultantem, idq; mihi alicuius bone spei argumentum fuerit, si tibi ualdè displiceam. Cur autem indigner audere te aliquid aduersùs me, cum aduersùs CHRISTVM, si impunè liceat sis ausurus, cui Auerroim (tacito licet iuditio) prætulisti? Scis quod non mentior, quamuis aliud uerbo clames, cesset pœna metus, profectò ut sciolus uidearis, esse uoles hæreticus. Sed ad fictiones quas carpebas ad Deo, audi ergo quid Lactantius, uir & Poëtarum, & Philosophorum notitia, & Ci[illegible] facundia, & quod cuncta transcendit, Catholica religione clarissimus, primo suarum institutionum libro ait. Nesciunt quid sit Poëticæ licentiæ modus, quousq; progredi fugendo liceat, cum officium Poëtæ in eo sit, ut quæ uera sint, in alia specie obliquis figurationibus, cum decore aliquo conuersa traducat, totum autem quod referas fingere id est, ineptum esse, & mendacem potius quàm Poëtam. Stupes bellua, nunquā puto illud audieras. Mentiri uobis linquimus, quodq; grauissimum mendacij genus est, mentiri summo cum discrimine, damnoq; credentium. Id si mihi nō credis, uulgus interroga, cui & illud in prouerbium uersum est, ut aptissimè mentienti dicant: Mentiris ut Medicus. Poëtæ (neque enim me hoc nomine dignari ausi, quod tu mihi demens ad infamiam obiecisti) Poëtæ, inquam, studium est ueritatem rerū pulchris uelaminibus adornare, ut uulgus insulsum (cuius tu pars ultima es) lateat. Ingeniosis autem, studiosisq; lectoribus, & quæsitu difficilior, & dulcior sit intentu. Alioquin si tibi falsò persuadeas, quod quidam indocti solent, qui quod cō[illegible] nequeunt execrantur, ut scilicet Poëtæ officium sit mentiri, illud tibi consequenter persuadeas uelim, esse te Poëtarum maximum, cuius propè plura mendacia sunt quàm uerba. Vltrò tibi Mæonius senex cedet, uictus cedet Euripides, cedet Maro, uacuus tibi Helicon [illegible]quetur, indecerpta laurea, illibatusq; Castalius fons. Sed expergiscere si potes, lippientesq; oculos aperi, uidebis Poëtas ratos, quidem natura rerum disponente, ut rara quælibet chara simul & [illegible]int: Videbis eos gloria & nomine, & immortalitate fulgentes, quàm non sibi tantum, sed & alijs peperère, ut quibus ante alijs perituris consulere nominibus datum est, & quorum adminiculo ipsa etiam uirtus eget, non equidem in seipsa, sed in eo quod habet cum uitijs & obliuione certamen, te uerò cum tuis nudos uidebis, omni uera laude uanitatibus obsitos, obrutosq; mendacijs. Hæc non aduersus medicinā (quod sæpe testatus sum) neq; aduersus excellentes Medicos, qui irasci non debent, qui cùm semper rari, nostra sunt ætate rarissimi, sed aduersus te, delirātesq; similiter dicta sint. In quibus illud fortè mirabitur quispiam, quod libellum pro epistola remisi, sed meminisse cōueniet facilius infligi uulnus, quàm curari, & citiùs dici conuitia, quàm repelli. Ideoq; & maior defensio Demosthenis, quàm Aeschinis accusatio est, & lōgior Ciceronis, quàm Salustij inuectiua. Hactenus hæc, cætera in tempus aliud reseruo. Nolo enim putes me lacessiti styli, & iustissimæ indignationis aculeos, more apum in uulnere reliquisse, experire iterum cum uoles, quid inter ingenium & ingeniū, quid inter calamū & calamū intersit, illud uerendum, ne dum per abrupta distractus, multumq; huic tuæ ridiculosæ eloquentiæ intentus, in insuetis cōflictationibus tēpus teras, his quoq; pecunia pariter, ac sanitate spolias, magni periculi causa sim, de hoc tamen ipse uideris, ego mihi quicquid attentaueris, ad cumulum gloriæ adscribam. Alta petentibus non semper quies, sed eorum sæpè, qui sine graui periculo uinci possunt, optanda rebellio est. Si benè dixisses, audisses benè. Audisti autem, quod ego loqui sum solitus, sed quod tu meritus es audire. Sile parumper, & rumina, & tibi ipsi da ueniam, qui cœpisti. Verùm ego satis ne sanus sim diutiùs tecū loquar, qui quod ridiculū omne supergreditur, Medicinæ

[illegible] ne, mortem mihi literarum tuarum, in fine denuncies, ad quam differe [illegible] dam, [illegible] edicina [illegible] nihil, ad celerandam uerò quàm plurimum conferre po[illegible] Præda [illegible] , [illegible] orpusculum scis expedire languoribus [illegible] të [illegible] dò uoce [illegible] Medicina gratias actura sit, si eorum præsentem [illegible] lando [illegible] gloriam nouis erroribus extinxerunt.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. CONTRA MEDICVM QVENDAM, INVECTIVARVM

LIBER II.

HABES unde mihi perpetuò gratias agas, de muto & elingui, [illegible] gutulus atque facetulus tactus es [illegible] Nescis quantum huic calamo debeas. Ecce iam [illegible], citò facies carmina, iamq; hymnos incipis [illegible] xere, boni ingenij puer eris. Imo uerò [illegible] senex [illegible] multo consultius tacuisses, non ut ideò Philosophum te [illegible] ut ignorantiam saltem tuam silentio uelares. Tacendo [illegible] latere poteras, loquendo non potes. Lingua animi [illegible] nullo ad hostium pulsante, nescio cur mouisti, [illegible] damq; tui pectoris domum omnibus aperiens, qu[illegible] melius [illegible] [illegible] la mansisset, nisi quia dementiam diutiùs occultare difficile est. Credo non legeras qu[illegible] scriptum est. Stultus quoq; si tacuerit sapiens reputabitur, & si compresserit la[illegible] [illegible] ens. Benè Socrates, cum decorum adolescentem tacitum uidisset. Loquere (inquit) [illegible] uideam non tàm in uultu putabat uideri hominem, quàm in uerbis. Ecce locutus es, [illegible] te iamq; si millies taceas uidemus. Voluisti apparere & multis quos latere pote[illegible] [illegible] ud brio, in quod gaude præpotens orator, externa ope non eges, nullo opus est in[illegible] d[illegible] perosè nimis, tuo te prodis indicio, tam latè tristis male coagulati eloquij fumus [illegible] na[illegible]. O [illegible] ulum animal, uolebam dicere, librum scribis, rectiùs dixerim, quod tuæ [illegible] [illegible] st proprium, aromatũ lentas fœdas inuoluere. & ubi periculosis amba[illegible]gibus di[illegible] e[illegible] es mis[illegible]rorum mor[illegible]es, utq; uilia magno constent, fallasq; licentiùs, radicibus nostri or[illegible]s [illegible] nere per[illegible]grina uocabula, ubi nunc ut tibi uidetur Philosophicos locos, ut ego sentio, [illegible] cos scribis. Sed ut libri formam habeat uersutus opifex distinguis in partes & [illegible] eris: apothecarij scripsisse te librum dicent. Quid ni igitur exclamem? Accur[illegible] [illegible], accurrite Poetæ, accurrite studiosi, quicunq; unquam scribendis libris ope[illegible] [illegible]s, accu[illegible]ite, uestra res agitur, mechanicus libros scribit, penitusq; uerum [illegible] illud fa[illegible] H[illegible]ratij. Faciendi libr[illegible]s nullus est finis. Quid enim fiet si mechanici p[illegible]m calamos a[illegible]p[illegible]. Actum est. Ipsi boues ipsiq; lapides scribent. Nilotica By[illegible]lus nõ s[illegible]iet, siq[illegible] p[illegible], dimittite illam lit[illegible]atis, uos si gloriæ cupiditas tangit, in uetro & a[illegible] scrib[illegible] ut [illegible] p[illegible]eros fama citius ue[illegible]a perueniat. Quid quæram? Quid eloquar? Quid [illegible] cam? [illegible] e qu[illegible], qui p[illegible]ros arte conficitis, quiq; tenues in membranas cæsorum a[illegible] er[illegible] on[illegible] is, [illegible] scis expiandum sacris infaustum, & infame mo[illegible]. Quid [illegible] citem [illegible] aut qua[illegible] pedem miramur? Quid obstup[illegible]us mulæ partum, [illegible] templum [illegible] aut sub nubibus uisas faces? Quid Aetheris u[illegible]poribus ar[illegible] [illegible] imbremq; lapideum, aut si quid [illegible] in annalibus ueterũ [illegible] portent[illegible]m, mechanicus etiam libros arat. Quis [illegible] [illegible] don[illegible]? [illegible] & ille mechanicus, sed insignis, ingenioq; [illegible] m ducum gratiam, sed pl[illegible]s quoq; familiaritatem, atque [illegible] at[illegible] oculos: mechanicus noster aures uulnerat, agebat ille [illegible] q[illegible]. Aut quis coq[illegible] mag[illegible]strum indignetur Apitium, [illegible] Cur enim inter culinas non scribitur, inter latrinas scribi[illegible] [illegible] re[illegible] men[illegible]. Cùm autem non inter epulas libri fiant, inter urinas [illegible] [illegible] pulcherrima ar[illegible] Rhetorica captiua perducitur & quæ po[illegible] [illegible] tegum regnat, inter Medicos ancillatur. Sed quæso te Philo-

ſophiæ atq; artium dominæ, quo animo Tullius Rhetoricam tot uoluminibus tanto ſtudio tractaſſet, ſi illam tam talis ingenij ſeruam ſciret? Quàm uerè (non dicam ſerua) ſed famula etiam tua ſit, ibi unde neſcirem, abunde quidem artificioſus, & hybleo melle dulcior oratio nis tuæ contextus inſinuat. Certè quòd ſcholis omnibus eſt notū, Rhetoricæ facultatis officium eſt appoſitè dicere, ad perſuadendum, finis perſuadere dictione. Quanta autem illud arte facias, quanta hoc felicitate perficias, qui te ſemel audierit non ignorat. Sed illa ſuū locum inuenient, à primordijs inchoandum. Excuſet autem prolixitatem mei ſermonis, quæ ignorantiæ magnitudo, de qua aut nihil omninò dici debuit, aut parum dici non debuit. Prima quidem libri tui pars, de teipſo agit, quis, qualiſue tu ſis, iam ipſum cauté [illegible] te incognitum, niſi tabellionum more de teipſo, aliquid loquereris, atque [illegible] ſcriberes auctoritate cõſtaret. Qui ſim, inquis, perlecto hoc toto iam noſces op[illegible]. O magne [illegible], nimis humiliter de te ſentis, imò uerò confeſtim accepto in manus opuſculo nouit te, quem & ante noueram. Sed nunc ſcientiam tuam omnem funditùs detexiſti, & ut ſcriptum eſt in Pſalmo: Denudaſti fundamentum eius uſq; ad collum. Quid autem de te dicas, quem te ſacias audiamus. Sum, inquis, Medicus. Audis hæc Medicinæ repertor Apollo, uel amplifica tor Aeſculapi? Conſequenter & Philoſophus, audis iſta Pythagoras, qui nomen hoc primus omnium inueniſti? Flete repertores artium, fines ueſtros proterit aſinus inſulatus, non ſe modò Philoſophū, ſed Philoſophiam ſuam iactans, Philoſophia noſtra, inquit. Heu quid hoc eſt. Peiora ſunt audienda ſi uiuimus. Iam, ut ſuſpicor, ad finem ſeculi propinquamus. [illegible]runt ſigna in ſole & luna, & ſtellis, hoc ſignum in Euangelio nec fuit, quando aſinus [illegible] ſophabitur, cœlum ruet. Quid tis dicam? Iam philoſophiæ miſereor. Si tua eſt, ſed meo periculo iurare auſim, neſcire te quid ſit eſſe Philoſophum. At ne omnia unam in partem [illegible]ram, multa etiã nunc de hac re tecū loqui habeo. Præmili autē hæc, ut ſcires apud me Philoſophum te non eſſe. Quid uerò, quid deinde intulit audax ſtultus. Se his artibus armatum, non tantùm corporis, ſed animi uitia curaturum? Venite hùc qui ægrotatis, ſalus non ſemper ex Iudæis eſt, adeſt ſemibarbarus ſoſpitator. Et me ſuperbum uocitas. Relege nunc epiſtolam illam meam, quæ te furere fecit, & faciet mori quãdo ego uel Philoſophiam, uel perſonam meam, quando me aut Philoſophū, aut Poëtam dixi, aut aliud quicquam, quàm tuorū morum & ingenij contemptorem, quod mihi non modò licitum, ſed debitum rebar. Verecundè ſe ſolius Rhetoricæ magiſtrum dicit Auguſtinus, ut te Phyloſophum dicis ac Medicum, addis & tertium, Rhetoricæ dominum, quartum licet addere, poſtquam [illegible]tulis gaudes. Cloaca es magna quidem, ut eſt apud Senecam, & profunda. En, quod ad primam tuæ g[illegible]noſi partē operis modo reſponſum uelim. Secūda apologetici tui pars de me erit, cuius in cognitione ſi falleris, non miror. Quis enim non tibi alius uideri poſsit, cū tu tibi Philoſophus uidearis? Dixiſti equidē philoſophus ſum. Tam hoc uerū, quàm quod ſequitur, tàm Philoſophus tu, quàm ego ambitioſus, arrogans, ſuperbus, nunquam mihi (fateor) cum populo conuenit, tanta tamen animi ſecuritas eſt, ut populum non recuſem, quos honores ambierim, & non potiùs ſpreuerim oblatos, quid mihi unquam arrogauerim? Vbi ſuperbè me geſſerim? De [illegible] re, & dictum eſt aliquid, & pluſculum dicere eſt animus. Loquar autem tecum iam, non ut aduerſario procaci & infeſto, ſed ut homini, neſcio tamen an rationis ullum ueſtigium habenti, & dicam, quòd ut puto, non intelliges, quoniam uicinarum terū, ne dum idiotis, ſed doctis etiam laborioſa diſcretio eſt. Sed dicam clariùs, quàm dici ſoleat, ut ſi non intellexeris, cerebri tui, non ſtyli mei uitium accuſetur, audi ergo. Superbo libertas omnis ſuperbia uidetur, ſapiens uerò inter ſuperbiam fiduciamq; diſcernit, & ſcit largiter referre [illegible] animo quid dicatur aut fiat. Hinc ille uir optime ſibi cõſcius, dum in publico perorans populus obſtreperet. Tacete (inquit) melius ego unus noui, quid Reip. expediat, quàm [illegible] nes, quod ut animo [illegible] dictum, aliquos qui ad ſuperbiam traherent fuiſſe, à [illegible] moribus non abhorret, docti autem [illegible] fiduciæ adſcribunt. Scipio ille uir maximus, qui [illegible] Aphrica reportauit, capitalem cauſam dicturus [illegible] eundem diem [illegible] mentione, ut ait Liuius, orationem adeò magnificam de [illegible] bus [illegible] conſtaret neminem unquam, non melius, neq; ucri [illegible] tum [illegible]. Quid ergo? Nunquid in proprio ore laus ſordebat? Audiebantur, inquit, [illegible] animo ing[illegible] uo geſta erant, & aurium faſtidium aberat, quia pro periculo [illegible]riam referebantur. Secundo autem dicendæ cauſæ die, dū [illegible] urgeretur, [illegible] didam & olſoletā ueſtem reorū more nõ induit, aut ſubm[illegible] [illegible]ploraùit, ſed cum fortè reuolutis annis dies eſſet, quo ipſe bello Punico ſecundo [illegible]ſiſsimo omnium, atq; grauiſsimo ſupremam manum impoſuerat [illegible] priæ recordatus, & [illegible] conſcientiæ fiducia euectus, uictorem [illegible]

[illegible] festa [illegible] eo die, [illegible] abstinendum propter diei illius anniuersarium honorem, quo ipse olim cum Hannibale & Carthaginensibus bene ac fœliciter decertasset, agendasque [illegible] Deis gratias, precandosque ut P.R. semper sui similes duces daret, desertus in [illegible] ac [illegible] iudicibus, fauente ac prosequente uniuerso populo, Capitolium & de [illegible] templa triumphantis in morem circumiuit, non minus gloriosus [illegible] ciuium, quàm fuerat [illegible] triumphator. Rem notissimam narro, tuis licet ab auctoribus non tractatam, nec cuiquam dubium esse potest, quin inaniter [illegible] laudatio turpiter sonuisset, nisi eam natura rerum [illegible] quædam quasi uiri necessitas extorsisset. Si Leonem latrantibus excitaturum dixi. Si [illegible] omnia præter uirtutem, & bonam famam solere contemnere, arroganter tibi uideor locutus, [illegible] ut in multis, neque enim insolenter me locutum noueris, sed fidenter, ut teipsum [illegible] rugitu expertus factus agnosceres. Quid enim putas, aut quid ais? Nōnne iam, reor [illegible] ceres, nisi ruborem tuus ille lætheus & immedicabilis pallor excluderet? Nonne iam [illegible] saltem, ac pallidus regnoscere incipis, quòd dixisse tibi uerum uideor [illegible], quãtum inter ingenium, & in[illegible]um, quantum inter calamum & calamũ intersit? Profectò aũt [illegible] quem mihi assumpsisse uideor uirtutis amor ac laudis, nõ [illegible] iactantiæ est, sed [illegible] per[illegible]ias me ab ea quam mihi obiectabas adulatoris infamia remotum, cum cesset illa [illegible], quæ tuam & multorum linguas docuit adulari. Sed hæc turpiter, quamuis uerè [illegible] ex ore sonuerunt, iã responsum habes. Tunc id uerè diceres, quando [illegible] manis tantùm gloriæ studio dicerentur. Nunc non magis pro mei nominis, quàm pro [illegible] defensione ueri dicta ferre debebis æquanimiter, & tibi parcere, qđ in me arguis. [illegible]issime, grauissime morum censor. Adde quod ego non mihi scientiam, aut gloriam esse, [illegible] earum cupiditatem, neque me uirtutem, aut bonam famã habere dixi, sed optare, uel quod [illegible]us est, non spernere, quid hic, oro, tàm superbum notas, nisi quia tibi res insueta est, aliquid præter pecunias optari uel amari? Accingere quicquid potes calumniæ, præter de [illegible] & affectum boni nihil mihi tribuo, quibus qui caret, sibi & alijs inutilis uiuit: Si tamen [illegible]icendus est uiuere, qui optimarum sensu rerum eget, pessimarum passionibus abundat. Accedit quod & hæc, & siquid in me laudabile, aut si quid penitùs boni est, quamuis id tibi d[illegible]ture inuide, in oculos ingesserim ut doleses, teste tamen conscientia, non inde me, [illegible] auctorem omnis boni Deum laudo, neque in meipso glorior, sed in illo ad quẽ omnia refero, [illegible]ter defectus, erroresque meos, quos mihi imputo, scit ipse me uerũ loqui. Ecce in Psalmo [illegible] ait Augustinus. Inuentum est quomodo & me laudare possim, & arrogans non sim. Verum ut de Poëtis, quibus ut canis ad lunam latras, aliquid immisceam, apud Virgilium Aeneas de se interrogatus, inter cætera quid ait.

Sum pius Aeneas, fama super æthera notus.

Idem apud Homerum respondisse nouimus Vlyssem. Ad hoc responsum meum, tu atque alij, qui nihil de nobis loqui uerum, simul atque magnificum potestis, uel superbè dictum ab Aenea, uel turpiter fictum à Virgilio clamaretis: sed doctiores excusant, quia scilicet ut ignorantes alloquens, laude propria pro iuditio sit usus, & fuerit ea sibi necessitas, non uoluntas. [illegible] autem. Nonne ego etiam ignoranti se, ignoranti me, ignoranti omnia? Equidem si [illegible] uel me, uel aliquid boni nosses, nunquã me nil tibi dicẽtem, aut dicere cogitantẽ, nullam [illegible] notitiam habentem, aut habere cupientem, tàm importunis (ut repetã quod te pre[illegible] us excitasses. Cuius te hodie puto pœniteat, sed pudor animi retrahere pedem [illegible]at. Anxius itaque, ridiculusque luctator, alienam quod mihi forsitan credis incognitã in tuis resp[illegible]unculis opem quæris, piget hinc percepisse, pudet inde desinere. Ita tergiuersaris, incertus hæres, atque ut est in antiquo prouerbio: Auribus lupum tenes. Vnum hoc loco prætereire [illegible]od [illegible]ter superbias meas ponis, indignũ te mihi uisum qui meis opuscu[illegible] V[illegible] e autem quæso, ut inter tuas potiùs numerandum sit, si tibi contrarium ui[illegible]tur. Scripsi aliqua nec delino, haud unquam desinam, dum hic digitus calamũ feret, sed [illegible] alijs ne me rursum, de meipso magnificẽ loqui dicas. Scribo de uiris illustribus, qua[illegible] am dicere, iudicent qui legẽt, de quantitate pronũcio, haud dubiè magnum opus [illegible]rumque uigil[illegible] ab auctore, certè à subiecta materia nominandum, nihil [illegible] [illegible]nicis, [illegible] quidem aut Philosophis agitur, sed de his tantùm qui bellicis uir[illegible]us, aut magno Reip[illegible]dio floruerũt, & præclaram rerum gestarum gloriam consecuti [illegible] bi debitum locum [illegible]as, dic ubi uis inseri. Parebitur, sed uerendum est, ne quos om[illegible] res, [illegible]tum hac ingenij paupertate licuit in unum contraxi, ad[illegible]tu[illegible] d[illegible]giant, teque [illegible] remanent, mutandus libri titulus, neque de uiris illustribus [illegible] in [illegible] in [illegible]dum sit. Si audire me uelles, petendum potiùs ab Apuleio Madaurensi, ut [illegible]bro phil[illegible] asini locũ habeas, uel orandus Plautus, ut alicubi in Am-

phitry ... te collo... ubi syllogismos tuos explicans, probes Byriā nihil esse, magnoq; animo cōtēn... d' ... meis locus tibi desit opusculis, cū & alibi aptius esse possis, & ego nu... in t... ope... us locum quæram. Illud quoq; locus hic exigit, quàm certè sit rutum, de ueritate tecum colloq..., qua... tranquillum uide, stātibus enim scriptis obstrepere, ... ri non pudet, quid faceres inter uerba u... na? Quid est autem quod inter multa dixisti. Me senectutem detestari? Nihil hoc falso falsius. Nemo me reuerentior senectutis, nemo qui ætatis illam partem pluris faciat, qui eam æquiori animo complectatur, si iam adest, ... appropinquat, expectet. Sed ita demum apud me uenerabilis est senectus, si ab honestis progressa primordijs, gloriosum habet aliquid præter rugas. In libro Sapientiæ, si qua tibi talium cura esset, hanc sententiam inuenisses. Senectus, inquit, uenerabilis est: recum sentiebat, nisi addid... et. Non diuturna neq; numero annorum computata, ecce iam dissentire incipit. Quid ergo. Cani sunt (inquit) sensus hominis, & ætas senectutis uita immaculata. Cato ille senex famo... ... mus, qui ætatis huius Tullium patronus ac laudat... r inducitur, dū senectutē operosam, semperq; aliquid agentem dixisset. Addidit: Tale scilicet, quale cuiusq; studium in superiori uita fuit, & iterum: In omni oratione (inquit) mementote me eam senectutem laudare, quæ fundamentis adolescentiæ constituta sit. Si hunc Philosophe reprehendis, me reprehende, secū enim sentio, nec contrarium dixi prorsus, mutare scripta mea nō potes, quippè nec ego ipse qui condidi, postea quàm in publicū exierunt, mei iuris esse desierunt. Quid igitur dixi? Delirare sæpiùs solent senes. Hinc calumniæ radix, sed procede noli sub... ere, lege quod sequitur: Non quidem omnes, sed quorum iuuenilis ætas, uilibus curis o... cœno ... ificio acta est. Id fortè uerbo, tu uerum negas, facta aūtem probas esse uerissimum. Itaq; De... ... ector, me nil aliud, quàm te unum dum id scriberem cogitasse, qualis enim senex esse pote... ... mentiendo, blandiendo, fallendoq; consenuit? Stultorum senium ingens copia est ... quare? Quia sapientum iuuenum immensa penuria, qui atū inter uitia senuerūt, quò ad met... m propius accedunt, eò magis insaniūt. Hos ego sæpiùs delirantes dixi, nec mirum, si ex his in quibus usq; in finem uiuitur, senectus ultima uitæ pars plus impressionis accipit quàm reliquæ, & si densiores in unum sordes suo more descendunt. Propter eandem causam, qui in uirtute per omnem uitam delectati sunt, in senectute mirabiles retroacti temporis fructus legunt. Et tum maxime fœlices sunt, dum esse desinunt, ut incipiant esse perenniter. Hos autem constat esse rarissimos, horumq; est illa, quam dicis uenerabilem senectutem. Reliqui uerò qui medium locum tenent, ut plus, minusue hanc, aut in illam partem inclinati uixerunt, sic in senectute meliores, aut peiores fiunt. Itaq; mille uarietates & morum infinita distantia, nec senum modò, sed iuuenum, quorum omnium naturas benè, nisi fallor, & Aristoteles in Rhetoricis, & in arte Poëtica descripsit Horatius. Hæc mihi nunc senum distinctio probatur, quæ si tibi non placet, scribe aliam summe Philosophorum, quam in marmoribus indicamus. Certè ut ad stultos senes redeam, nunquam tu prima ætate, quanquam semper temeritate notabilis fueris, ausus fuisses, garrire ista tàm stolidè, et si in animo habuisses, solet ... m adolescentiæ familiaris esse iracundia. Crede igitur mihi, nil stulto, turpiq; sene m... ... us ... & stultitia puerilis superest, & semel accessisse uidet auctoritas. Sed ... iam hinc ... nem tuum amplius non sequar quippè qui nullo modo mihi uidcor ... na... tis dict... us, quam si longissimè discesserim ab ordine libri illius, quem mihi serio ... ... ris remisisti, ut apertè conijcerem, qualis tibi repentinus ac tumultuarius stylus esset, ... tus ac ser... is talis est. Pessimum quidem in primis hominum genus, summoq; studio declinandum, quibus est stultitiæ mixta caliditas. Qui uero huiuscemodi cum aduersario mihi negocium ... ebam, satis ut puto, ne quàm tibi iustam mordēdi materiam loquendo tribuerem circumspexi. Crebro igitur dixi, non me Medicinę detrahere, sed tibi loquor impropriè, nihilo detrahi nihil potest, sed intelligit quid uelim, protestationem humilem ac ueram, superbe, mendax reijcis. Credo non aliam ob causam, nisi ut indignitate ipsa exacuas, & irrites ad dicendum, quod dixisse nolim, nunquàm tamen efficies, ut odio turpium pulcherrima contemnem, qui cōtra Medicinam ipsam, mihi feceris chariorem, quod tu eam dehon... ... ac polluis. Scio ut dixi non inutile artificium, auxilioq; caduci corporis inuentum, ... hoc prohibet, illudq; simul uerū esse, te ... m tuis falso illam titulare cognomine ... ... ridicule, æquiraris argutor, æquiru... laudas, extra propositum uersaris. Sed nullum ... ... imò aliquos. Et quo ... quies? Ad tribunal prętoris urbani res a... ur, quis me ad hoc coget res... dere si nolim? Non est nunc al... s gratificandi locus tecū m... es est, noui mores tuos, quos si tu æque nosses, odi... es, si scribam quod sentio compatrioris mei amicis meis me blāditum dices, nihil est enim quod non simile sibi fingat uilis ac uenalis ani... ... qualem ... nouit, tales alios opinatur, qua nulla inter homines cæcitas ma... , men... ... ... atui cun-

cta

cta meti[illegible], nec gigantem m[illegible]nus ædificas, nec formica cogitat Elephantem. Aliquot ni[illegible] Medicos uer[illegible] noui, & [illegible], & ea quæ in omnium artium arte ponenda est discre[illegible] pollentes, quibus [illegible] m[illegible]lestior es, quò te præsiùs intuentur, & pr[illegible] [illegible], t[illegible] non ambigu[illegible] deformari. Isto autem, nullos norim Med[illegible]s, [illegible] exceperim quid ue[illegible] mihi, præser[illegible] in studijs longè alijs uacan[illegible] [illegible] corporis debent[illegible] Medi[illegible], sed naturæ? V[illegible]cunque res se habeat, [illegible] ego [illegible] Medicinam, aut a[illegible] in[illegible] locutus in[illegible]eniar, licet ut soleo, c[illegible]us [illegible] tor[illegible]s, [illegible] forsan liberiore per[illegible]ulserim. Quorum in turba te latentem [illegible] Philosophe, non te, sed ignorantiā persequebar, eamque [illegible], [illegible] ignorantia superborum, humilium subleuanda. Si in hac in[illegible]ione p[illegible], [illegible] es læsus, ueniam metu., quia ignorans feci. Gaude[illegible] nunc su[illegible], qua[illegible] [illegible], ideo potiùs ineptias tuas. Ignorantium infamiam a[illegible] te tra[illegible] doct[illegible] uideans, imò uerò ignorantiæ tibi conscius, ex me [illegible] ignorantia [illegible], [illegible] dictum putas, & quod dis[illegible]mulando fieri[illegible] [illegible]. Quid uerò si paucos Medico[illegible]? Quid si pauci[illegible] uno [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]tamiam [illegible] gloriam spectat. Non'ne debuerat generosus animus [illegible] [illegible]s, ad ipsum nomen gloriosæ paucitatis assurgere, [illegible] credere? Sed certè, id non omnibus datum est, & paucissim[illegible] pr[illegible] [illegible] ea raritas est amica, quamobrem, ubi nobilis exultasset spiritus, plebe[illegible] [illegible]. Cur q[illegible] fo? An & hic fallor? An mentior? Profectò non solum hodie, sed [illegible] [illegible] genio[illegible]s, rarissimos sapientes fuisse, nemo dubitet, nisi qui nunquàm oculos uel [illegible] suam intenderit, uel ad antiquam reflexerit. Stulte[illegible] nolo quis sis excidat, [illegible] [illegible] sane uix ul[illegible]a unquā ætas, uel ingeniorum, uel uirtutum fuit egentior, quàm [illegible] [illegible]olpi[illegible] hominum accidit, siue fato, si tamen eo nomine [illegible] licet, & non rectiùs [illegible] [illegible]eu prouidentia dici debet in sermone Catholico, [illegible] quod tu fabu[illegible] putas, m[illegible] [illegible]m senescens, & ad extremum uergens, more senescentis hominis piger ac [illegible], [illegible]peratione lentescit, & tamen hac ipsa ætate, nulla ingeniorum penuria p[illegible] [illegible] genio locus fiat, frustra t[illegible] contentionibus implicas, frustrà t[illegible] duello n[illegible] [illegible] aut ego[illegible] quod nunquam cogitaui[illegible] Medic[illegible]am uerbis ag[illegible]r, aut ipsa non a [illegible] rimi malit, quàm à te defendi, qui eam & exercendo u[illegible]as, & [illegible]pprimi[illegible] de[illegible] [illegible]um ergo niteris, nullus usquàm famæ tuæ locus est, nemo [illegible] clamoribus t[illegible] [illegible] clulos uerbis manibus, aut peregrinis medicaminibus infectos, tui memo[illegible] [illegible]uum effecisti. Duo hic, ante[illegible] quàm ad maiores [illegible] tuæ criminationis [illegible] [illegible], [illegible]eniter exufflanda sunt, quæ dixisse me fingis, an somnias. Nonnunquam co[illegible] [illegible] Medicos c[illegible] eosque non semper curare. Vtrumque en[illegible] m[illegible] ma[illegible] [illegible] sudori[illegible] us ex[illegible]usas. [illegible] pre[illegible] [illegible] cute epistolam meam, quot puto propter ueritatis odium grauiter [illegible] [illegible], [illegible]go illam r[illegible]legens, horum nihil inuenio, & de Medicis quid[illegible] a[illegible]ás: de te mihi nunc [illegible] Hippo[illegible], pellis ægrotorum, dedecus Medicorum, [illegible] te [illegible] nūc [illegible] [illegible] dixi, non te contra ueritatem, interdum de indu[illegible]a, uel [illegible], e[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] quo stultissimè gloriaris, sed sola semper urgenti cæ[illegible] ne[illegible] te in[illegible] cu[illegible]re, [illegible]d cupidè p[illegible]sers, quasi clypeū inscitiæ pestilent[illegible]s, se[illegible] [illegible]n m[illegible] æ[illegible]os in morte agere. Hoc dico, ad hoc mihi respōdeas uelim, hoc [illegible] ser[illegible] [illegible] patro[illegible] exc[illegible]. Si enim negas, contentione dimissa, populo teste [illegible]. Nota [illegible] p[illegible]gantibus ut ue[illegible]as ingere[illegible], sic subtrahenda est uerbosæ altercationis [illegible]asio.

[illegible] nunc co[illegible]s, p[illegible] infœlix, et consilij semper inops, frustrà tot malis admon[illegible] [illegible] tered[illegible]s. Quem igit[illegible] ignorantiæ tuæ in testimonium adduco? Nempe non [illegible] neque [illegible] tent[illegible]m mut[illegible] uerum est, inscitiam tuam populus nouit expertu[illegible], ide[illegible] à te poscit [illegible]x[illegible]um. Gaude [illegible] insolens Medicus, iam nō Medicus tantùm, sed Deo simil[illegible] [illegible] de quo scriptum est in Psalmo: Cum occideret eos quærebant eum. Ille quidem [illegible] [illegible]terat, & tu potes, ut d[illegible]cis. Quid enim sonat illud, quod inter in[illegible]es, ndic[illegible] lasque ia[illegible] [illegible] e[illegible]udisti? Vel[illegible] sæpe oper[illegible] homines uelut à mortuis suscitatos, quantum a[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]eum faceres. Sed expecta, ego te ante huius ludi finem, in cōcilio deorum ponam, [illegible] [illegible]itate [illegible]a dignum si potero nomen inueniam, nunc propo[illegible]tum sequor. Impunè o[illegible]c[illegible]dis, [illegible]im [illegible]uscites? Sed omis[illegible] p[illegible]hanis, & sine car[illegible]ibus nugis tuis, cur hoc popul[illegible] [illegible] me roges, facit hoc prudenter ut reliqua, sapientis est uerbum. Stultorum infinitus est [illegible]erus. Eorum uerò quæ à talibus fiunt, frustrà ratio inquiritur, si penitùs causam pe[illegible]? [illegible]am affert amicus Medicorum Plinius, quam tu spernis ignotum, & quam e[illegible] [illegible]im[illegible] in epistola [illegible]a ad Clementem Papam, unde tota i[illegible] alis oritur. In hac enim, ait

[illegible] Medicum profitēri, statim [illegible] cum [illegible] ex persona populi loquens. [illegible] erandi pro se cuique [illegible]. Hæc est causa [illegible] mos [illegible] artibus [illegible]. Vbi [illegible] rum regnat [illegible] quam frenis mul[illegible] [illegible] uram de [illegible] sententiam. Sed [illegible] amen [illegible] tere [illegible] tus es publi[illegible] minimè flenda est. Quod si fortè doctos [illegible] illos à mortuis suscitatos, qu[illegible] (ut Cicero) [illegible] huius uitæ finis, melioris, uitæ principium [illegible] Philosophi [illegible]. Sed absit, ut tale aliquid cogitare ualeas [illegible] omnes qui pereunt [illegible] unquam desinit [illegible] das [illegible] in me [illegible] Quis non [illegible] Si [illegible] quem [illegible] solitum [illegible] Rhetorica, aut Grammatica interdicas [illegible] Logicæ [illegible] O summum [illegible] specime barbarismi[illegible], eam [illegible] mihi subtrahis Dialecticam, quam Logicam [illegible] quod [illegible] possim illustres Philosophos proferre hanc ipsam [illegible] Dialecticam [illegible] dentes, eademque possim apud Ciceronem ostendere [illegible] horum [illegible] Peripateticos, caru[illegible]. Sed [illegible] [illegible] libus artibus dandum [illegible]. Didici à Philosophis [illegible] isse laudabile, sic in eisdem senescere puerile est. [illegible] nisi [illegible] bus ac uagis, quibus nullus est uitæ p[illegible] est quicquid [illegible] in summo [illegible] syllogismum, & nihil ex nihilo [illegible] texueris. [illegible] in corde tuo [illegible] Non est Deus. [illegible] aspira[illegible] Quid enim scimus. Plato & Aristoteles ma[illegible] mundum faciu[illegible], Democritus innumerabiles mundos facit, Epicurus [illegible] & mo[illegible] animam, hanc Pythagoras in gyrum ducit. Sunt qui eam contrahant ad [illegible] corpus, sunt qui eam spargant in corporibus animantum, sunt qui cœlo reddāt, sunt qui [illegible] exulare [illegible] sunt qui inferos a[illegible], sunt qui negent, [illegible] unam quamque [illegible] qui simul omnes animas creatas putent [illegible] qui [illegible] uddā [illegible] intellectus attulit dux uester Auerrois [illegible]: Quis [illegible] ista discernat. Qui [illegible] autem [illegible] quis Ch[illegible] [illegible] od [illegible] unquam [illegible] arum fecit. [illegible] res[illegible] Q[illegible] ad contentionem uentum fuer[illegible] [illegible] ego qui n[illegible] ertius nihil eram iam mag[illegible] us esse [illegible] Dialectica mea est, ad quid aliud nat[illegible] erā, habeo qu[illegible] pe[illegible], colocutoremque meum si libet asinum probo. Crede au[illegible] [illegible] quam, inter hæc ergo male nate homuncio senuis[illegible] nec pudet in[illegible] nihil [illegible] aliud age[illegible]. Discite miseri non spernere Christum, sæpe ille nobis qui esset, & quid offe[illegible]. O infœlix uilem tibi metam Dialecticam statuisti, ad quam [illegible] men, mira [illegible] nunquam propinquaueris, peruenisse te putes, sed p[illegible] neris, sed à ter[illegible] pum, quid inde tibi, nisi miserum, pudēdum[illegible]. Qu[illegible] maior, qu[illegible] os dies inter puerilia uolutari [illegible] cumque [illegible] dom [illegible] re[illegible] atque [illegible] ineptias non ante dimittere, quàm [illegible] consulserit. Illam [illegible] præmeditari, [illegible] ptum a [illegible] componi, illi si res exi[illegible] prō ætate a [illegible] ne, miseram [illegible] am alto animo pacisci [illegible] demum [illegible] quam quidam [illegible] aliud quam co[illegible] nem mortis es[illegible] dixerunt. Q[illegible] à paganis inuen[illegible] anorum, tamen [illegible] motus, & spes æternæ, & d[illegible] tionis desider[illegible] Philosophum, uel semel [illegible] Philosophum di[illegible] aus[illegible]

la[illegible]

tæ figeres ubi nunc figis, aut artificium tuũ, quòd uerbis attollis rebus opprimens, iam parua teipſum pecunia turpiter uenditares. Philoſophi enim, ſi neſcis, pecunias ſpernunt. Philoſophiam uenalem facere non potes, quis enim uendit quod non habet? Si tu eam haberes, non tu illam ideò uenalem faceres, ſed illa te uenalem eſſe non fineret, nunc nec ipſa te honeſtat, nec tu eam, ſed nomen eius turpi auaritia dehoneſtas.. Audis nec ſophiſta uentoſe, parce quæſo Logicæ nobilis, parce ſi te ſophiſtam uoco, res ipſa me cogit. Vbi enim res uideo, uerbis contrarijs fidem non habeo. Cornutum mihi enthymema producito, admoue ad aculeum, cogere poteris fortaſſe ut fatear, ut aſſentiar nunquam coges, quod ego te Philoſophum credam, cum mercenarium mechanicum ſciam. Repeto libenter hoc nomen, quia noui, quod nullo magis uteris conuitio, non caſu, ſed ſciens ſæpè te mechanicum uoco, & quo grauius doleas non primum, percõctare qui mechanica literis mandauerunt, ab illis digito tibi monſtrabitur locus tuus, tu tamen reſpuis, & Philoſophus uis uideri, quod ut aſſequaris (ludus riſu Comico proſequendus) non ſemel methodi uocabulo uſus es. O callidum ingenium, adoptatum compendio peruenisti, iam Philoſophum te alij fortè dicent, ego autem non, ſi ſingulas lineas methodis multis infartias. Philoſophum te putabo ineſt equidem (fateor) ſæpè etiam ſtultorum animis gloriæ quædam præceps & inconſulta cupiditas, hanc tibi detrahere nõ poſſum, eſt enim uoluntas indomita, præcipueq; dementium. Id ſcito certiſsimè, neceſſe te Philoſophum nec uideri, proinde omnium blaſphematum & totius logicæ auxilium implora, mihi prius upupam, quam Philoſophum te probabis. Miraris indocte, & quid mihi, inquis, atq; upupæ ſimile eſt? Nil profecto ſimilius. Volucris galeata eſt, criſtatiq; uerticis, & quæ pueris aliquid uideatur, re autem uera impuriſſima eſt auis, uictusq; fœdiſsimi. Nolo aliquid obſcœnum loqui, non quidem propter te, qui non horres earum rerum mentionem, quarum odoribus delectaris, ſed propter eos, qui legent iſta, uel audient. Sciſcitare aliquem, qui naturas rerum nouerit, dicet tibi auis illius cibos, inde te, moresq; tuos inſpice, teq; ipſum noli fallere (nulla enim perniciolior, nulla capitalior fraus eſt, quàm quæ proprium fallit auctorem) uidebis te eiſdem quibus illam rebus ali. Oro iam upupa, noli philoſophari, citiùs philoſophabitur aſellus, certè præclarus Platonicus Apuleius, cuius ſupra memini, qui accepto ueneno, aſinum factum ſe (ut ait Auguſtinus) aut iudicauit aut finxit, in eo ſtatu philoſophatum ſe iocando commemorat, philoſophantem upupam nulla habet hiſtoria. Eia upupa, fac quod ſoles, rimare tumulos, cætera ſileo, Philoſophiam linque Philoſophis. Putabas te Philoſophum, fallebaris. Philoſophus (quod ipſum nomen oſtendit) ſapientiæ amator, tu pecuniæ ſeruus es. Sentis Logice quam ſint iſta contraria, ſine magno apparatu concluſum arbitror, eſſe te aliud quàm putabas? Quid autem in ſomnijs philoſophando non audeas, qui colorem Medici negando, præſtringere oculos, uel excuſando rationem hebetare non ſis ueritus? In primis pallorẽ negas, ita nec oculi nobis ſunt, nec ſpeculum tibi. Deinde ſi pallor ſit, illum Reip. imputas, nec excuſaſſe contentus gloriari incipis, quaſi philoſophicum ſit pallere. Quàm dulce Deus bone uerum Philoſophiæ nomen eſt doctis, cum falſum tibi tàm dulce ſit, ut inter multa ludicra te philoſophicè coloratum dicas? Certè pallorem amantibus, magiſter amorum tribuit. Vnde eſt illud:

Palleat omnis amans color hic eſt aptus amanti.

Et illud alterius:

Tinctus uiola pallor amantium.

Sed ueſter longè alius pallor, & ut ſtatim audies aliunde proueniens, hunc pallorem non ego, non unus aliquis ſcriptorum ueterum, ſed res ipſa uobis tribuit, & opinio omnium mortalium, & commune prouerbium. Hunc tu negare uis, & quia non potes, ad philoſophos transfers, quaſi conſorte uitium leuaturus. At qui philoſophorum principes, utriusq; linguæ præclara facie fuiſſe uulgatum eſt, non tamen hæc magnifacio, ſed quæcunq; fuerit philoſophorum facies. Tu ne te rurſum ingeris impudentiſsimè hominũ, tu ne mihi totiens philoſophorum cœtibus excludendus occurris. Reſpondebo igitur rurſum tibi, quod cuidam tui generis reſpondit facundiſsimus quidam uir. Barbam, inquit, ac pallium addam, ego ſi libet, & ægritudinem, & pallorem uideo, Philoſophum non uideo. Elegans planè reſponſio. Quid enim ad Philoſophiam habitus corporis aut color? Habitus colorq; (ut ita dixerim) animi requiruntur. Tu de Philoſopho præter opinionem tuam propriam ac ridiculam nihil habes, non famam certè, non aſpectum, quamuis palleas, non inceſſum. Ille fatuum potius, quàm Philoſophum repræſentat, malè tutus eſſes inter canes, tàm benè lepus, aut ceruus quàm fatuus uidereris. Poſtremò eorum, quæ certius probant Philoſophum, nil habes, non uitam, non animum, non mores, non ingenium, non linguam. Vides quam nullo mo-

dò ſim paſſurus, ut nomen Philoſophi uſurpando commaculas. Perſuaſiſti autem tibi ut intelligo, prorſus te eſſe magnum aliquid. Benè eſt, ſatis eſt tibi quidem ut gaudeas, nobis ut rideamus: ſin etiam ut credamus uis efficere, facto eſt opus, philoſophiæ pars nobilior in rebus eſt, quando te contemptorem rerum caducarum uidero, cultoremq; uirtutum, ſtudioſum ueræ laudis, pecuniæ negligentem, inhiantem cœleſtibus, à latrinis diuitum exulantem, tunc credere potero, quicquid uoles. Porrò enim ut Platonem ſequens ait Auguſtinus: Si ſapientia Deus eſt, per quem facta ſunt omnia (ſicut diuina auctoritas, ueritaſq; monſtrauit) uerus Philoſophus eſt amator Dei. Tu igitur amens uage, intra cubiculũ tuũ redi, tibi Philoſophum illum quære, quem tàm temerariè profiteris, nuſquam inuenies. Verum iſta cœleſtis, & tibi hactenus inaudita philoſophia eſt. Agamus itaq; iuxta uetus prouerbium, pingui Mineruа, ſic enim pingue tuum poſcit ingenium. Si communia illa terrenæ philoſophiæ aut ſi quid eorum præſtiteris, dignus eſto, qui iuxta Platonem ſedeas, Ariſtotelẽ doceas, Socratem celebres, cum Xenophonte contendas. Nunc uerò inops omnium quæ philoſophũ faciunt. Qua fronte philoſophicum nomen tibi, ſiue (ut cœpto hæream) uenerandum, nocturniſq; cõtractum chartis, philoſophici oris arrogas pallorem, tuus nempè diurnis peluibus contractus, & marcidus pallor eſt, quem ſi tibi, uel amicitiæ affectus, uel pauperum miſeratio, uel quàm tu fingis Reip. charitas aſperſiſſet, poſſes non modò non infamis, ſed glorioſus etiam uideri. Nunc modici fames auri, per omnes cloacas miſerum trahit, & talem facit, ut teipſum ſi uideres horrere merito poſsis ac fugere. Noli ergo Reip. ſed cupiditatibus tuis aſſcribere, quod talis es, neq; ſtudium infamare, ſed uitam tuam. Proculdubiò enim acutiſsimæ Philoſophiæ, ueram rei cauſam, in aperto poſitam non uidiſti, & uis uidere, quid in imo uiſcerum ac librarũ lateat, quod eſt ante oculos nõ uides. Oſtendam tibi ego, qui nõ ſum Medicus, & Logica careo, palloris tui cauſam, quàm ueram eſſe ſenties uel inuitus. Is per loca atra, liuida, fœtida, pallida, undantes pelues rimaris, ægrotantium urinas aſpicis, aurum cogitas? Quid igitur miri eſt, ſi tot circum pallidis, atris ac croceis, ipſe quoq; ſis pallidus, ater, ac croceus? Et ſi grex ille quondam prouidẽtiſsimi Patriarchæ colorẽ traxit, obiectu uirgarum uariarum, quid noui accidit, ſi tu quoq; expectas ut ab auro dicam, imò uerò, ab obiectis. Multum diſtuli, & libentiùs tacerem, ſed materia uerum nomen exigit, quod ſi ſæpè in literis ſacris eſt, ſemel in his ſcriptum tolerabitur, ab obiectis, inquam, ſtercoribus & colorem, & odorem traxeris, & ſaporem?

FRANCISCI PETRARCHAE V. C. CONTRA MEDICVM QVENDAM, INVECTIVARVM

LIBER III.

AVT ego fallor Hippocrates, & Ariſtoteles ſecunde, aut in hoc certamine, quod tecum conuitijs tuis cogentibus ſuſcepi, prima iam leuis armaturæ tuæ acies fuſa eſt. Venio nunc ad armatos & graues ſyllogiſmorum cuneos, in quibus uelut in equitatu electo, totam uictoriæ ſpem reponis, ut hic quoq; quid poſsis appareat. Vbi illud primum occurrit, quod unum dementiæ tuę ſufficiens argumentum erat, quando digreſſus à Medicinæ laudibus, quæ ſunt multæ, niſi tu eas nõn tàm loquendo, quàm rudendo minueres, ſubito furore correptus, ſine ulla cauſa irruis in Poëtas, & more tuo nota, atq; ignota permiſcens, iterum cogis ut rideam. Ante omnia quidem poſſem calumniam tuam paucis uerbis eludere, poëtas impetis, quid ad me? Poëtæ reſpondeant, uel quod eſt rectiùs contẽnant. Non enim aut tu tanti es, ut tibi ſit magnopere reſiſtendum, aut poëſis auxilio meo egeat, aut ego me Poëtam facio. Neq; enim me tali dignor honore, ut eſt apud Vergilium, & ſi tu me dicas, aut alij poëtam fortè dicere uoluerint, nihil tamen omninò mibi tecum poëticæ rei eſt. Sed quoniam hoc in alijs meis ad te literis carpere nequiuiſti, & ingenio fatigato nonnunquam diuerticula huiuſmodi, & cum ſtultis quoq; colloquia grata ſunt, inſiſtam nõ moleſtè, audiamq; quicquid ineptire libuerit. Illud primum quæro, cum lingua illa temeraria

cia & pigra, & uiscosa, & pharmacis delibuta multa ructaueris in Poëtas, quasi uerę fidei aduersos, uitādosq; fidelibus, & ab Ecclesia Dei relegatas. Quid de Ambrosio, Augustino & Hieronymo, quid de Cypriano, Victorinoq; martyre, quid de Lactantio, cæterisq; Catholicis scriptoribus sentias? Apud quos nullum penè mansurum opus sine Poetarū c..e construitur, cum contra ferè nullus hæreticorum Poëticum aliquid opusculis suis inseruerit, seu ignorantia, seu quod ibi suis erroribus consonum nihil esset. Quamuis enim deorum nomina multa commemorent, quòd temporum qualitatem, gentiumq; potiùs, quàm suum iudicium secutos, fecisse credendum est, quod ipsum & Philosophi fecerunt, qui ut in Rhetoricis legimus, Deos esse non arbitrantur, tamen Poëtarum clarissimi unum omnipotentem, omnia creantem, omnia regentem opificem rerum Deū in suis operibus sunt confessi. Respondebis autem, nescire te quid apud Catholicos agatur, quippè qui Galeni θεραπεύτικα tantum legas, quàm non legisse me dicis. Ad quod illud Marij ducis eximij responsum accipe. Neq; literas Græcas, inquit, didici, parum placebat eas discere, quippè quæ ad uirtutem doctoribus nihil profuerant, certè si te tua illa θεραπεύτικα uel meliorem, uel doctiorem, uel saltem corpore saniorem effecisset, dolerem me eas literas non legisse. Nunc dum te intus & extra cōtueor, multū uel iuditio, uel fortunæ meæ gratulor, p quàm ab ea lectione remotus sum, quæ te talem fecit, si talis mihi futura erat, qualis est tibi. Sed ad Poëtas redeo. Quę sit Poëticæ utilitas, & quis finis, interrogas. Larga quidē, nec inamœna forte ... mutilis ... ōdēdi materia, poterā si nō ubi, salte uero satisfacere, & pauca tibi nō intelligeres, sed qu... ...æsieras uerba proijcere, sed nō finis, & more lymphatici festinās, quæstionē ... ipse tuā pr... ...ātèr absoluis, alijs quidē pluribus, & unctioribus uerbis. Sed hac planè sententia sinē Poëticæ statuens, ualdè mirabilem, mulcendo fallere. Non sunt uates unguentarij, mulcere & ...lere uestrum est, sed his satis supra respōsum puto. Quo deinde, quo Philosophus noster ruit, poësim non necessariam probat, syllogismo terribili, pudet inserere, nihil in meis literis uelim tàm friuolū inueniri. Verte eum, tu qui multis hunc mensibus fabricatus es, probabitq; contrarium. Malo tamen nihil immutes, perficiasq; quòd intendis, hoc uolo, hinc tecum sentio, ipsiq; tecum sentiunt Poëtæ. Quid enim aliud uult Flaccus in arte Poëtica clarissimis quidem uerbis, sed quæ tibi barbarica uideantur, ideoq; illa nō inserui. Cæterùm ut in re ipsa tecum sentio, sic in causis, effectibusq; dissentio, nec solus ego, sed ueritas, neq; enim propter causam, quàm tu putas, non necessaria poësis est, neq; ex eo, quod non necessaria fatemur, sequitur quòd tu putas. Locus requirere uidetur, ut repetam eam, quæ mihi ante multos annos fuit, cum quodam Dialectico sanè, Siculo similem quęstionem grauissimè quidem, sed tamen aliquantò tolerabiliùs delirante. Ille enim styli conscius scribere non audebat, tu ad omnem stultitiā prōptus ac præceps, auderes ipsum uerbis inuadere Ciceronem, aut ipsum scriptis lacerare Demosthenem, modò aliquid uideri posses, quāuis imperita tentare certamina prærupte temeritatis homullule non timeres. Abstinebat ille igitur scriptis, hoc saltem uerecundiæ inerat, multa tamen ad unius amici mei aurem quotidie murmurabat, quæ ad me usq; huc, ipsius amici calamo proferebantur, inter multa quidem hoc erat, quod ex te nunc audio. Minime necessariā poësim, q cū nemo præsentium negasset cōclusit ille, enthymemate claudicante & rauco, ut illū protinus ex uerbis, aut scholarē, aut pceptorē tuum suspicer, & ait: Ergo ignobilis & indigna. Idē uel dicis certè, uel cogitas. Quid enim aliud sibi uult operosa illa & futilis, & ante medium fessa deductio, sed quòd uni sa tuo dici..., sufficit dixisse multis. O insane igit̄ putas, necessitas artiū nobilitatē arguat, contrà est, aliogn nobilissimus artificiū erit agricola. Sutor quoq; & pistor, & tu si mactare desieris, in pretio eritis. Absit nulla uos necessitas in pretio ponet, nulla faciet non esse mechanicos. Nescius qđ seruum domesticum, sæpè quô uilior, eò magis necessarius, Clibanarius & lanista, q̄ necessa... ..., q̄ ...iles. Citiùs philosophiæ scholis & militari cingulo, quam macello & balneis sit carit... plebecula. Ite nunc Dialectici senes, ex necessitate nobilitatem argute, si uidetur, nisi fortè aliud sentitis, in reb. uita sensu, & ratione carentib. tētate hic etiā, si libet uestræ artis effectū. Asinus magis est necessarius, q̄ Leo, gallina quàm aqla, ergo nobiliores. Ficulnus magis necessaria quā laurus, mola quàm iaspis, ergo nobiliores. Malè cōcluditis: falsum dicitis, pueriliter loquimini, quod naturæ uestræ & moribus, & studio cōuenit, nō ætati, idiotæ procaces, in ore semper habetis Aristotelē (qui credo) in ore uestro, quàm in inferno esse tristius ducat, & puto dextram suam oderit, qua illa scripsit, quæ paucis intellecta, per ora multorū ignorantium uolitarent. Ille certè, uestram cōclusiunculam nō probat, ubi ...it. Necessariò res quidem omnes, dignior uerò nulla. Locum non signo, nam & famosissimus locus est, & ut Aristotelicus insignis. Quod uerò poësim inter liberalia non admittis, potes id quidem philosophiæ atq; artium dominus, iure tuo, sed te Homerus, ac Virgilius

precantur, ut eos saltem à mechanicis non excludas, cum (quod dissimulare non potes) sis, & ipse mechanicus, hoc tantum refert, quod Philosophiam tuam esse dicis, mechanicum te esse dicunt alij. An in ordine uestro Poëtas non recipis, si eos etiam inde repuleris durus eris. Verum ut omittam iocos, numera liberales artes, nunquid tibi (non dico Medicinam) quæ alibi habitat, & inter mechanicas septa est. Sed ipsum Philosophiæ nomen inuenies. Sæpè inter magnos non poni, cuiusdam eximiæ magnitudinis argumentum est? Dabo tibi illustre exemplum ex historijs, audires, credo, libentius fabellas, quas post cœnam ante focum de oraculo, & lamijs audire soles, sed annis certè iam non puer, si potes assuesce melioribus. Apud Titum Liuium Hannibal ipse, uir profectò in sua arte doctissimus, dum interrogatus. Quos fuisse bellorum duces omnium gentium clarissimos, extimaret Alexandrum Macedoniæ regem primò, Pyrrhum Epirotam secundò, & (quod eius de qua multa dixi, fiduciæ non superbiæ fuit) sese tertiò nominasset. Admonitus cur Africanum à quo uictum eum esse constabat, prætermisset. Ita certè respondet, ut appareat eum non obliuione uel inuidia, sed ad singularem laudem inter magnos maximum, siue inter maximos incomparabilem siluisse, & Africanum è grege aliorum Imperatorum (ut ipsius Liuij uerba ponā) uelut inexrimabilem secreuisse, de qua re multa dici possent, sed intelligenti satis, nō intelligenti autem nimis est dictum. Ad omnes quidem eas nugas, ad quas Aristotelem trahere uis inuitum, non respondeo. Pudet enim me tui nimis, in propatulo ignorantiam habes, sed fidentissimè unum dicam, nescire te quid sit, Tragœdia, aut quid de tetrametris in iambicos transisse, cum tamen turpe sit docto uiro proferre quod nesciat. Redi ad cor fateberis me uerum dicere, hoc mihi satis est dicas, sed in publico me mentitum, scis tu te nihil horum intelligere, neq; hoc tibi ad crimen obijcerem, modò ne te talibus implicando, & teipsum perderes, & ægros tuos occideres, quia ad te non Tragœdias, non tetrametra, non iambicos exigunt, sed salutem, quam si haberent, puto syllogizando corrumperes. Quis enim sine dolore capitis audiat, quid est quod hinc arguis. Dicis scientiam esse firmā & impermutabilem, nec mentiris, & addis poëticam uti metris & nominibus, quæ pro tempore uariantur hinc infers, consortio scientiarum siue artium excludendam. O idiota omnium tædiosissime, quos unquam audierim, quid hic contra poëticam singulare? Quæ scientia sine uerbis, & in quibus uerbis non tantundem usus potest? An non audisti, quod in illa, de qua iam loquimur arte Poëtica scriptum est:

Multa renascentur, quæ iam cecidère.
Cadentq; quæ nunc sunt in honore uocabula si uolet usus.
Quem penes arbitrium est: & uis, & norma loquendi.

Pauca exempli causa ponenda sunt, non tibi quidem ceruicose, nescie, sed lectori. Romulus Romanæ urbis conditor Quirinus dictus est, cur? Quia hasta in prælijs utebatur, quæ Sabinorum lingua Quiris dicitur. Cæsar Augustus cum supremo uitæ tempore, statu eius fulmine disiecta esset, in qua scriptum erat Cæsar, & prima litera cecidisset, remanentibus quatuor sequentibus consuluit aruspices, quid sperandum sibi illi autem dixerunt, centum diebus uicturum & non amplius, quòd ea litera significaretur, quam fulmen excusserat. Ipsum uerò post mortem in deorum numerum referendum, id significare quod remanserat, quoniam lingua Tuscorum Cæsar Deus diceretur. Percurre nunc Tusciam ac Sabinam, quære hostiatim, quid est Cæsar? Quid est Quiris? Arabicè te locutum credent. Mille sunt talia, quæ sciens sileo. Omnium una ratio est. Mutantur uerba, manent res, in quibus scientiæ fundatæ sunt. Sed Aristoteles Græcus homo mutationem Poëtarum fortè suorum aliquam reprehendebat, qualia multa hodie uidemus in Theologis nostris. Hæc autem apud Latinos Poëtas mutatio nulla est. Quis enim nostrorum à Virgilij calle desciuit, nisi fortassè Statius Pampinius, qui Thebaidæ suæ imperat, ut Virgilianā Aeneidem sequatur, & uestigia semper adoret. Lege miser, & relege locum illum Aristotelicū tertio Rhetoricæ, unde male tornatum syllogismū elicis, neq; hoc aut illud uerbum excerpas, nihil intelligens ut uidearis Aristotelem legisse, sed totum locum excute, inuenies si tamen intelliges, hominē illum ardentis ingenij, & complecti omnia cupientem, de eloquentia Oratoria, & Poëtica, & quid inter eas intersit, & de his quæ utriq; uitanda sunt, & utriusq; uitijs atq; defectibus more suo multa disseruisse. Dò his autē quæ tu somnias, nihil penitùs cogitasse. Vnde concludens ait: Manifestum est, quod non omnia quæcunq; de elocutione dicere est, pertractandum nobis est, sed quæcunq; de tali, qualem dicimus, hoc est, de oratoria, de hac enim in Rhetoricis agitur. Et sequitur ratio. De illa autem, inquit, dictum est in his quæ de poëtica. Ab Aristotele desertus [illegible], ad Boëtium fugis, relatiuorumq; ope subniteris. Quod ita ridiculum est, ut mihi iam nō magis ebrius, quam phreneticus uidearis. Quò enim tua hæc impertinens & ab-

da

[illegible] el [illegible] ufctu ac [illegible] fernatus [illegible], & [illegible] non [illegible]
[illegible] em [illegible] Latin[illegible] qu[illegible] congress, [illegible] m it [illegible] uul-
[illegible] tud[illegible] im [illegible] minat [illegible] tuum uocas. Ma[illegible] e-
[illegible] s [illegible] quæ [illegible] ut [illegible] hoste [illegible] p[illegible] fca [illegible] um [illegible] certè post [illegible] m, [illegible] t
[illegible] al[illegible] tando [illegible] ripu[illegible] elati[illegible] po[illegible] illa me[illegible] s [illegible] e
[illegible] t seu meis h[illegible] c el, Phi[illegible] lusi [illegible] in [illegible] te.
[illegible] d[illegible] cebam, qu[illegible] extra omn[illegible], nu[illegible] bi
[illegible] diuers[illegible] tent[illegible] st. [illegible] ite o[illegible] s [illegible] no-
[illegible] d[illegible] ctos, [illegible] ne inter indoctos o[illegible] ur. Hanc enim [illegible] non
[illegible] amm[illegible] s pueragnoscere[illegible] m [illegible] tem [illegible] tuo
[illegible] Grammaticam. Vetere[illegible] in quo [illegible] per[illegible]
[illegible] int, quod ne[illegible] d[illegible] bitar[illegible] quod [illegible] n [illegible] hia [illegible]
[illegible] rum merit[illegible] dixit [illegible] em, Lucan[illegible] quoque [illegible] em suum non cru-
[illegible] nun[illegible] nam Aristoteles p[illegible] l[illegible] m
[illegible] au[illegible] or non uid[illegible] nient [illegible] ne[illegible] tell[illegible] r pe-
[illegible] m [illegible] n exp[illegible]
[illegible] tores, magnis [illegible] m Philosophis [illegible] fu[illegible]
[illegible] dicta[illegible]
[illegible] s, [illegible] m [illegible] lè post Athen[illegible] condita [illegible] leges, [illegible]
[illegible] Cum su[illegible] uacare [illegible] um, q[illegible] antum [illegible]
[illegible] licuisset, opinor ut Timæi [illegible]
[illegible] Hom[illegible] rum fuisse. Nim[illegible] multa [illegible] erta, tibi [illegible] a
[illegible] d[illegible] m non dub[illegible], uer[illegible], sed [illegible] loquor, [illegible] a-
[illegible] m molestus [illegible]. Nihil sa[illegible] rum [illegible] m [illegible]
[illegible], uel capere posse[illegible] ab alio, quæ d[illegible] scæn[illegible] Poeticæ [illegible] à
[illegible] ipso iam in præcedentibus tacta sunt [illegible] er illam [illegible] her[illegible] ican[illegible]
[illegible] Nec [illegible] negauerim ut in uino fex, & in ole[illegible] am[illegible], [illegible] fere o[illegible]
[illegible] reis esse suam fecē. Itaque & Philos[illegible] phi[illegible] dam speci[illegible]
[illegible] tur infames, ut Epicurus, totu[illegible] q[illegible] L[illegible] ens [illegible]
[illegible] & Metrodorum, & Hieronymum illum senem, non [illegible] q[illegible]
[illegible] locum tenet. Quin & ex illustrioribus quidam, in m[illegible] a-
[illegible] Vnde Paulus Apostolus uerus CHRISTI Philosophus, [illegible] post eum cl[illegible] mus [illegible]
[illegible] res Augustinus, multiq; quos enumerare non est necesse, Philosophiam [illegible]
[illegible] execrantur, cum tamen nulla unquam philosophia altior fuerit, [illegible] po[illegible]
[illegible] d uerum, quàm nostri cœlesti munere potius, quàm humano [illegible]
[illegible] a[illegible] labores em[illegible] ntissimè floruerunt. Quid ergo. [illegible]
[illegible] c[illegible] cumus, Philo[illegible] ũ à Phil[illegible] sopho reprob[illegible] re. Lau[illegible]
[illegible] ur [illegible] rax, fallax [illegible] rpitur. Ill a uerò non est Philo[illegible]
[illegible] qui[illegible] Philosophiæ nomen habet falsum, quo ne qu[illegible] nos [illegible]
[illegible] mus ac pr[illegible] ntiss[illegible] us Paulus admonu[illegible]. Cauete inquit ne qu[illegible]
Philosophiam, [illegible] em s[illegible] ductionem, secund[illegible] elementa mundi. [illegible]
[illegible] in l[illegible] rq[illegible] cœlestis R[illegible] p. nono, hæc ad literam [illegible] inqu[illegible]
[illegible] tales esse ar[illegible] traretur, [illegible] ab eodem Apostolo dic[illegible], de [illegible],
[illegible] Dei manife[illegible] est [illegible] is, Deus enim [illegible] lis manifestau[illegible]. [illegible]
[illegible] mūdi [illegible] qu[illegible] facta s[illegible] intell[illegible] cipiunt, sempiterna qu[illegible] s e[illegible] s ac [illegible].
It q; cū sæpè A[illegible] Pau[illegible] qu[illegible] Phi[illegible]
p[illegible] dice [illegible] omnib[illegible]. Abs[illegible] m [illegible]
m[illegible] eode[illegible], Apostol[illegible] induct Athen[illegible]
[illegible] dix[illegible] quæ à [illegible] s po[illegible] ligi, [illegible] m [illegible]
[illegible] se, & dix[illegible] qu[illegible] dam di[illegible] unt, & [illegible] me[illegible] eor[illegible]
[illegible] a de e[illegible] noscentes Deum [illegible] n[illegible] g[illegible] cauer[illegible]
[illegible] nibus & obscuratum est [illegible] iens cor eor[illegible] icen[illegible]
[illegible] t[illegible], stul[illegible] t, & immutauerunt gloriam incorruptibil[illegible] Dei [illegible] simil[illegible]
[illegible] s corr[illegible] lis ho[illegible] is, & u[illegible] lucrum, & qua[illegible] pedun[illegible] & serpen[illegible]
[illegible] Phil[illegible] partem unica[illegible] ud[illegible], eamq; non inte[illegible] ne[illegible] m [illegible]
[illegible] d[illegible] enim forma & cætera re[illegible] igunt. Sed ut [illegible] s al[illegible]
[illegible] dam sunt, qu[illegible] scæn[illegible] os uo[illegible] ad [illegible] uos [illegible]
[illegible] ntra [illegible] ueras uere d[illegible] ur [illegible] quidem ip[illegible] inte[illegible] ont[illegible]

Qui quales essent, Plato ipse declarauit in sua Rep. quando eos censuit urbe pellendos, [illegible] enim constet non de omnibus eum sensisse, sed de scænicis tantum, ipsius Platonis ratio [illegible] pienda est ab Augustino posita, quia scilicet ludos scænicos indignos Deorum maiestate ac honestate censebat, in quo multos sui temporis notauit eius generis Poëtas. Ita enim ferè accidit, ut nulla quæ [illegible] multa sint. Id tamen Platonis iudicium, non modò heroicis, atque alijs nil [illegible] non [illegible] multum prodeat [illegible] quoniam urbis excussor poëticam ingre[illegible] n aream ualido uerbi flabro, grana decer[illegible] à paleis. Quando autem Homerus a[illegible] illos, quando Virgilius apud nos, aut alij illorum [illegible] scænicis ludis dederunt? Profectò [illegible], sed de [illegible] bus, de naturis hominum ac rerum omnium, atque omninò de [illegible] mana [illegible] mirabili, & quem [illegible] tibi aperire mol[illegible] tractauerint. Nec tamen [illegible] ipsi reprehensibile dixerim. Quippe [illegible] & in Philosophorum principibus, n[illegible] scam reprehensa [illegible] me, hæc sanè non artis sed ingenij culpa est. Quis igitur ne[illegible], aut [illegible] negat quosdam, ut Philosophorum sic & Poëtarum in cogitationibus euanuisse? An quis meretur ante ueritatis aduentum licuisse aliquid errori, cum post agnitam ueritatem [illegible] quondam quoque Catholici magni uiri ita deuiarint, ut ipsa ueritas nunquam acriùs oppugnata non fuerit quàm ab eis fuit? Solet hoc interdum acutioribus ingenijs euenire, ut dum penetrare uolunt, superuacua nimium, illud acumē in medio conamine retundatur, atque ita ue necessaria non attingat, si quis autem ueritatis amicus, sine qua nihil uerum dici potest, quoniam ut ait Augustinus, omne uerum à ueritate uerum est. Si quis ergo talis, p[illegible] multi[illegible] [illegible], ad ipsius ueritatis ornatū, musarum præsidio niteretur, & uel stylo clarissim[illegible] [illegible] s[illegible] aliud sacrum aliud, uel prophanum etiam, modò non uetitum celebraret, qu[illegible] ho[illegible] qu[illegible] dam fecerunt, quamuis præter legem carminis, nullo poëtico artificio u[illegible], quis p[illegible] id melius posset implere? Responde uir doctissime, oro te, & quid sis res[illegible] rus examina. An poëta talis qualem tibi describo, & qualem esse posse, & fortè fuisse non est incredibile, an Hippocrates ipse si uiueret, uel Medicorum ullus, qui de urinis semper non superficie tenus ut tu, sed profundissimè disputasset, puto nemo est, nisi omninò depuduit, qui in respondendo hæreat. Noli ergo contemnere in alijs, quod assequi non potes qui miserrimæ impudentiæ mos est. Sed uenerare potiùs & mirare, non tàm scienti[illegible], aut scientiam ipsam quam scientiæ largitorē, qui dona sua distribuit ut libet, & his quidem dedit numero, his autem singularitate præcellere. Gloriare si placet, neque enim obluctor, & magis necessarios, & plures esse Medicos quàm Poëtas. Contrà illi glorientur, & minus necessarios, & pauciores esse Poëtas, quàm Medicos. Quinetiam nullius generis ingeniorum tantam semper fuisse raritatem, quanta poëtarum excellentium fuit, præter oratores solos, qui ex omnibus seculis paucissimi numerantur. De qua re, in Oratore Ciceronis clarissimè disputatum est. Illud in poëtica singulare, quod cum in cunctis artibus mediocritas admittatur, [illegible] hac una secus est. Quoniam ut eleganter ait Flaccus:

Mediocribus esse Poëtis,

Non homines, non dij, non concessere columnæ.

Quæ me[illegible] ditio non ultima raritas Poëticæ ratio esse potest, tibi uerò cùm primum tu[illegible] ba [illegible] nu[illegible] necessitate ar[illegible] glonari cœperis, illud occurrat. Multis quidem, sed anie[illegible] a[illegible] colis, in hac glori[illegible] cedendum. Illi uos utroque superant. Nolo autem indigneris quod [illegible] & agricolas iuxta po[illegible] no, fecit idem Aristoteles. Non ex duobus medicis fit commutatio [illegible] sed ex Medico & agricola. Audi[illegible] ut tanquam paria uerbis æquat tacitus [illegible] do hæc propter reuerentiam Aristotelis passus sis, illud impatientiùs feres, si ad propositum reuersus, cœpta peregero, & tamen loqui oportet, urget enim ueritas, calamum reluctantem, nec stomachari conuenit, si de Philosophis ac Poëtis dicam, ad mechanicos tra[illegible]. Habent igitur & mechanici fecem suam. Quæ nam uerò ea fex est? Clamabis ad sy[illegible], dicam tamen. Tu es fex ipsa mechanicorum. Vis hoc statim sine ambagibus pro[illegible]? [illegible] ndo es, [illegible] iaces, is proprius feris est locus. Numera mechanicos, nul[illegible] m [illegible] te n[illegible] [illegible] eatricum uidebis, nec tamen ide[illegible] ut præceps oris tui nobilissimis artibus [illegible] at audaci, sic [illegible] qu[illegible] uis humilibus [illegible] o, scio enim necessitates hominum mul[illegible], & graues [illegible] entò Propheta [illegible] Rex clamat ad Dominum. De nec[illegible] us me[illegible] de [illegible] unque [illegible] s nostris u[illegible] niens auxilium à Deo est. Cuius dona [illegible] e, qui nesciat? Siue ergo ille nobis per seipsum sanitatem d[illegible] ad [illegible] Medicus, siue herbarum conscia, tremula anus accesserit, & [illegible] & a[illegible] quæ [illegible] ta sanitas munera Dei sunt. Itaque contra Medicinam [illegible] o[illegible] o, quod m[illegible] adhuc ut uideo, non sufficit. Si quid autem contra [illegible]

deos, [illegible], & cupio me studios[illegible] omne genus audiat, contra te tantùm, tuiq; similes dictum est, dicetur[q;] quod restat. Superest ut tibi calumniæ respondeam, qua obscuris delectari arguor, quasi notitiam rerum uul[go] [illegible] dens debilioris ingenij, ad quod illud etiam affers D[eo]s humano generi inuidere à Poetis [illegible] esse, sed ab Aristotele reprehensum. [illegible] idem, ut pro meipso loquar, nil cuiquam prorsus inuideo, magisq; uereor ne alie[illegible] [illegible] at, quàm ne me meus infi[illegible] at. Sed sub meo nomine notalli forsan inui[dia] Poetarum. Eo enim spectat, quod de Deorum inui[di]a, dixisti, tanquam minimè mi[rum] [illegible] inter eos præcipue regnare illam, qui eam usque ad superos extulerunt. Qua in re [illegible] rem tuum non desciens, multum à ueritate discedis. Nusquam ferè uel minus inuidiæ, [uel] [illegible] centiæ magis, uel amicitiæ tantundem. Non capit hic locus Poetarū uitas. Quanta V[ir]gilij integr[itas]? Quæ [illegible] nam Statij urbanitas? Quæ facetiæ Nasonis? Quæ fides Enn[ij]? Quæ Pacuuij grauitas? Quis Varij candor? Quæ Flacci discretio? Quæ Persij pietas? Quæ modestia Lucani? Quæ libertas atque constantia Iuuenalis? Longum est singulos attingere [illegible] nec oportet. Et sileo Græcos, sileo multos è principibus nostris huic studio deditos, at[que] in primis Pierij, spiritus Augustum, quo nil clarius in temporalibus imperij solio sol uidit. Hic mihi quis audeat nominare inuidiam, aut in tàm altos animos tantorumq; hominum splendorem, iners & nebulosus liuor tenter ascendere. Quod si fortè stylus insuetus uid[e]atur occultior, non ea inuidia est, sed intentioris animi stimulus, & exercitij nobilioris occ[asi]o. Quid uerò Philosophi, an non Aristoteles, & qui luculentissimus omnium habetur Plato ipse, loqui posset apertiùs, ut sileam reliquos, atq; ante omnes Heraclitum, qui a[co]gnomen ab obscuritate sortitus est. Quid sermo ipse diuinus, quem & si ualdè oderis, tam[en] [aper]tè calumniari propter metum incendij non audebis, quam in multis obscurus atq; perplexus est, cum prolatus sit ab eo spiritu, qui homines ipsos, mundumq; creauerat, [illegible] uc[illegible] et & uerba noua reperire, & repertis clarioribus uti posset. Certè Augustinus ingenio il[lu]suo, quo se & multarum artium notitiam, & quęcunq; de decem Cathegorijs Philosophi[c]dum, sine magistro percepisse gloriatur. Esaiæ principium fatetur intelligere nequiuisse. V[i]de autem hoc, nisi fortè spiritum ipsum sanctum inuidi[a]e dicas, & nō potiùs prou[illegible] [illegible] tib[illegible]. De qua obscuritate loquens Augustinus idem libro de Ciuitate Dei XI. Diui[n]i (inquit) sermonis ob[scu]ritas, etiam ad hoc est utilis, quod plures sente[ntia]s ueritatis pe[rit], & [in] lucē notitiæ producit, dum alius eum sic, alius sic intelligit. Idem in Psalmo CXXVI. [I]deo enim (inquit) fortè obscurius positum est, ut multos intellectus generet, & ditiores discedant homines, qui clausum inuenerint, quod multis modis aperiretur, quam si uno mo[do] apertum inuenirent. Idem in Psalmo CXLVI. de scripturis sacris agēs: Peruersum hic, [in]quit) nihil est, obscurum autem aliquid est, non ut tibi negetur, sed ut exerceat accepturum. Et post pauca. N[o]l[i] [illegible] recalcitrare aduersus obscura, & dicere, meliùs diceretur si [illegible] [di]ceretur quom[o]do enim potes sic dicere, aut iudicare quomodo dici expediat. Quem se[quutus] [illegible] Gregorius super Ezechielem: Magnæ (inquit) utilit[at]is est, obscuritas eloquiorum Dei, quia exercet sensum ut fatigatione dilatetur, & exercitatus capiat, quod capere non posset ociosus. Habet quoq; adhuc maius aliquid, quia scripturæ sacræ intelligentia, sic cūctis etiam aperta u[i]sceret, sed in quibusdam locis obscurioribus, tanto maiori dulcedine inuenta reficit, quanto maiori labore castigat animum. Quæsita non sequor omnia quæ ab [i]llo, & ab alijs in hanc sententiam [illegible] sunt. Quæ si de scripturis illis rectè dicuntur quæ sunt omnibus præpositæ, quantò [illegible] ùs de illis quæ paucissimis. Apud Poetas igitur ò nimium rudis, styli maiestas retinetur, ac [d]ignitas, nec capere uolentibus inuidetur, sed d[illegible] labore proposito delectationi simul, memoriæq; consulitur. Chariora sunt enim quæ [illegible] [diffi]cultate quæsiuimus, accuratiusq; seruantur, & non capacibus prouidetur, dum ne frustra [illegible] atterant, ipsa rerū facie li[b]apiunt à limine deterreantur, unde fit ut hinc repulsi, alias uias [i]neant præsertim postquam numerare cœperint, & hic quidem oblectationē animi, cla[illegible] [illegible] minis, lucri nihil aspexerint, nec est enim omniū studia ista sectari, sed eorū tantùm, [quibus] [in]genium, & natura, & rerum uitæ necessariarū, uel fortuna sufficientiā dederit, u[illegible] [illegible] p[illegible] uirtus, itaq; alter ad agricul[tu]ram, alter ad nauigationē, alter ad medicinā [illegible] quid exempli causa euenturum putas, si capu[t] illud ubi habitat ingeniū tuum [illegible] [illegible] cam applicuisset? Quantā in primis c[el]estatem [illegible] nihil enim hic uenale, nullus [illegible] [illegible] s locus) q[u]ot deinde passurum fuisse lu[illegible] ria? Quot comitum iocos, priusquàm cu[illegible] [illegible] r esset Aeneas apu[d] Virgiliū didicisset? Hæc est [illegible] uera rei ratio, nō [q]uia latere ex[illegible] [illegible] de quo r[illegible] in [illegible] um & undiq; sat[illegible] entem syllo[illegible] extruis, sed q[uia] n[illegible] fallere, p[a]ucis [illegible] e [illegible] pol[illegible] ū est, pauci a[u]te[m] docti. Vis uid[illegible] esse, ut dic[illegible], nempè [illegible] demu[m] a[illegible] [illegible] p[er]fetto est, cum amœnis ex latebris, dulcis [fr]uctus eruperit, nec est dubium, nul[l]a [illegible]

ob causam tibi, tuisq́ similibus odiosam esse Poëticam, nisi quia uobis [illegible] ta est, quod fateor, in [illegible] ponimus, non in damno. Noli igitur reprobare stylum ingeniosum [illegible] perium, memoriæ habilem, ignorantibusq́ terribilem, iam & sanctum canibus dare, & ante porcos proijcere margaritas, diuino etiam eloquio prohibemur. Sane illa quam [illegible] ras poetica deorum [illegible], altioris cuiusdam, secreti [illegible] mysterij est, quam putas [illegible] lum nudi deorum, [illegible] fraudes, bella, libidines apud Poëtas sunt. Vicium [illegible] sime plus confiteor quàm accuses, sed cum [illegible] animal rationale, mortale, quam [illegible] alterum tantum sis si placet quærenda rerum ratio est. Primos nempe Theologos apud gentes fuisse Poëtas, & Philosophorum maximi testantur, & sanctorum confirmat au[illegible] ras, [illegible] fuum si nescis Poëtæ nomē indicat. In quibus maximè nobilitatus Orpheus, cuius XVIII. Ciuitatis æternæ Libro Augustinus meminit, at nequiuerunt quo [illegible] ignauerant peruenire. Dicet aliquis fateor, nam perfecta cognitio ueri Dei, non humani studij, sed cœlestis est gratiæ laudandus, tum animus studiosissimorum hominum, qui certè quibus poterant uijs ad optatam ueri celsitudinem anhelabant, adeò ut ipsos quoque philosophos, in [illegible] tanta & tam necessaria inquisitione præcederent. Credibile est, etiam hos ardentissimum [illegible] tores ueri, ad [illegible] saltem peruenisse, quo humano peruenit [illegible] poterat in [illegible] nio, ut secundum illud Apostoli supra relatum. Per ea quæ facta sunt, inuisibilibus intellectis atque co[illegible], prim [illegible] causæ & [illegible] us Dei qualemcunq́ notitiam sortirentur. At ita deinceps omnibus modis id egisse, ut quod publicè non audebant, eo quòd nondum uiua ueritas ter[illegible] xerat, clàm suaderēt falsos deos esse, quos illusa plebs coleret. Quod & Philosophos post[illegible] se, in libro Veræ religionis ostenditur: quis enim nisi amens, adulteros aut fallaces uenerare tur Deos? Aut quis penitùs crederet deos esse, quorum ea flagitia audiret, quæ nec in hominibus tolerabilia iudicaret? Cui præterea dubium esse posset, quin peccata quæ humanitatem ipsam hominibus ereptura essent, eandē multò magis dijs talibus præriperent deitatem? Belligerantes deos inuicem Homerus & Virgilius fecerunt, propter quod Athenis Homerum pro insano habitum Cor. Nepos refert. Credo nimirum apud uulgus, docti autem intelligunt, si plures sunt Dij, & discordare illos, & bella inter eos esse posse, & necesse esse, ut altero uictore, alter uictus, atq́ ita nec sit immortalis, nec omnipotens, confe[illegible] quène Deus quidem. Vnum esse igitur Deum, & non plures, uulgus autem fallit. Et si quis interroget, cur non potiùs palam uulgi nefariam increparent? Possum cum Augustino respondere, quod utrum timore an aliqua conditione temporum fecerunt, iudicare non est meum, ego tamen, & si sola timoris causa fuerit non mirabor, cum uideam CHRISTI quoq́ temporibus, ante Sancti spiritus infusionē, ipsos etiā Apostolos timuisse. Enimuerò quod è tede inuidia Deorum dicitur, eodem quo cætera referendum est, nec mirari cōueniet memorantem illud Psalmistæ. Omnes dij gentium dæmonia. Et quod scriptum est. Inuidia diaboli mors introijt in orbem terrarum. Quæ nam igitur admiratio est ista, inuidisse Deos, qui nunquam sine inuidia fuerunt? Quæ nam uerò præterea Poëtarum culpa, rem ueram [illegible] ntelligatur, salubremq́ narrannum? Aut quæ nam Aristotelica illa reprehensio, si tamen ita [illegible]? Neque enim mihi nunc, aut [illegible] loci memoria recēs, aut inter hos montes liber [illegible] se Met[illegible] us est præsens. Quo modo autem consentaneum sit, uel Poëtas in hac lingue li[illegible] reprehendere, uel Deorum inuidiam excusare, in eo libro præsertim, in quo principatum pluralitate damnata [illegible] us omniū princeps asseritur, nòn uideo, sed adducor, ut credam te, locum illum non melius intellexisse quàm reliqua. Hoc ego nūc de Poëtis antiquis opinabile, uerum mihi [illegible] protulerim. Qui si unum Deum crediderunt, hoc ne in illis accusas, si unum credentes plures nominarunt seu etiam coluerūt, habes planè quod accuses. Nec ego quidem illos excuso, sed commune cum Philosophis crimen dico, quod audisti, publici iudicij metus leuat, qui firmissima etiam interdum corda concussit, uerè autē plures Deos, tanta ingenia credidisse nunquam mihi persuadebitur. Sed esto, crediderint, errauerint: nihil est enim quod disceptator indoctus & pertinax non præsumat: non id certè Poëticum, sed humanum fuerit, temporumq́ crimen uel ingenij, nōn artis, ut dictū est, neq́ quid alio tempore atq́ alio ingenio, & ampliori gratia Poëtam esse, pium, disertumq́ prohibeat. Sed nō ego Poëtas aduersus fragilem & inermem hostem dum defendere uideor, [illegible] & [illegible] ntium & con[illegible] us poterant aduersus tua tela sufficere, nullis opus [illegible] uerbis. Sed tacere non [illegible] tecum forsan in aliqua cloaca [illegible] erer, id enim ubi Capitol[illegible] pitus, raucasq́ pelues hæ ruæ [illegible] sunt [illegible] plaudentis [illegible], uelut de Musarū [illegible] & sacrorū studiorum excid[illegible] [illegible], iuxta stultitiā suam, ne el ficiaris similis ei. Hoc cum sapiens d[illegible] sponde stulto, iuxta stulti[illegible] suam, ne sibi sapiēs esse uideatur.

Primum

[illegible] parum per tacitum tenuit secundum coēgit, ut loquerer, frustrà quidem ut pu- [illegible] in desieris, tibi sapiens uideri incipiens quod impossibile arbitror esse, fortè nō stul [illegible] doctus fieri non potest, nisi qui [illegible] nouerit atq; [illegible] der ignorantē, defectus prop[illegible] [illegible] e notitia, principiū est profect[illegible]. Et ad hos quidem sermones, non famæ propriæ pe- [illegible] m non mei nominis offensa (quamuis grauis) tantum me fateor accendit, quã[illegible] [illegible] elus, hinc tuæ loquacitatis inflammauit indignitas, quantū enim ego tangebar, quicq[illegible] in Poetas inuectus eras, poteram, ut dixi dissimulando transire, nam nec mihi Poetę nomen [illegible] go, quod scio quibusdam magnis uiris multo studio non potuisse contingere, [illegible] mus si fortè mihi ultrò contigerit, nū respuam, & id ad me olim iuueniliter aspirasse nō [illegible], nec conuitijs tuis præsens hodiernæ lectionis meæ studium tangebatur, poteram, u[illegible] unt, de calumnia iurare, me Poëtarum libros ante hoc septenniū clausisse ita ut eos in- d[illegible] on legerim, nō quod legisse pœniteat, sed quia legere iam quasi superuacuum. Legi eos dum tulit ætas, & ita mihi medullitus sunt infixi, ut ne diuelli quidem possint & si uelim. Ac ne me [illegible] iterum grauiter feras, non ea laus memoriæ, sed ætatis est. Tener admodum ill[illegible], expertusq; sum omniū ferè, quæ in uestibulo Ciuitatis Dei de Virgilio loquēs Aug[illegible]nus, quem propterea (inquit) paruuli legunt, ut uidelicet Poëta magnus, omniūq; clari[illegible]mus atque optimus teneris ebibitus annis non facilè, obliuione possit aboleri, secundum illud Horatij:

Quo semel est imbuta recens seruabit odorem

Testa diu.

A[illegible]it quod in e[illegible]m studijs agere senectutem, in quibus adolescentia acta est, minimè [illegible] agnificum uidetur. Maturitas quædam ut pomorum, ut frugum, sic studiorum ac [illegible] um debet esse, eoq; magis, quo turpior, damnosiorq; multò est animorum acerbitas [illegible] pomorum. Si ergo Poetas hodie non lego, forsitan interroges quid agam? Solet e- [illegible] titia alienæ uitæ curiosa esse, suæ negligens, respondebo tibi præfatus, ne quod di- [illegible] superbiæ asscribas. Melior fieri studeo si possum, & quia impotentiam meam noui, po- sco [illegible] lium de cœlo, & in sacris literis delector. Quæ si Victorino pagano homini iam se- ni, D[illegible] per illa al[illegible]oquente, pectusq; durissimum molliente, ueram infund[illegible]nt fidem, cur mihi Christiano homini, non possunt ueræ fidei firmitatem & opera, & am[illegible]em uitæ fœl[illegible] cio[illegible] infundere? Quæris quid agam? Nitor non sine multo labore, præteriti temporis e[illegible] ta corrigere, quod si mihi contigerit, fœlix ero, sed adhuc [illegible]teor ab eo quo suspirat animus, longè absum. Quæris quid agam? Non Poëtas lego, sed scribo, quod legant qui post me na[illegible]tur, & raro plausore contentus, acies insanorum sperno. Et si uotiuè successerit, quod a[illegible] ene est, alioquin uoluntas ipsa laudabitur. Postremò ut aliud nihil agam, maturescere [illegible] tem cupio, si nondum fortè matarui. Tu autem puer centum annorū maledictus à Deo, & elemen[illegible]s senex, irrisus à Seneca. Ibi senectutem agis, ubi pueritiam exegisti, & fluxos nunc etiam [illegible]ogismus, filo marcente conglutinas, quos queat anus quælibet temulenta [illegible]nfringere qui[illegible] uid uerò aliud quàm puerile stamen redoluerit aduersaris. Itaque li- bel[illegible]os meos homelias uocas, quasi nomen infame meditatus, quod sanctissimis tamen atq; doctissimis uiris placuisse, notum est. At minimè mirandum, si quorum actus despicis, & uerba contemnis. Homelia porrò Græcæ originis nomen est, quod Latinè dici potest se- m[illegible] prolarius ad populum. Ego sanè in his literis ad populum nihil, sed ad ignorantiā tuam [illegible]quor, si quo pacto possem, non dico illam tibi, sed illi superbiam extorquere. Quis au[illegible] quæso, peregrinæ linguæ à te nūc notitiā requirebat, cum propriè sis ignarus? Scruis u[illegible] sam tuā ago, quo scilicet insolentē honesti nominis contemptū excuset ignoran[illegible]ia. O s[illegible] scholastice literator, nūquā literatus aut magister, quis enim literatus ita scribere[illegible] Le[illegible] l[illegible] phorum libros, uel interroga qui legerūt, quis unquā scribendi morē hunc tenuit. In[illegible] enim uerbis illorū u[illegible]s ingens syllogistica. syllogismus nunquā au[illegible] perraro, quippe pue[illegible]itiā præter gressi loquūtur ut uiri, efficacior est autē dissimulata cal[illegible]de [illegible] m[illegible]aniter ostentata [illegible]itas. Sed & hic excusatot licet irrequi[illegible]s assum ti[illegible]i, illi enim [illegible]t se. Tu autem loquen[illegible] decet. Ecce irrgat[illegible]r improbe, ex[illegible] ut nō [illegible] maledictis tuis, sed etiam cogita[illegible] [illegible]e ponderē. Quæd[illegible] sponte præt[illegible] Misereor [illegible] tui. Nam quid superbo ignoran- [illegible]erius? Sed ne planè miserear, tu fa[illegible]s, ita namq; [illegible]nter atq; fastidiosè miseria tua abu[illegible] ut nulla tibi miser[illegible]tio debeatur. Qu[illegible]modo uer[illegible]simule, aut quid illi faciā uanitat[illegible] [illegible] bar niteris, cuius contrariū ap[illegible]aret in teipso, dū tu loqui poteris: Occultari nunq[illegible] [illegible]t? Qu[illegible]nt[illegible] mechanici temeri[illegible]as? Rhetoricam prorsus in seruitutem asseris, [illegible]am [illegible]a[illegible]s, sed urendus e[illegible] ne uerbis, sed uerberibus coërcendus. Nimis insanis M[illegible] [illegible]e[illegible], Medico eges. Mirum quod Medicorum nullus est, qui curam tui suscipiet, [illegible]

fis omni-

sis omnibus odio [illegible] pe[illegible] [illegible] omnes, Medicinæ [illegible] facis, de Medicina uideri[illegible]. Ceo[illegible] Rhetoricam in tuam seru[illegible] quam trahes, quid autem probes, & qu[illegible] audiam[illegible]. Per Medicinam [illegible] docemur recte uiuere. Dij te perdant [illegible]. Male incipis. Medicinæ nihil est [illegible] cum Ethica, sed [illegible] contraria, qu[illegible] enim ad uiuendum recte Medicina, [illegible] [illegible]na, [illegible] longè minus, [illegible] putas male uixisse olim Romæ tot [illegible] forum, per [illegible] terrarum do[illegible], uirtus culta uitia calcata sunt: qui ta[illegible] in æ[illegible] Medico u[illegible]? Vix [illegible] fatear male, non quia medicu[illegible], sed quia [illegible] deerat. Alioquin [illegible] melius, uel [illegible] ergo illam [illegible], quæ carnalem [illegible] nunquam Medicinam adhibuerat. Cur [illegible], quæso, Medicinæ Ethicam permittes? Tene te loco, neque [illegible] tuos excellere [illegible] nec Ethica [illegible] fuit recte uiuere, cùm id potentioris alterius Dominium sit, ue[illegible] gior, o[illegible] disputatio nec propositi huius est. Prosequere [illegible] tamen ut de [illegible] molestes, sed memineris quid sutori [illegible] respondit [illegible] famosissimus Apelles. Age res tuas ut Medicus. Per M[illegible] docemur, ars te [illegible] non ut congrue loquimur, uel ornate. Sed [illegible] te, [illegible] artes d[illegible], ut uiuamus recte. Sic [illegible] in medicina a[illegible] has artes [illegible] potius ad illam sunt, hinc concludis, seruæ igitur eius sunt. O' m[illegible] longius fetis, quàm minatus erat, neque solum Rhetorica, sed omnes quot[illegible] liberales artes, ipsa quoque Philosophia, & Theologia scientiarũ omnium regina, [illegible] mechanicæ. Si hoc mihi probaueris, quòd per Medicinam recte uiuere doceamur, omnes enim hùc referuntur, & omnium unus est finis ultimus, non dico ut præstent recte uiuere, sed ut ad recte uiuendum adiuuent. Iure ergo illi seruient, quæ id præstat ad quod omnes [illegible] aspirent. Certe ego nunc risu & uerecundia impedior, syllogismum tibi tuo patem [illegible]re, quo probem te uilissime seruum rei, quod urbanius possum dicam. Si qu[illegible] alio spe[illegible], & ad aliud refertur, & propter aliud est inuentum illi seruiat oportet, ut tu u[illegible], Medici[illegible]tem tua pecuniam spectat, & ad illam refertur, & propter illam est. Conclude dialec[illegible] ergo pecuniæ serua est, bene tibi accidit. Turpioris rei seruum te facere medita[illegible], [illegible] stituit, sed ò gratis argumentator, quis te talia docuit? Assumis falsa notoria [illegible] principaliter discordamus, quod magnum in argumentando uitium est. Primum enim ut dixi: Medicina ad recte uiuendum nihil omnino, nisi quantum una mechanicarum corpori famulantium. Deinde quis illud diffi[illegible], inter nos de quo à principio litigamus, præter enim, quod circa Medicinam nobis [illegible] differentia est, non ne alius scrupulus premit oc[illegible] [illegible] quidem [illegible] plene con[illegible], quod Medicina a[illegible] bilissima [illegible] præclarum Medicus. [illegible] est mechanicarum pe[illegible] ultima, sic omnium [illegible] artium. Tu, ut non tam [illegible] sed h[illegible] es, sis Medicorum omnium [illegible] princeps. Liceat [illegible] [illegible] artis obsequio uti, & cuius uti[illegible] obsequium fuerit, illa con[illegible] ancillabitur. Ancillabitur forsan Astrologia, quæ cœlestiũ corporũ no[illegible] terrenis aliqu[illegible] corpusculis op[illegible] ferat. Ancillabitur Musica, quæ in hominũ pulsu, [illegible] [illegible] interuallis [illegible] temporum & interualla c[illegible] Quę res, uobis quia necessaria esse possent, ideò prorsus incog[illegible] & neglecta est, illam appetitis, quam nec con[illegible] [illegible], & [illegible] deberetis [illegible] esse uultis, ridente Tullio, indignante [illegible] [illegible], flente Hippocrate, [illegible] pereunte. Nec enim in singulis immorer, ad litis nostr[illegible] summam uenio. Si omnes (inquam) artes, quamuis nobiles, quamuis ingenuas, tuo humili & mercenario artificio [illegible] tuas facis, eo ipso qu[illegible] les, aut necessariæ proposito tuo sint. Idque ubi nescio, quo iure permittitur nunquam profecto uel sic tibi Rhetorica serua fiet, quam constat, ad id quo te intendere [illegible] non modò nil probasse, sed obesse quàmplurimum. Quid enim ægro longa oratione est [illegible], cui fere uerbũ omne molestum est, nisi ut iubeatur bono animo e[illegible] [illegible] potest? An forsan apothecarijs persuadere propositum est, [illegible] fac[illegible] ru[illegible], quàm p[illegible] [illegible] alicuius eloquentiæ studium excusem, si forte [illegible] supplere, sed tegere putas el[illegible] [illegible] non tuam, sed ægroti, sed astantium, sed [illegible] [illegible] superstites consolari, utrumque enim Ora[illegible] accusare, excusare, cõsolari, irritare, placare animos, admou[illegible] lachrymas at[illegible] comprimere, accendere iras & extinguere, colorare [illegible] uertere in [illegible] [illegible] suscitare suspitiones. Oratorum propriè [illegible] hæc dicorum [illegible] Rhetorica [illegible] quicquid ancillæ tuæ est [illegible]

conceditur: omnia hæc igitur tua sunt, & quæcunque alia Oratoribus assignantur, plusquàm permittitur quam putabam, potes enim occidere, mirum dictu, & quem occideris accusare. Sed quandò hodie, nescio quomodo de accusarore factus sum excusator tuus, quid te uetat, hoc tanto & tàm capaci ingenio, ut Philosophum, & Medicum, sic Oratorem esse, atque actus oratoris exercere cum gloria? Nonne ita homo es tu, ut Cicero? Accusat ille Clodium ac Verrem, & in inuectiuis Catilinam, & in Philippicis insectatur Antonium, magnos uiros ac feroces, ad ultionemque promptissimos, & molem multorum criminum ac Reipub. ruinam illis opponit. Tu defunctum unum, nec loqui ualentem, nec ulcisci, fcirur non fidenter accuses, quod seipse necauerit? Excusat item Cicero, capitalium rerum reos, Deiotarum regem, Plantium, Q. Ligarium, Milonem, mille alios. Tibi cur teipsum non liceat excusare? Consolatur ille sese in morte unicæ, charissimæque filiæ, tu in illorum morte, de quibus nihil ad te, cur non possis alios consolari? Facilè seipsum excusat quem non pudet, facilè consolatur alium qui non dolet. Et illud est certum quod quisque promptius se quàm alium excusat? Contrà autem, quisque promptius alium consolatur, quam seipsum. Si hæc ergo te mouent, stude in oratorum libris, uelis esse Rhetoricę dominus, utilis est tibi, necessaria est, totus es, sine illa nullus es, quotidie enim facis, quo & excusator tibi sit necessarius, & consolator alteri. Sed si es quod profiteris, non excusator tui, non consolator aliorum, imò uerò Medicus, si non uulgi plausum, sed ut debes ægroti tui respici salutem. Quo pergis? Quid cogitas? Quid agis? Aut quid tibi rei est, extra terminos tuos longè? An non aliud semper tibi conscientia ad aurem cordis immurmurat? Iste cum quo [illegible] æger est, tu te Medicum dicis. Quid opus est uerbis? Cura, semper dixi tibi Medice. [illegible]orica quam seruam tibi uis efficere, hostis est tua, postquam Rhetores atque Poetæ esse uoluistis, Medicos esse desistis. Sed hæc mihi tecum uetus est querela, cogita & recogita syllogismos tuos inanes, & uacuos inuenies. Non probant quòd uolunt, & si probarent tibi dedecus, ægris tuis damnum ac periculum probarent. Proba potius Rhetoricam tibi incognitam, quam seruam. Sed ægros oculos lux serena præstringit, delectat uid[illegible], qu[illegible]d esse nec expedit, nec licet. An aut solidum & uniuersalem syllogismum recipis unius Logica carentis. siquidem sicut anima rationalis, nisi rationem amiserit, corpori suo imperat, corpus autem illi seruit. Sic omnes artes propter corpus inuentæ, illi autem seruiunt. Constat autem liberales propter animam, mechanicas propter corpus inuentas. Conclude Dialecticè. Ergo Medicinæ Rhetorica serua est? Habes Medice quod optabas. Sed, an ego tecum ludo, cûm tu tamen sis iratus, & iocosa conclusio in contrarium cadat. Dimoueantur ambages, dicam clarè quod sentio, quamuis dentibus tuis fremas & tabescas, & mihi forsitan anceps pharmacum misceris. Expediret tibi, sed multò magis ægris tuis, ut mutus esses non orator. Et quod natura non fecit, faceret homo aliquis Reipu[illegible] amicus, lin[illegible]amque præscinderet, sumpto forcipe de altari, linguam illam insul[illegible]o uix ore uersatile [illegible]ua superbis. Tum demum, curare inciperes, nunc cogitas prædicare, & quicquid prædicas in nihilum finit, fallor, imò uerò in tuam infamiam & in perniciem alienam, certe non artis ignominiam, nec à casu, medicinam Virgilius mutam uocat. Sed quoni[illegible] m[illegible]a [illegible]bet esse, non loquax, uos autem eò rem deduxistis impudentia uestra, ut de mutis para[illegible]lani dici merueritis. Hoc nomen iure ciuili uobis impositum, nunquam cadet. Solebant [illegible]edici ueteres taciti curare, uos perorantes & altercantes, & conclamantes occ[illegible]. H[illegible]c Medicina, hæc Rhetorica uestra est, & cum nulla gens magis Rhetoricis floribus nuda sit, [illegible]a minus illis indigeat, tamen Rhetorici & Oratores, & Poëtæ, & Philosophi, & A[illegible]o[illegible] [illegible]ac suscitatores corporum dici uultis, & penitus nihil estis, nisi uerba inania, nugæque uo[illegible]es. Olim quidem sine syllogismis curabantur, & propè ut tu nunc falsò gloriaris [illegible] bantur infirmi. Hinc arbitror fabulæ locus fuit Hyppolitum ab Aesculapi[illegible] suscitatum, quod eum ab extremis efficax Medicus, & uelut à morte media reuocasset. Nunc quanta m[illegible]atio? syllogizantibus uobis pereunt, qui sine uobis uiuere potuissent. Sæpe iam, ne quicquam dixi, curate, medemini. Eloquentiam his, quorum est propria relinquire uestra esse [illegible]on potest, & ut pro consilio consilium reddam tib[illegible] sed aliquantò fidelius. Tu me iubes alienos fines irrumpere, ego te ad tuos redire mone[illegible]. Tu mihi consulis, ut mutato ad[illegible]e uitæ genere, Medicus fiam, rem neque magnificam, nec penè impossibilem, ego tibi ne [illegible]uam Rhetoricæ studeas, ut tandem medicus esse incipias, quod diù te esse mentitus es. [illegible] decet ornatus Medicum, quàm asellum phaleræ. [illegible] sane ne hinc reprehendi posses, ab[illegible] prouisum est. Quisquis te disertum dixerit, [illegible]em nitidam suem & [illegible]lucrem testu-

dinem, & candidam cotuum dicat. In te ergo non facundia, sed facundiæ studium male olet, & facundiæ inimica loquacitas. De his loquebar, dum dixi non esse Medici ornatum, magis est mercatori necessarius, quamuis nec ille rhetoricæ quidem studet, sed usu experientiam quærit, ac promptitudinem colloquendi. Quam ob causam illud à te non sine certa ratione quæsietam, cur non potius nauigationi Rhetoricam subiecisses, si cogebas eam seruire mechanicæ? Quem locum non intelligens (qui ignorantium mos est) non sine meo & multorum risu, responsionem superuacuam diffinisti.

FRANCISCI PETRARCHÆ V. C. CONTRA MEDICUM QUENDAM, INVECTIVARUM

LIBER IIII.

SCiens gratissimam mihi partem maledictorum tuorum, ad ultimum reseruaui, non quia tu, quò ultimam posuisses, de ordine enim tuo, de ingenio, de stylo quid sentiam audisti. Sed ut prioribus exactis, in hac parte licentius immorarer, palamque omnibus fieret, quàm sis uirtutis amicus, quàm cupidus literarum, qui mihi solitariam uitam, uelut probrum aliquod obiectas: de qua quidem duo mei libri extant, quos quoniam ad te nec peruenisse, nec peruenturos esse confido, neu perueniant uelim. De hoc ipso cogor aliquid, hic etiam ignorantiæ tuæ loqui. Ita'ne demens & excors, quos uituperare uis laudas? Non miror, quia & quos curare uis interficis, & puto quos interficere uelle efficeres immortales. Tu mihi ergo uesane, & omnis boni expers, inter acerbos iurgiorum etiam solitudinem exprobrasti. Fecisti optimè, quamuis pessima uoluntate, libenter hoc crimen fateor, sum solitudinis amicus, talemque me genuit natura, accessit consuetudo naturæ æmula, accessit studium & iugis cura, magno nisu animi semper incubui, ut quantum fieri posset illa contemnerem, q[illegible] te moribundum, marcidum, semianimem in urbibus captum tenent. Solitarius [illegible] fateor, imò profiteor & solitarium esse iuuat, uixque ullam uitæ dulcedinem, urbano in strepitu [illegible] fragore percipio, addam quod non postulas, uix de homine præsertim studioso bene [illegible] mo, qui non si absque intermissione honesti officij datum sit, cupide interdum à procellis ciuilium curarum in solitudinem uelut in portum fugiat. Habes igitur quod e[illegible] accusatori maximè optandum (ut Cicero ait) confitentem reum, neque confitentem modò, sed [illegible] se nouorum insuper criminum coaceruatione spontanea deferentem. Sed expecta, noli uictoriæ lætitia inflari. Sæpè probauit actor quod non probasse præstabat, & facti uictor in [illegible] re succubuit. Probas me fatente ac fauente, quod intendis. Sed an hinc in meum, an in tuum caput redundet infamia, nondum probas. Proinde pædagogum tuum, senex puer ut arcessas consulo, multis hic tibi syllogismis claudicantibus opus est, ut uel irrisor uitæ solitariæ clarus sis, uel sectator obscurus. Incipe, aude, noli trepidare. Logicus es, Philosophia tua est, Rhetorica tibi seruit, & quod omnes titulos tuos transcendit, summus es Medi[illegible] us con[illegible] e ridiculum syllogismum, qui sæpè mortiferum poculum confecisti, & si nescis me[illegible], dic ita: Quod naturæ aduersatur, malum sit necesse est cum natura sit optima. Solitari[illegible] autem uiuens naturæ aduersatur, secundùm quam politicum animal est homo. Mala igitur solitudo. Ad hæc. Constat quod carere bonis est miserum. Multa uerò in urbibus bona esse, certum est quibus solitarius caret. Misera igitur [illegible] do. Adde si p[illegible] cet. Vt utilis est, qui multis prodest sic inutilis, qui nulli [illegible] bitator uel [illegible] bium, ut bonus, multis prodest, saltem exemplo: Solitudo autem seu [illegible] rusticitas nulli, nisi sibi prodest, teste Hieronymo. Inutilis ergo [illegible] a [illegible] o. V[illegible] ut periculosum est cum [illegible] lio multum colloqui. Ecce iam sensim ipse lude[illegible], ad ineptias tuas labor, & dum te æmulari studeo, pr[illegible] è [illegible] factus sum. Sed qu[illegible] am ex persona tua loquor, excusor, & fatebor ingenu[illegible] a arte, nullo studio simulare possem usque adeò stylum tuum, quin prima fronte discerne[illegible] ta mihi nescio, qui [illegible] insibilas, quod rostris perorantè Tullius facilè pos[illegible] it exc[illegible] lere.

S[illegible] on

Syllogismos autem tibi texui pharmacum oleant, stomachumque subuertant. Cæterum hos ludos, hasque tendiculas puerorum, ridendo præterire magnificum, puerile dissoluere, tamen quia cum pueris pueriliter, & interdum quod nutrices solent, bleso ore loquendum est, His parumper insistam. An naturæ semper obsequendum, an uerò nonnunquam ualide etiam resistendum sit, non huius temporis est quæstio, tu eam fortè Philosophorum princeps, in aliquo tuorum uoluminum uentilasti. Quæ enim Philosophiæ locum reat à tanto Philosopho prætermissum? sed sit naturæ obsequendum, sitque homo naturaliter animal politicum, nihil tamen politiæ obesse solitudinem studiosorum hominum, qui proculdubiò rari sunt, sæpè etiam multum prodesse compertum est, plusque uirum unum solitarium conferre Reip. quàm centum qui in tabernis, aut tabernis, aut lupanaribus obuersentur. Neque enim solitudinem loquimur, cunctis hominibus infensam, qualem Bellerophontis accepimus, qui uniuerso generi humano odium indixerat, aut Timonis nescio cuius (obscurum enim nomen habet) qui, ob id quod omnem amicitiam sperneret, nullumque diligeret, ab Athenensibus lapidatus traditur. Non hanc solitudinem loquimur, sed tranquillam & mitem, & ab hominum uitijs non ab humanitate semotam. Ecce nunc tu per uicos ruis ac plateas, & quasi ad currendum nati simus, me in solitudine sedentem, inhumanum putas. Credemus (si placet) plures te quotidie impetunt, plures, melioresque me diligunt. Et nisi gloriari tibi importunè nimium uidear, dicam quod multis est notum, tales ad me uisendum uiros in hanc solitudinem uenisse, & præter me unum hic cupidè fuisse, tales etiam mittere de longinquo ad cohortandum me, noscendumque quid agerem, qui te si ultrò illos ... as, ægrè uisu ... nt, nihil dicturi, modicum responsuri. Sed transeo ne te nimis affligam. Hoc autem non est ut glorier, cum omnis honor inhonorante sit, sed ut scias multos ruris amatores, etiam in urbibus charos esse, multos habitatores urbium, ipsis in quibus habitant urbibus odiosos. Ita non aduersam solitudinem politiæ, meque licet solitarium, & amare bonos noueris, & ab illis non minus amari, quàm si cœno oblitus ac sudore, & nunc huc, nunc illuc more tuo discurrens, prehensarem homines, loquendo caput omnium obtunderem, ... um ... limine hærerem, cunctis liminibus insultarem, & quem semel arripuissem, tenerem, occideremque tenendo, ut ait Flaccus:

Non missura cutem nisi plena cruoris hirudo.

In eo quidem, quod bonis urbium carere solitarij uidentur, nolo quæstionem antiquissimam renouare, quæ inter Peripateticos ac Stoicos, multis iam sæculis fuit, eritque per sæcula. illis summum p, his solum bonum dicentibus esse uirtutem. Quæ si uera sententia est, quibus, quantisque bonis careat solitaria uita, quisquis uera bona urbium numerat ac metitur, intelliget. Sed quia te post Aristotelem, tempore, ingenio etiam primum, & cum additamento logicæ Peripateticum scio, concedam nec de hoc ipso nobis iter litigandum sit, esse præter uirtutem bona, quibus urbes abundare non negem, in quibus fornicem, balnea, macellum, mulsum, adipem, pulmentum, & quæ sunt similia numeratis: Verum his carere apud uere, recteque philosophantes, non modò non miserum, sed magna etiam solitariæ fœlicitatis occasio est, simul ut cum his uetitis bonis, & alijs careat urbanis malis. Et quæ nam sunt ista, inquies? Quis dicat ... illis caruisse non est parum, quæ si ad literam intelligas, non mediocris quemlibet fortunæ uirum, sed Dauid regem, ex urbibus in solitudinem pepulerunt. Quæ nam uerò hæc? Nempe iniquitas & contradictio in ciuitate, & labor in medio eius, & iniustitia, & non deficiens de plateis eius usura & dolus. Iam quod sequitur responsione non eget. Sancta rusticitas sibi soli prodest, studiosa autem solitudo prodesse posse, quàm plurimis non negatur. Et ipse Hieronymus, qui hoc dixit, quantum solitudine delectatus, & quantum ibi mundo utilis fuerit, sciunt omnes. Sed quia non possunt omnes esse Hieronymi, & si magnum nihil in solitudine generatur, tantum ut uiuant innocuè, uitentur incentiua libidinum, quibus porticus ciuitatum ac theatra flammescunt, paruum ne tibi forsitan uidetur? Apud me multò quidem optabilis est solum saluari, quàm perire cum multis. Sed iam satis est, iam te ægrum ægris tuis linquere meditor, illi te continent, tu illos. Caret solitudo multis uulgi uoluptatibus, sed abundat suis, quiete, libertate, ocio quamuis uerum sit quod ait Annæus: Ocium sine literis mors est, & uiui hominis sepultura. Et profectò solitarius idiota nisi fortè CHRISTVS, ual... ontinit ... se... um sit quantolibet spacio terrarum, sine ullis uinculis uinctus est. Vnde non miror, id tibi uitæ genus inuisum: quid enim hic ageres, nisi numerare horas, & quærere quando ... tum secundum regulas tuas, quando cubitum ires. Quem circumscribere, seu cum quo clamare posses, nullus

occurreret, tecum loqui nescires. Id enim est hominum paucorum, & tamen ijs eisdem in locis parua fateor, seu uenus nulla copia. Sed nonnullo, nec paruo quidem amore literarum, tàm benè, tamen prædulciter mihi est, ut si statum animi mei nosses, putem te horam qua natus es, odio habiturum, quæ te in illam miseriam & infœlicem uitam proiecit, & propter pecuniæ paruæ spem permagnas rapit angustias. Quid ergo locutus es miserabilis senex? Quid in me damnasti? Amarunt solitudinem Patriarchæ, Prophetæ, Sancti, Philosophi, Poetæ, Duces, Imperatoresque clarissimi. Imbo uerò solitudinem quis non amat, nisi qui secum esse non nouit? Odit solitudinē quis in solitudine solus est, timetque ocium quisquis nil agit. Quantum uerò habeat unde tristetur, qui ut gaudeat turbā quærit, planè miser est, qui fœlicitatem sperat à miseris. O' mendice, dico Medice, qui te naturæ cōscium Philosophum uocas, sic ubi nam sit uera fœlicitas didicisti? Certò non opus est turbis, confusisque clamoribus, non theatrico strepitu, non uulgo inter miserias plaudente, non quadrigis fundamenta quassantibus, non cruento foro, non nidore fumantium popinarum, & olentium acie coquorum, atque aromata transmarina terentium, quos uobis exceptis, nescio an efficacissimos omnium ministros mortis appellem, nihil his omnibus est opus. Intus in anima est quod fœlicem & miserum facit. Hinc illud poëticum dignè laudatur: Nec te quæsiueris extra. Constat autem nihil melius esse animæ, quàm dum amoris obstaculis, uitæque compedibus, in Deum atque in seipsam, libera tandem & expedita conuertitur. Enimuerò id dum sumus in terris, nusquam melius quàm in solitudine fieri posse, & si tu non capias, fatebuntur experti. Illud quoque Platonicum, ab Augustino relatum & laudatum notissimè uerum est, non corporeis oculis (ut uerba etiam ipsa ponam) sed pura mente ueritatē uideri. Cui cum anima inhæserit, eam beatam fieri atque perfectam, ad quam percipiendam, nihil magis impedire, quàm uitam libidinibus deditam. Quæ sententia à Virgilio, quam tu spernis ut uespertilio aquilam, simia leonem, elegantissimè sub allegorica nube reconditur, quem locum prætereo ne cerebellum tuum mole rerum opprimam, quam doctrinam, ab Archyta Tarentino magno in primis, & præclaro uiro, didicisse Plato ipse potuerat, dum illum, Pythagoreosque alios uisendi, discendique gratia in Italiam uenisset. Ille enim, ut apud Ciceronem Cato meminit. Nullam capitaliorem pestem, quam corporis uoluptatem hominibus, dicebat, à natura datam. Deinde enumeratis malis, quæ ex uoluptatis radice nascuntur, illud addebat. Cum homini siue natura, siue quis Deus, mente nihil præstabilius dedisset, huic diuino dono nihil tàm inimicum esse, quàm uoluptatem. Nec enim libidine dominante, temperantiæ locum esse, neque omninò uoluptatis regno uirtutem posse consistere. Quibus ita se habentibus, nec illud ambigitur, & quod beatam, perfectamque animam fieri uetat, summo studio uitandum, & uirtutem in proprio non inimicæ suæ regno esse quærendam. Iam illud, ne probari quidem est necesse, ciuitatem libidinum esse sentinā, omniumque ibi turpium uoluptatum illecebras scatu ire. Piget nunc, pudetque conclusiunculas infantiles, tuo more subnectere. Tu qui Logicā ' uis, facilè consequentiam uides. At ne nimis urgeam, excusare nunc etiam iuditium tuum libet. Profectò enim solitudinem odisse mechanici est, fateor, quòd te decet. Vbi enim nisi inter turbas credulas fatuorum, ingenioli tui mercimonium ostentares? Posses hic quidem esurire, totius anni mendacia, una te luce non pascerent. Iure igitur locum fugis, moribus tuis aducrsum, illud iniustè agis, quod inter studiosos literarum ac mechanicos non discernis. Linque solitudinem his, quibus nec falli, nec fallere est animus, qui nec pauperiem timent, nec diuitias uenerantur, sed utrunque paribus spatijs delectantur assistere. Qui honestissimam uoluptatem ex libris, ex ingenio, ex animi agitatione percipiunt. Tu autem nullo prohibente habita, ubi te matutina muliercularum cohors in publico sedentem adeat, circumstrepat, interpellet. Tu pro tribunali stricto, pallido labello, elatoque rugoso supercilio suspirans, exanimes, quid ea nocte quis minxerit, & quis tandem quassanti capite, sententiam feras, ille peribit, iste curabitur, quam cum falsam finis ostenderit, apud te non prius mendacium, quàm excusatio sit inuenta. Sin uera forsan euaserit (fieri enim non potest, ut quisquam tàm plenus mendaciorum sit, quin casu saltem ueri aliquid multiloquio ... atur) exultes ac tumeas, ipsumque te putes Apollinem, & Delphis oraculum processisse, non es itaque totus amens, locum tibi aptissimum delegisti. Habitant reges in urbibus, præsidesque terrarum & iudices, quique coërcendis uulgi moribus præsunt, quos Reipublicæ necessitas excusat, horum præsentiam requirentis. Habitant e aliquo graui negotio detenti, hos propriè ius necessitatis absoluit. Habitant ibi uoluptuosi atque cupedinarij, quibus placet fornix & uncta popina: ut ait Flaccus. Habitant ibi cir-

ibi circumscriptores, mimi, fures, totumq; id genus. Ibi postremò habitant mechanici, quibus omnibus propositum unum uel fallere, uel lucrari, tibi utrumq; propositum est, quod intendis, alibi non potes. Fuge igitur solitudinem, urbes ama. Quinetiam si quid mihi credis, illic tibi non suburbium elige, sed plateam? Quid multa? Doctos ut scopulum caue, habita inter stultos, uenator nemora, piscator aquas, sequitur lupus indefensum gregem, circulator mimos, fur & impostor diuites, stultos, credulos insequitur, nihil sane circulatori grauius, quàm ludum suum ab astante cognosci. Hic ne me omninò rusticum putes, quia rure habito, hinc illud uenenum uisceribus tuis sparsum, quod te quiescere non sinit. Cum enim Pont. Max. hinc morbo, hinc quorundam fraude uel ignorantia circumuentum cernerem, eum certè fideliter ut res docuit frustrà præmonui, licet enim tunc euaderet, in eosdem tamen laqueos mox reuersus, utilisq; consilij, uel immemor, uel contemptor, totum se uobis tradidit, ubi quod sæpè accidit melior pars numero uicta est, tuaq; & cæterorum ignorantium præualente sententia, intempestiuis remedijs, & immodica (ut fertur) senilis sanguinis rapina, illum si sineretur, adhuc fortè uicturum, Pontificali sollicitudine liberastis. Ita breui tempore, caput mutauit Ecclesia, & antequàm nos nostræ contentionis; is unde contentio orta erat uitæ suæ finem reperit, te iuuante, hoc quenquam animaduertisse fers grauiter. Sed certè non solus ego ludos uestros intelligo, quid soli mihi irasceris, an quia solus è cunctis ludo astantibus, mutire ausus sum, ut qui fallebatur aduerteret? Habes propè iustam iracundiæ causam, circulator, puluerem tuum, circulumq; tuum detegere, quinetiam spargere, atque stringere uolui, fateor, fecissemq;, si mihi creditum fuisset. Vnum tibi satis inculcare nequeo, nec enim decies repetijsse sufficiet. Si in me rabies tuæ ignorantiæ sibi conscia, linguam urgebat, quid Poëtæ meriti, quorum nec aliquem nosti; nec aptus natus es noscere? Vt sim ego Poëta, quod tu potiùs dicis, & ego patiar quam credam, quid tamen audio? Non ego te carmine aut ullo Poëtico mucrone confixeram, sed pedestri, solutoq; sermone læseram. Quodq; maius impatientiæ tuæ signum fuerit, non ad te, sed ad alterum transmisso, neque enim de te, sed de ignorantibus atque discordibus, quorum tunc ego te principem nesciebam. Quotiens tibi iam dixi frustrà despumas in Poëtas; aërem uerberas, in uentum furis, neque enim poëticè læsus, ô cerebrum plumbeum, hoc non potes intelligere, cum Philosophia & Logica tuæ sint. Miraris si te surdum, cæcumq;, aut si saxeum uocem, quid tecum ampliùs quàm cum aliquo ex his scopulis Sorgię impendentibus. Loqui iuuat? nisi quod ille aliquid fortè, tu nihil ad quæsita respondes. Læserim ego te, quid poëtica meruit? sim Poëta, telum illud ueritatis (ut uideo) altè descendit in coetuum, non loro poëtico, sed nuda manu, & uerbis puris, atq; simplicibus missum erat Philosophe ingens, quæro à te. An si te Musicus non cantu, sed uerbis offenderet, uel Aristoxenum, uel ipsam Musicam condemnares? An si quis Astrologus non quadrantem æneum, sed baculum tibi quercinum in caluitium impegisset, malediceres Ptolemæo? an si te uel agricola non stiua, sed saxo feriat, Hesiodum carpes, aut Palladium? Vel piscator non hamo, sed gladio percutiat Petro detrahes, aut Andreæ? an ego quia tu mihi oles, Hippocratis, uel Aesculapij memoriam lacerabo? satis est aduersarium ferire, etiam ne ob unius hominis odium, humanum omne genus oderis, multosq; tibi hostes feceris, impar uni hęc repetere uisum est, ut quòd ingenio non potes, crebra saltem repetitione concipias. Te dum me inuaderes iratum fuisse, dum poëticam lacesseres furiosum, utrobiq; non modò mendicum literarum, sed omnis inopem rationis, & cum Poëtis quidē deinceps ut libet, mihi iam parcere poteras, odij causa sublata est. Hactenus enim ludum tuum uolui impedire, nec potui, posthac impedire, nec cogito, nec oportet. Hunc enim Pontificem habemus, qui, si uerum audio, nugas tuas non pluris faciat quàm sint, quiq; uel innata prudentia, uel exemplo nouo, & insigni tales facilè uitet insidias. Finis iam huius sermonis esse poterat, & ut arbitror tempus erat, sed ubere atq; prægnanti eloquio tuo retrahor, sic facere, tantaq; arte me detines, ut abire nequeam abs te. Quis enim tàm mutus ut illi ioco non respondeat, quo desponsasse me dicis fontem Sorgiæ? Clare Philosophe, non locum hunc aut illum, sed tranquillitatem mentis ac libertatem sequor, quas tu nescis. Illas ego non tantùm ad Sorgiæ, sed ad Nili fontem quęrere. Non grauabor: Ibo quo nec Alexander mittere, nec Cambyses potuit peruenire, non me rubicunda perusti zona poli, nec epularum defectus impediet, quæ causa duplex cœpto arcuisse legitur tantos reges, & esuriens, & perustus, si ibi illas esse nouerim, ad tranquillitatem animi, libertatemq; perueniam. Scio tamen eas non in locis, sed in animis inueniri, uerum ad id conferre aliquid loca salubria & quieta, non dubito. Cur (in-

quiea) asperiore loco habitas? Cur mollioribus non uteris, si reddenda nunc etiã ultræ ratio est, nec dum manum ferulæ subduximus, dicam de multis unã causam legisse, nescio an intellexisse potes apud Senecã, honestius Scipionem Liternis exulasse, quàm Baijs. Non est unam rem amantis contrariam spontè sequi. Non est igitur aur uirtutem adepti, qualẽ me non esse lugeo, aut ad uirtutem suspirantis, qualem me si permiseris non nego. Non est (inquam) ad uirtutem suspirantis ultrò degere, ubi uoluptas inimica uirtutis imperet, quid ergo? Nemo inquies bonus in urbibus? Non dico id quidẽ, sed innumerabilia mali, à quibus non modò proficientem, sed perfectũ quoq; si posit securius sit abesse. Accedit, quòd nec ita rure relegatus sum, quin sæpius quàm uellem amicorum precibus ad urbem retrahar, sępè & sponte mea uager, uitans locorum alternatione fastidium. Facti mei causam audisti. O' si te nunc sciscitet, uiceuersa quid tu latrinas omnes ambire nunquã desinas, qualẽ mihi expedies rationem? Dices sanare Remp. quam ægrã fateor, à te sanari posse nego, nisi quantum te spero, quotidie multis illam dementibus, ueluti corpus infectum damnosis, humoribus exhaurire. Quem uerò non curis exonerent, impleantq; lætitia speculationes illæ tuæ pulcherrimæ: quarũ prima est. An in solitudine habitans sim Deus, an bestia. Diffinisq; non Deum. Sed audite quæso Philosophi rationem, quia Poëtas sequor, ut dicit, & non probat. Ergo si Poëtas non sequerer Deus essem. Tu igitur qui nec Poëtam, nec ipsum Poëtæ nomen intelligis, quis deorũ es? Certò si ignorantia Deum facit, tu nõ solùm Deus, sed Deus deorum iure uocaberis. Quęro autem, quòd apud Lucanum de Nerone scriptum est, quis Deus esse uelis? Non respondes, perplexus es, dabo tibi consilium, lege Varronis, uel (quia illos non habes) Augustini libros, inuenies q; tibi placitũ aliquod Dei nomen. Deus enim esse non prohiberis, quia Poëtas negligis, magna ibi Deorum copia, & nominum multa uarietas. Si me rogas, quia in his pauló forsan exercitatior sum, tria tibi deorũ nomina utriusq; sexus excerpsi. Esto uel Pallor, uel Cloacina, uel Febris, hæc te citò utinam ô studiũ caput arripiat, ut perstrepere desinas, & tuo periculo experiaris, quibus remedijs abundes. O' insensate non sum Deus, nisi forte eo modo quo propter intelligentiam, & actum Aristoteli uidetur homo mortalis Deus. Quod si beatus essem, utiq; Deus essem. iuxta illud Philosophicum Seuerini: Omnis beatus Deus. Natura quidẽ unus, participatione uerò quamplurimos esse nil prohibet, quòd ab Augustino habuit Psal. CXVIII. Non enim (inquit) existendo sunt homines Dei, sed fiunt participãdo illius unius, qui uerus est Deus. Certè peccatis effectum est, ut cũ audissemus. Ego dixi dij estis, & filij excelsi omnes, illud continuò tristiùs audiremus. Vos aũt sicut homines moriemini, ac ne quis principatui, potẽtiæq; fideret, additũ est. Et sicut unus de principibus cadetis. Itaq; profundissimè speculator, nõ sum Deus, nec semideus quidẽ, qualem Lucanus Pompeiũ. Labeo describit Herculem & Romulũ, & de Philosophis Platonẽ. Nunquàm miser in has insanias cecidisses, si aliquando cogitasses, quàm grande negotium sit, licet excellentibus ingenijs, diuinitatem non dicam assequi, sed etiam cõtemplari. Si semel legisses, illud præclarè dictum à Platone, ab Apuleio relatum, & ab Augustino in Libro de Ciuitate Dei positum: Deum esse summum omniũ creatorem, ipsumq; solum esse, qui non posit penuria sermonis humani, quauis oratione, uel modicè comprehendi, uix saltem sapientibus uiris, cũ se uigore animi quantum licuit, à corpore remouẽt, ad intellectũ huius Dei. Id quoq; interdũ, uelut in altissimis tenebris rapidissimo coruscamine, lumen candidum intermicare: Quid tibi Medice uidetur. Quid de hac urina ius dicas Platonis, certè Augustinus medicus animoiũ, sani hominis eam censet. Quamobrem non sum Deus ut dixi, quippè nec idoneus contẽplator Dei, non si tam sapiens sim quantũ tibi sapiens uideris, quid ergo? Opus exiguũ Dei sum, cultorq; utinã, bestiæ uerò titulum ne me te uiuente merebitur. Sed eloquẽtiæ tuæ nihil est arduũ, nomen tuũ mihi tentas ingerere, & quẽ non exhilaret urbanitas tua, dum me interrogas. An sim leo, quia scilicet ut dicis, id responsionis principiũ præferebat? Atqui conuitiator mordax & friuolè, siue me leonem uoces, non mouebor, sciens quòd in scripturis sacris. Quorum non ignarus modò, sed hostis es. CHRISTVS Leo dicitur, siue me leonem neges, non irascar, memor quòd in eisdem scripturis, Diabolus est leo. O' insulsi sales, auctoriq; suo simillimi, quid ais, nõ potes iocum tuũ concludere in me senex? Iam nemo est, qui aliud in te, nisi te rideat. Explica linguæ nodum, fac rideam, dum ægri interim tui plorant. Dic, age, dic securè, nil timueris tuã auream eloquentiã expectamus, dic Rhetoricę imperator, dic Galliene, Demosthenes, dic bone Cicero & Auicẽna, sum leo, uel quid aliud. Nõ es (inquit) leo, sed noctua. Ridete omnea, plaudite, fabula acta est. Sed, heu, nõ sacrarum tantum uerum omnium literarum nescie, an non

saltem

saltē audisti talia enim legisse non potes, quoniā extra περιπάτημα tuā sunt, apud antiquos nostros ingeniosissimos, quòd nemo ambigit, ac doctissimos quidem uiros, auem hanc Mineruæ consecratā, quę apud illos sapientię dea est. Miraris idiota, peregrina sunt hæc, uelles audire rei causam. Occulta est auis, & uolucrum stupor, nocte uigilat, inter tenebras uidet, dormientib. cunctis uolat, mirari aūt desines, si cogitare cœperis ex persona CHRISTI, qui uerus sapientiæ Deus est, & ipsa sapientia patris est, in Psal. ci. dictum esse: Factus sum sicut Nycticorax in domicilio. Vide aūt quanti te faciam, Philosophe, quòd ad ridendum studio conquisisti, ad irrisionem tuam, & gloriam meam facili ludificatione cōuersum est. Videro qualiter upupam tuam Philosophiæ, Rhetoricæq; dominus laudando tuā uertes in gloriā. Disce iam iurgator, uel mordere profundiùs, uel silere, nunc enim me noctuæ rostro uides, quàm leuiter uellicasti, ueneni multum, uirium nihil habes, quando mihi ut crimē aliquod solitudinem obijciens, ex actu laudabili conflare infamiam uoluisti, prouidebo ne me ueris probris possis attingere, eritq; tibi liuor tuus ad pœnā, mihi tum ad laudē, tum etiā ad cautelam. Curabo ita uiuere, ut boni gaudeant, tu Medicus repes, siue in hac, siue in alia solitudine ut sors tulerit, siue in urbibus uiuā, ubi uixi lōgè aliter quàm tu, ubi nemo mihi urinam suam, multi & magni secretū animi familiariter ostenderūt, cōtigitq; quòd optabā, ut essem charus illustribus, uulgò ignotus, libet enim gloriari, sed in domino, cui semper tū pro multis, tum pro hoc nominatim gratias agam, quod me ualdè dissimilem tui fecit. Interea dū hic sum, quòd quādiù sit futurū nescio, illud ne tibi uidear mentitus, quòd superbiæ mihi datū, in principio literarū tuarū huc sciens distuli, me florentes syluas, & solitarios colles ambire solitum, uel scientię cupiditate, uel glorię. Repeto enim non dubitans, ne lateat ut tu fingis, notum enim spero, nō modò quid agam, sed quid cogitem. Dixi igitur ut doleres, & repeto ut doleas, tantam diuersitatē nostræ sortis agnoscens, dū certè oculos tuos ille mœstus atq; horrens peluium ferit aspectus meos grata serenitas, & agrorum, ac nemorum lætissimus uiror lenit. Dum auribus tuis irati uentris murmur intonat: Meas suauis uolucrū cantus & dulcis aquæ strepitus delectat. Dum naribus tuis inclusus aēr, & auræ tristioris flatus ingeritur, meas florū circumfusa diuersitas, & calcatarum odor mirus herbarū recreat atq; permulcet. Dū lingua hebes, infœlixq;, palatum tuum delibandis atris potionibus inuiscatur, mihi lingua in aliquo, uel honesto colloquio, uel salubri soliloquio detinetur. Dum manus tua miserorū rimatur, atq; explicat purgamenta, mea aliquid scribit gratū posteris, ut spero dū legetur, quòd certè scio gratū mihi dū scribitur, & si nihil enim maius, at saltem obliuia temporū, multarumq; grauiū, & inutiliū curarum animo meo affert. Deniq; dū tu lucrū cogitas, aut rapinam, ego illud meditor, ut si possim ex alto pereuntia lucra despiciam. Et ut sępissimè stomacheris, dū tu captus uilis lucri cupidine. grabatulos ambis ac latrinas, ego illa sola cupidine, quam audisti, florentes syluas & solitarios colles lustro. Sentis quàm me non pœniteat dixisse, quod totiens repeto, & exaggero, magnifice forsan, & de me altiùs loqui uideor. sed à quodā magnanimo, literatoq; uiro didici, magnificè loquendū aduersus ignorantes. Brutus hoc in epistolis suis ait (patere me uti testimonio hominis incogniti, apud te notissimi, apud doctos, & quem Tullius, ac Seneca cum ueneratione susceperunt) quanto ergo magnificentiùs, atq; altiùs loquendū, aduersus surdos. Altè locutus sum, sic oportuit ut audires, hymnis quidem tuis, carmen breue reddideram, sed iniuriam Musis hāc inferre nolui, eas ut insueto odore confunderem, tuumq; ad limen cogerem, ubi se nunquā fuisse gloriantur. Ecce multa mihi, quæ penè per desuetudinem euanuerant ad memoriā reduxisti: gratiam habeo conuitijs tuis. Exercent ingenium bonum opus: nisi malo more, pessimoq; animo fieret. Hoc tibi examinandum linquo: ut libet igitur ego, & tacere possum, & loqui audeo: insultusq; tuos nec opto, nec horreo: nec dum aculeos deposui: quòd à te quoq; grauiter acceptum, quàm uerè dixerim: puto sentias: nisi prorsus obtorpuisti. Ita tamen hoc accipias uelim: si non post annum: sed ad iusti temporis spatium in aciem redis: absit enim ut ad unius tempus non extimantis pendeam semper arbitrio tempus mihi charum est: fugamq; eius intueor. Si ergo distuleris: tibi nihil. Chartæ autem quod merebitur, quæ indignari non poterit: si illic posita fuerit ubi auctor suus assiduè cor, ingenium, manus, linguam, oculos, nares habet, & tibi quidem in præsens hæc suffectura crediderim, ut aliquid in diem proximum reseruemus. Tibi autem lector quisquis es, ocio abundans, in has fortè literulas incidisti, pauca dicturus sum. Duo sunt quidē ad quæ perraro, nunquamq;, nisi inuitus uenio. Ad utrumq; nunc iste mordacissimus conuitiator me coēgit. Gloriari & de seipso prædicare uanum ac superbum, alteri detrahere iniuriosum, & molestum est.

Non audeo te rogare ut mea legas opuscula: altiorem tibi, fertilioremq; lecturam opto, sed hoc dicere audeo, si quicquid ab ineunte ætate scripsi, & ut puto scribam cum bis conferatur, quæ mihi detractor iste uiolentus excoisit, neq; sermo tam feruidus, neq; tantùm in reliquis omnibus iurgiorum, neq; decima uel propriæ laudis, uel alienæ infamię pars legetur, nisi quòd olim, memini me alterius cuiusdam & certè maioris æmuli, quē in alio, terrarum tractu, atq; alia ætate perpessus sum. Rabiem inuidiæ facibus accensam, coactum similiter tribus, aut quatuor epistolis contudisse. Sed ea contentio, lege carminis, iuueniliter actitata est. Hoc deerat iniuriæ, ut à sene iam senior, soluta oratione lacesserer, utq; in omni ætate, & in utroq; stylo compellerer insanire. Vnum me solatur, utrobique lacessitus sum, putabam aliquando fugisse latebris inuidiam fallebar, illa me ut uideo uel subterraneis latitantem cauernis inueniet, displicet persecutio, quamuis fortè non inutilis, displicet inuidia, sed inuidiæ causa non displicet, neq; uelim talis esse, in quem illa nil cogitet, aut in quem nil audeat. Securus esse uelim, nisi putē impossibile, ausa est in Cæsares, in reges, in populos, penitusq; paucis contigit, quod Salustius meritò difficillimū dicit, inter mortales, ut gloria inuidiam superarent. Illud contrà facillimum multis accidit, ut gloria inuidiam irritarent. Vnum miror, quod cùm hęc pestis inter pares, uniq; studio intentos oriri soleat, mihi semper unde nō debuit orta est. Deum testor, non libens ad respondendum olim ueni, sed multò nūc magis inuitus, ad hæc redeo, quamuis inter utriusq; linguæ principes, interq; sanctos uiros, quod multò mirabilius est, quæ'nam uerborum certamina frequenter exarserint nō ignorem. In immortalibus enim scriptis, memoriæq; mandata sunt, quæ probra, quas cōrumelias, uel in Ciceronem Salustius non iacit, uel in eum ille non reiecit, unum ipsis in uerbis odium cernas, nō mitior, sed multo quoq; acrior inter Aeschinem ac Demosthenem, capitaliorq; dissensio. Quis Hieronymi contentiones non audiuit cū Rufino Aquileiensi? Quasdā quoq; cū Augustino, leuius quanquàm, reuerentiusq; habitas, duras tamen atq; mordaces. Verùm hæc & his similia, in alijs, quàm in me libentius excusarem, sed cogor ubi nollem, & ad duo mihi inprimis molestissima per uim trahor. Quid enim lector oro te, quid est, quòd in me spontè glorier? Profectò quamuis obtrectator meus, quouis iusto extimatore rerū, nihilo etiā si dici libeat minor sit, adeò ut stylus ipse meus, quodammodo frenū mordens, aduersarij cōtemptu ignobilitate superbiat. Ego tamen (ut tibi uerum fatear) meipso iudice nihil sum, & siquid uel uerè essem, uel uiderer mihi, quorum alterum cupio, alterū abominor, an tamen ideò possem obliuisci, illa sapientum pueris etiam nota consilia. Laudet te alienū & non os tuū. Et alius. Tollite inanem iactantiam, res loquentur tacentibus uobis. Ex aduerso autem, quid ego alterius nomen inuadam. Iniustè agam, si honestum nomen, si infame, superuacueq;, quòd si forte de literis (ut fiat) quæstio esset exorta. Verum est enim non solùm illud: Quot capita tot sentētiæ. Sed illud quoq;: Cuiusq; capitis, multas esse sentētias. Vnde sæpè accidit, ut de una, eademq; re, aliud mane, aliud sero, imò & in eodē instanti, nunc illud uni & eidē ingenio uideatur. Si ergo uel de sententijs inter se, uel de unius sententiæ terminis, uel de re qualibet dissensio incidisset, dicente uno, quòd alius non probaret, an statim ad iurgia ueniendū, & quasi pugnando ueritas quæreretur, furore atq; odio decertandū erat? Cur non potiùs meminisse illius sententiæ decebat, quæ in libro de Finibus à Cicerone posita est, quàm si legisti. Parces nota repetenti, si minus, puto non inuitus leges. Dissentientiū (inquit) inter se reprehensiones, etiā non sunt uituperandæ, maledicta, contumeliæ, iracundiæ, contentiones, concertationesq; in disputando pertinaces, indignæ philosophia mihi uideri solent. Et sequitur: Neq; enim disputari sine reprehensione, nec cū iracundia, aut pertinacia rectè disputari potest. Neq; enim disputando solùm, sed etiam in atrocioribus causis doctrinæ huius meminisse profuerit. Hic idem alibi: Rectum est (inquit) etiam in illis contentionibus, quæ cum inimicissimis fiunt, etiamsi nobis indigna esse uideamus, tamen dignitatē retinere, iracundiā pellere. Et sequitur: Quæ enim cum aliqua perturbatione fiunt, ea nec constanter fieri possunt, neq; his qui assunt probari. Sane quod ad disputandū pertinet, Larinis iste nō fuerat disputandi modus, licet ut Cicero idem ait, sit ista in Grǽcorum leuitate peruersitas, qui maledictis insectantur, eos à quib. de ueritate dissentiunt. Quæ cū mihi iampridē nota essent, & animus natura quietis appetēs, à cōtentionibus abhorreret, nunquam spontè fueram ad talia descensurus, nisi iste quem alloquor, superbus, inuidus, præceps, temerarius & ignorans (ut breui eum tibi circumlocutione describam) me nolentem, procacis (ut ita dicam) linguæ suæ manibus, ad hunc uelut puluereum, ac strepentem iurgiorum campum, ex arce tranquilli silentij detraxisset, ut quem delectet porcorum more

cœno

cœno semper immergi, & cui ego nihil, sed omnis ueritas, omnis uirtus offensa sit. Itaq; lector amabilis, à te ueniam peto, si in uolutabrum contentiosi colloquij protractus, contra naturam, moresq; meos aliquid dixi, quòd aures tuas laeserit, sicubi gloriosius de me, deq; illo mordacius, quam uelles effatus sum. Magnificentius fateor, fuisset utrunq; contemnere, sed rara patientia est, quàm non penetret acutum conuitium. Proinde si quae iacula primum ille contorserit in nomen meum, quòd quantulumcunq; sit, augeri studio non minus, si praeterea, quot molestias tuli, quot, quantisq; mendacijs aures ueri auidas impleuerit, quàm denique importunè sit, & scurriliter debacchatus audieris, & quis ipse sit noueris, spero te eum ipse dicturus sis. Gloriatus es necessario, detraxisti uerè. Primum excuso, secundum probo, nisi quia rem uerbis aequare nequiuisti. Solebant equidem ingeniosi adolescentes, ab insigni actione aliqua, primum nomen auspicari, quasi uictori accederet uicti nomen, & fama multis quaesita laboribus, euentum unius iudicij sequeretur, non infamiae negotium ut mos erat, sed inde quosdam ualdè nobilitatos legimus. Hic ex me lacerato, senex idem sperat, spero ego quòd fallitur, atque utinam non magis ad uotum cogitatio sibi ulla succedat. Iuuentus est, qui solius famae cupidine Philippum Macedonum regem interficeret, ut quidam putant, apud alios autem causa caedis est iustior. Iuuentus est qui Dianae Ephesiae templum incenderet, ut uel insueto facinore notus esset, qui ne per scelus assequi uideretur, quod optabat, Ephesij prouiderunt indicto supplicio, ne quis eum historicus nominasset. Certe conuitiator meus, qui non regem, nō templum uiolauit, sed humilem, solitagumq; ruricolam, non hinc nobilitabitur, neque hic per me, nec alibi nominandum puto, nec per alios. Quis est enim tàm ulli deditus negotio, qui circa tàm ieiunum nomen tempus expendat? Atquis est, qui & si eum antea dilexisset, non deinceps liuidis aduersis immeritum scriptis eius perlectis, aduersetur, atq; oderit? Ita si fortasis hoc calle famam petit, ne quicquam insaniuerit. Sin turbasse ocium & silentium meum interrupisse contentus est, quod decreuerat impleuit, aliquot mihi dies eripuit, quos nemo restituet, & à meis tramitibus abductum, ad durum, & insolitum iter traxit. Quid ni igitur turber, temporisq; iacturam quaerar, nec mihi, nec alteri fructuosam, nisi quantum studioso homini, modò animi crimen absit, & data sit occasio non quaesita, in omni genere orationis exercendus est stylus? En in demonstratiuo genere exerceor, mallem in laudibus exerceri. Caeterùm ut aliquando sit finis, Is qui hanc mihi necessitatem imposuit, in alienis finibus non inueniens, quod quaerebat reuertatur ad proprias febres. Tu lacessito faueas, lacessentem oderis, & ualeas precor.

NOTHA SEQVVNTVR HIC QVAE IN ALIIS AEDITIONIBVS FALSO Authori attribuuntur.

STEPHANVS COLVMNA SIMONI MEDIOLANENSI Archiepiscopo, s.

Satis à me cupidè pater optime scio te oratum, ut librum Apuleij quem inscribi latè iubat, de Monarchia, moderni temporis accommodares, quòd abnuere minimè ualens, habere te illum in Babylone asseruisti. Inde mihi tradi facere spopondisti, sed quoniam desiderio meo promissum nimium crastinabatur, haud uereor iterum illum, & etiam cum ambitione quadam reposcere, nec illam mihi ad uitium, quanquàm id sonet, precor adscribas, quae plerunq; ut in de Oratoris institutione Quintilianus ait, causa uirtutum est. Quę si me in caeteris rebus, in quibus plerosq; mortales inuadit, ut inde fieret, teste Salustio, quòd ambitio illo in tempore omnia possideret, usque huc reor minimè laeserit, in conspiciendis tamen libris, antiquorum ingeniorum fragrantiam redolentibus, adeò impellit audaciam, ut etiam importunè ab amicis illos habentibus exigam. Non quia temerè sicut quidam agunt, qui multò plura quàm possint, de seipsis sibimet pollicentur, eos exquiram, tanquàm sine peritissimo instructore, in illis proficere posse audeā mihi promittere, quòd aut nullis, aut raris contigisse legitur. Nullis ergo, aut raris me parem facere, nimiū accommodasse mihi necesse foret, quod idem ipse Quintil. improbat. Scite te quidem haud ambigo, quoniam ut de Augustino Volusianus aiebat. Legi deesse creditur, quicquid Simonē ignorasse contingeret, quòd huc magister Nicolaus de Sicilia nuperrimè aduentauit ordinis fratrum minorū, in sacris literis peritissimus doctor, & in caeteris scientijs, in quib. fas & uirum

Christia-

Christianum insistere, acu[illegible]simus speculator, & clarus instructor, ad quem uelut ad fontem sitiens proposito meo inest, de omni dubio, cum non dubitem multa occurrent, habere recursum, & super Apuleio ab ipso præsertim haurirem sensum, nec licet mihi denegcs aut conferre differas, portò latus in scriptis antiquorum, præclara philosophantium opera, quæ frequenter uerbo & exemplo docere consueueras. Inualuit enim me non minor audiditas nunc studendi, quàm inter ueteres, nouasq; melles egestate blandorum maximè egentibus uoracitas comedendi. Adest quippe aliis optato o[illegible]ium literarum, sed deest profecto librorum copia. Vnde sperem, in illo quem a te postulo, supra uires assurget ingenium, eroq; tui gratia, illius uiri familiaris, & fortè si sors dederit, peculiaris admodum. Cuius sine te uix ad nominis notitiam iam perueneram. Et si mox concesseris librum, mul[illegible]m commodi affers, cum inter illos me connumerem, in quibus plus impetus facit, multumq; utilium conferat ingenio uehemens studendi uoluntas. Opto in CHRISTO ualeas, & mei memor sis pater Optime.

SIMON EPISCOPVS M[illegible]DIOLANEN[illegible]S STEPHANO Columnæ, [illegible].

AMbitione mobilium & caducorum, & si motum non tantum uulneratum ut afferis, pateri euerende gaudeo, nam beatum illum e[illegible]le dico, cui tectum [illegible] animo est, qui uiuit ut natura præscripsit, quem aliqua uis mouet, nulla tamen uulnerat. Ambitionem tamen libri Apuleij literis tuis impressam, non amplector, tempus quod tantum nostrum est, cuius pretium non est breue, etiam si non breue, expendere ubi plurimum superuacuæ uanitatis, noxiæ curiositatis est. O quanta ergo ignorantia, & alienatio mentis, quanta fortium debilitas, & infirmitas rationis, affectui tuo, sic ambitiosi huiusmodi librum affectanti, nubem opposuit. Omnes natura ducimur ad cognitionem ueri boni, in quo excellere pulchrum putamus. Quomodo ergo fabulosum & fictum ambis, quem Spiritus sanctus effugit? Visio librorum unà cum Quintiliano tuo, ut importunè etiam exigas grata uidetur, peccas, quiesce, nesciens diuidere. Nam largiter inter libros refers. Saltem addere debeas, ut secundùm Apostolum ad fabulas non fiat conuersio, similisq; angustiæ turbatio, si de contemplatione ad actionem fiat uersio. Omnes uolunt beatè uiuere, nec hoc Cicero dubitauit. Quomodo uult beatè uiuere, qui non uult secundum uirtutem uiuere, secundùm quod uiuere, est solum beatè uiuere? Fortè erues, Beatè uiuere est, secundum delectationem suam ui[illegible]ere, quod omnes uolunt. Error est, ad Augustinum in huiusmodi angustia te relego. Velle enim quod non deceat est miserrimum, nec tam miserum est, non adipisci quod uelit, quàm adipisci uelle quod non oportet. Intellexisti? Iuuat te librum intitulare de Monarchia temporis præsentis, sed plus iuuaret si dixisses de Monarchia simpliciter A[illegible] lius e[illegible] le ma[illegible] h dolor, cum Seneca loquar, translatum est certamen nostrum a[illegible] q[illegible] c Dæmocratia &c. allicieba[illegible] ex titulo tropologico, non ignorans hi[illegible] m[illegible] m apud quosdam est de Asino, & sic est libri textura. Quomodo ergo alijs loci b[illegible] scriptum est: Non arabis in boue & asino. Vis enim cibari carnibus a[illegible] ut dicatur quod in Prophetia: Quorum carnes ut carnes asinorum? Scis quòd alitum reci[illegible] naturam alimenti? noli heri asinus, sicut nec equus & mulus, in quibus non est intellectus. Quæ[illegible]s copiam librorum, ubi non adest, & mihi abest, & numerus non est. Nam hue & il[illegible] re errare est, sed perspicaciter intueor, quod tui appetitus copia abundat. Ideò n[illegible] te[illegible]pe[illegible], de d[illegible] ali[illegible]aliter ambigendum est, cum fastidientis stomachi sit multa degust[illegible] Add[illegible]s epi[illegible] principio, doctrina Ciceronis de Oratore instructus, indicantis prius dem[illegible] ratu[illegible]m fortius argumentum apponere, promisisti fidem, quam f[illegible]ere[illegible] atie est, [illegible] non ne[illegible] m[illegible] sed credebam te ad hunc librum, ut ut exploratorem tra[illegible] n[illegible] ret [illegible] ans[illegible] igam, huius tamen ultrij expiationis est remedij spes, magister Nicolaus de Sic[illegible] in sacra pagina Magistri, in matre legum, ubi non totum legi mihi notus & tu[illegible] en tuum [illegible] m eni, & salubre profugium, de fonte eius hauri[illegible] & [illegible] b m[illegible] c[illegible] e[illegible]. I[illegible] m dilatione hec impleuo, ut su confuso cum melio[illegible] tribuat congruentius, cum maiori suauitate acce[illegible] ius, [illegible] um celeriori uoracitate expediatur inten[illegible] [illegible] e patientiam, [illegible]m plura nuper a Philosophicis lauda[illegible]a sunt. Vale in CHRISTO ut opto.

STEPHANVS

STEPHANVS C[illegible]VMNA, SIM[illegible] ELECTO Mediolanensi, s.

CVm primum reuerende Pater, manus mea literam tuam accepit, uiditque oculus, perlecta cum foret, parũ in me hærens, haud aliter quam admirans steti, quo nam ordine contexta fuer[illegible] non aduertens. Iterum recurrebam ipsam, & cum studio recensebam, terque, quaterque, nec altero ex quatuor dicendi genere, totis intentus [illegible]ibus olfactu maximè, quo Rhetor[illegible]m florum redolentia percipi soler ingenij occurren[illegible] et simul se omnibus quatuor aspectui præsentan[illegible]bus, quòd de Maroneo scripto dici nõ potest, qui eum eloquentiam ex omni genere co[illegible]auerit, copiosè, siccè, breuiter atque pin[illegible] & simul uno context[illegible], & separatim atque sparsi[illegible], quolibet per se utendo genere scri[illegible]pit, ita ut apud unum Mantuanum hæc quatuor genera reperire posśis. Vehementius, amplius que hærens, aliquanto silentio instauratu uires loquendi, paulul um fateor distuli, quoniam alijs occupatus negotijs, non uacabat, respondere tamen debui, nec pro dilatione aliquid excusationis opponere, indignum esse arbitrans, ut quoniam ad scribendum excitatus ipse fueram, in respondendo di[illegible]errem. Sic Augustinus ad Volusianum inquit: Morari etiam me fecerit, ultra uotum astruo, ipsa inops materia, & nullus tincto murice digna ueshri tegmine, illud quàmplurimum Flacci timens:

Parturient montes nascetur ridiculus mus.

Cum oratio materiam forsan excedit. Sed quid ludicra uerear, iocosque fugiam, quorum ta[illegible]me hunc excessum uolens facturus sim, cum ueteribus & cura, & studio digna uisa sunt? Cicero autem, quantum in ea re uoluerit quis ignoret, qui uel Liberti eius libros, quos is de [illegible]ocis patroni composuit, quos quidam ipsius teste Macrobio putant esse, legere curaueri[illegible]. Plautus quidem ea re clarus fuit, ut post mortem eius Comœdiæ, quæ incerta ferebatur Plautinæ tantum esse, de iocorum copia noscerentur. Catonem etiam illum Censorinum argutè solitum iocari, legi. Horum nos ab inuidia muniet auctoritas, si in nostris ca[illegible]uillemur oratio[illegible]us, quàm pinguius, quàm Rhetoricæ institutio iubeat, de arida materia loquamur, cum i[illegible] factum iocandi gratia intelligi uelimus. Iam ad te ueniendum est. Ad Satyricum accedere non putabam, uel ad Medicum, imò uerò ad Antistitem, & talem dixe[illegible]im qualem CHRISTVM nobis ostendit Apostolus: Qui sciat nostris infirmitatibus compati, non qui ad arborem securim apponat, nec prius quiescat, donec ad terram proiicne[illegible]rit cunctam molem. Ambitionem meam uidendi librum Apuleij, ferè dixerim tanquàm [illegible]resim, uerum assertiuè dicam, uelut ignauiam & insaniam quandam improbare niteris. [illegible]ito illam excusatam fecerim, quòd plerunque ui[illegible]rtutis est causa, illud te satyrizare sciens, quòd expendere tempus, quòd tantum nostrum est, ubi plurimum superuacuæ uanitatis, & noxiæ curiositatis est, ut ad literam replicem di[illegible]m tuum, credo dicere uoluisti perdere est, hic ad respondendum initium faciamus. Vetus quæstio est, & sæpè quæsitum est: Vtrum sanctius sit, modicos habere affectus an nullo[illegible] Stoicis uisum est illos expellere, quos secutus est Seneca, ut uidetur in Epistola quam [illegible] hac quæ[illegible]ione orsus est. Peripatetici uero illos temperant. Quid mihi obijcies, [illegible] Peripateticus ista pro sententia ef[illegible]ici uelim, ac cupida affectione uidere Apuleium? Er[illegible] ad ua[illegible]itatem, curiositatemque, quas contemnere plurimum astruis, non aduertero affectum temperem meum, metaphoricum insectans sensum illius: Modò tempus quod irrecuperabile est, q[illegible]od appreciari non potest, amisisse me dices. Aut hoc temperamentum, ut impossibile improbes, ac si reiecta cortice, dulcis nucleus, quem arida testa celat, sumendus non fuerit, uel si sumi non posśit, ridiculum dictum esset? Subtus amara folia dulcia latent poma, an nõ legenda[illegible] fo[illegible]ior[illegible] Aut madenda dulcoris cupidine, san[illegible] quis ignoret? Prudens, quis audi[illegible] non come[illegible]ret? Haud aliter de Apuleij libro [illegible]cere uel[illegible]m. Curios[illegible]rtè & fabulosam con[illegible]inet & la sciuam, sub qua, ueluti sub uire[illegible]um & luxuriantium [illegible]m um[illegible]raculis, gratissimus fructus absconditur, pr[illegible]funda & al[illegible]si[illegible]a iacet sententia, quæ summo studio, meliori in[illegible]e nio, toto conatu, maximo oci[illegible], m[illegible]d[illegible]di tempore haurienda foret. An non Vir[illegible]lius sub fabulæ tegume[illegible], [illegible]lam, [illegible]ma[illegible]omnium maiorem sententiam cecinit, eum in sexta uaticinatus fuerit Aegl[illegible]:

Iam noua progenies [illegible]

Quis Prophetarum de incarnati uerbi p[illegible]ogen[illegible]ie ex[illegible]res[illegible]ù dixerit si t[illegible]c ab intellectu ex fabularum curiositatibus ueri[illegible]cata, p[illegible]m[illegible]m s[illegible]ten[illegible] qu[illegible]it eripi potuisset humano? Sanè hoc in studio non te[illegible]pus perd[illegible]ur, sed c[illegible]itur, & seruatur. Nam fictum haud

ambigõ

ambigo, nec fucum am[illegible] fe[illegible] philosophanti[illegible]m ueras cum ratione infector senten-tias,& uarijs cuniculis u[illegible]que [illegible] ad centrum te[illegible] descendens, cu[illegible] sub mundi ma-china,auri uenas exquiro. Quod cùm in parte fecisse [illegible]tebar, cum à te de aureo asino Apu-leij librum, quem sic apud quosdam intit[illegible]latum asseris, obtinere pot[illegible]issem, non equidem perscrutaru[illegible]us fabulas, sed illius antiqui Poetæ adepturus philosophiam, [illegible] [illegible]iter, quam sub sterquilinio margaritas. Et quanquam plurimos huius æui d[illegible]lectent, me autem non al[illegible]iciunt curiosæ Poëtarum fabulæ præter illa, [illegible]andoque mercede & accepta studen-di remissione, quæ omnibus danda e[illegible] [illegible]ente Q[illegible]tiliano, quo[illegible] me[illegible] Satyrizas, non solum quia nulla res est, quæ perfec[illegible] p[illegible]sit continuum laborem, atq[illegible]e ea quoque quæ sensu & anima carent, ut seruare uim suam possint, uelut quiete alterna retenduntur. Et quod studium discendi uoluntate, quæ cogi non pot[illegible], const[illegible]ar, in illis attædiatum inge-nium, uelut quodam in ludo recreetur. Solent enim & plus uirium afferre, ad discendum, consequendumq́ boni uiri notitiam, renouati ac recentes, & acriorem animum facere, quod ferè necessitatibus repugnat, ut quid ergo satyra tua aduersus me clamitat? Cur inuehitur? Quamobrem obiurgat? Vnde mihi insaniam obijcis? Qua pro causa, ignorantiam & sen-suum debilitatem ac rationis infirmitatem opponit? Equidem non intelligo, cum in his ni-mium uerum dixerim, spiritum cur indignationis efflaueris? O quàm, ut meus quidam nuperrimè exclamauit, differendus est sermo intrinsecus, priusquam in uocem, uel cala-mum ueniat, præsertim ubi animus in contumeliam cuiusquam prorumpit. Fauni [illegible] en-tiam obsecro, sagax uenator, unde commodiùs, actiusq́ uenantia, & roscida prata, florida (inquam) ac uirentia lustra ferarum, & pressa uestigia odora, ut canum exquirit, & ipsam in-sequitur belluam: ac facilius capitur præda, quàm per saltus, & aspera, densaq́ nemora du-mis, sic per lepida scripta, fragrantis styli perfusa rore, & summa rerum inuentione c[illegible]nser-ta, ac lenocinio adiuta uerborum, & contra æstum excandescentis ingenij uerum, cum quo-dam animi feruore quærentis fabularum, quemadmodum quibusdam reclinatoris, inter-mixta umbris, quàm per inculta, insulsa & scabrea, nullo colore nitentia, a[illegible] ordine red[illegible] mi-ta, ad ueri boni scientiam peruenitur, quòd ut ais duce natura perquirimus, & è cœlo præ-uenti gratia reperimus, proinde iam te pœnituisse intelligam, inter illos me annumerasse, qui uirtuosè uiuere recusantes, beatè uiuere uolunt. Nec me ad Augustinum delegasti oportuit, cum per se nota sint, quòd simul esse non possunt, quæ contradictionem impli-cant, quàm uelle, & nolle pariant, nullus ambigit, & quòd uirtus, & uitium contraria [illegible] quis ignorat? Et quòd me uitiosè iudicas uiuere, quam tui conclusio complectitur a[illegible] menti, inde probationem assumens, quòd librum Apuleij ambitiosè postulo, qui plurimam complectitur uanitatem, quòd si o[illegible] [illegible]o, quid ex tua ratione sequatur, illam pace tua dictum glorier consutasse Augustinum de ciuitate Dei, qui legerit Poëtarum sententijs, ac ad contextum auc[illegible]ritatibus, tanq[illegible]m ex [illegible]mento, & lapidibus murum fabricantem intelliget, atque [illegible] omnes qu[illegible] a[illegible], & u[illegible] familiares, & seruos in opus suum ad-ducit. Intellexi[illegible] nec[illegible]sse fu[illegible]t al[illegible]s q[illegible]um in opere potuisset, minimè concep[illegible], quòd sine studio congruent[illegible] [illegible]ri p[illegible]tuisse, quippe non creditur, imò modestius autu-mari potest, quod omnes sol[illegible] [illegible]odi[illegible] recensuerit, ex quo constat, sic profun-de ad eorum sententias nanci[illegible]dum c[illegible]nfodisse, quod ad operis sui fabricam construen-dam, inter alios operarios, eos di[illegible]nos elegerit. E[illegible] daretur ocium, omnes doctores Ec-clesiæ, & uera mundi lumina, ac [illegible]e alios uiros s[illegible]nctos, numerare possem, qui Poë-tarum cum studij solertia [illegible]buti, ip[illegible] famili[illegible]riter admodum usi sunt. Quos ex [illegible] argumenti conclusione, per quandam co[illegible]equentiam, malè uixisse damnabimus, quòd nephas est dicere, & absu[illegible] [illegible] au[illegible]e [illegible]m ergo co[illegible]equentia mal[illegible] redda-tur, uis antec[illegible]tis corruit [illegible] ad A[illegible]item iuuat [illegible]sse lo-cutum. Ia[illegible]e[illegible]um M[illegible] [illegible]certationi opus fuerit, expe-riri liceat Mox co[illegible] me, c[illegible] [illegible]erat[illegible] [illegible]um Senecæ ratione munitus in-quis: fastidientis stomac[illegible] est[illegible] ar[illegible] [illegible]iam quòd pe[illegible]pe[illegible]is, appe[illegible]i-uam mea[illegible] [illegible]re. Q[illegible] [illegible]der[illegible]r, foret de indigel[illegible]o-ne timend[illegible] [illegible] ad digestionem diuersitas e bo-rum, an [illegible] fe[illegible] Hoc d[illegible]x[illegible] An homo mel[illegible]s dig[illegible]rat, q[illegible]na nutriatur [illegible] & [illegible] ? V[illegible]e eg[illegible], [illegible] prope ad te acce-do, [illegible] di[illegible]ar[illegible], [illegible], p[illegible]er teq́ adiuuare uidebor, [illegible] omnes tuas ra[illegible] cuellere u[illegible] c[illegible] o[illegible]m, [illegible]ntum initi potu[illegible] ran[illegible]

[illegible]a

d[illegible] tua ostendam, proinde ueniam gulæ à te tanquam à prætore peto, cuius me defenso- r[illegible] in hac parte necesse est quod p[illegible] tear. Et hoc certe Rhetoricæ dignitatis gratia. Est [illegible]m Rhetori[illegible], prælusio communes locos in utramuis partem inuentorum alternatio- ne tr[illegible] e. Verum si me de hac quæstione paganus quisquam, fanè te, ne de rusticolo q[illegible] in pago, uel rure nato atque nutrito, consuleret, quia pagana uel rustica ingenia, citiùs exemplis quàm ratione capiuntur, docuisse illum bestiali institutione contentus essem, & p[illegible]mum satisfecisse [illegible] non ambigerem, exem[illegible] pecudum, quæ si uno cibo nutriantur, & uniformiter [illegible] corporibus humanis saniores sunt, sed forte illum attentiorem, & al- tero exemplo [illegible], si ostenderem sibi, ut consideraret, nullum unquam fuisse Medico- [illegible] circa curan[illegible] rotant[illegible]um, tam audacis negligentiæ, ut febrienti uarium, & non simpli[illegible] [illegible]bum daret. Vnde satis constat, quod facilis digestionis sit, uniformis & simplex ali- m[illegible]a, ut ægrotanti cum infirma est natura sufficiat. Iterum rustico illi tertium addidissem exemplum, non minus esse multiplicium alimentorum uitanda nutritio, quàm uinorū mul[illegible] plex uariatio, nemo enim dubitat, illum qui uarijs uinis proluitur, facile in ebrietatis infa[illegible] tiam deuenire. Aduersus quam conuenienter quidam exclamabat autor:

Quid non designat ebrietas: aperta recludit
Spes iubet esse ratas, ad prælia trudit inermem
Fæcundi calices (uarijs redimiti Falernis) quem non fe[illegible] ere di ertum.

Verùm ne te deseram Medicorum optime, ad teipsum redeo, cuius paulò antè pro uillano quodam si occurrisset obliuisci uolebam, nec tibi tantū a[illegible] [illegible] uelim, exemplis quàm ra- [illegible]ne. Nam illa metacente clàm te esse non poterit. Aut equidem qualitate calefactionis il- lius, in quam post digestionē uertitur, cibus, si non apta [illegible] mori, qui corpus o[illegible]tinuit, gene [illegible]tur in stomacho crapulæ, aut congerie cibi, quem ad [illegible]endū natura non sufficit. Et q[illegible] [illegible]nico cibario utitur, facilè qua liquefactione, uel c[illegible] [illegible]utione grauetur, uel iuu[illegible] [illegible]r, intelliget. H[illegible]ud enim ambigere potest, cuius cibi qua[illegible]tate possessus sit, cum sumpserit [illegible]um unum. [illegible] certissime apud Medicos, ut infirmitas cuius causa cognita est, faci- lè ui[illegible]ur. Qui autem multiplici cibo alitur, diuersas patitur qualitates, diuersorum succorū uel liquidorū, quia non concordant humores, ex materiæ uarietate na[illegible]entes, nec efficiunt liquidum, purumque sanguinem, in quem uertuntur iecoris ministerio, [illegible] uenas cum ru- [illegible] lu suo transeunt. Pertendis'ne præclare Medice, [illegible]m procaci lingua te [illegible]uerim? Ni- [illegible] tamē est tàm indignū tolleratu, quam quod aures n[illegible] grata [illegible]a, captiua teneat, [illegible]erborum iocunditati assentire cogimur, circu[illegible] [illegible]bilitate sermonis, quia ad ex- [illegible] quendam fidem agit in audientes tyrannum. [illegible] abs te recedam, & aduersus has di- ctas, quas astruisse poteras rationes, & exempla pleb[illegible] na, quantū poterit assurget animus. At in primis auxilij nostri ingenium, penè audi[illegible]tes [illegible] ueris, ut liquidè osten- detur, cœpit exemplis. Dictum quidē est, [illegible] [illegible] des u[illegible] cibo & ideo expugnari dif- ficilius, eorū quam hominū sanitatē, sed utru[illegible] [illegible] potest. Neque enim simplex est animalibus brutis alimonia, nec ab illis quàm a [illegible] remotiores. Primùm nanque probatur clarissimè ex uarietate pratorū, quæ de[illegible] r, quibus herbæ sunt amaræ pa- riter atque dulces, aliæ succum calidum, aliæ frigid[illegible] entes. Videtur ergo tibi ciborum substantia simplex, ubi tot enumerātur uel arbusta, uel f[illegible]uctus. Non minus nutrimento di- uersa quàm nomine? Quod autē non facilius morbi homin[illegible] pecudes occupentur, Homero teste, cōtentus sum, qui pestilentiam refert à pe[illegible] inchoatam: sed ur quanta sit multis animalibus [illegible]mitas, breuior quàm [illegible] eorum, quàm h[illegible]um uita inditio est, nisi recurras forsit[illegible] ea, quæ de [illegible] atque co[illegible] fabulosa dicūtur, q[illegible] tamen uidemus omnes cadauer[illegible] [illegible] insidiati, & persequi fructus arborum. Nam quod mi[illegible] [illegible] quam [illegible] tatis, eorum opinio fabula- tur. Secūdum uero exem[illegible] [illegible] est, q[illegible]ent Medici ægris cibū offerre, [illegible] uarium, cum hunc o[illegible] [illegible] or, non [illegible] facilior sit, sed quasi minus appetendum, ut horrore u[illegible] dedi languescat, quasi in [illegible]s coquēdis propter infirm[illegible] Idea [illegible] uel enā [illegible] simplici cibario ampliùs ap[illegible] pter à nobis commento tal[illegible] non q[illegible] as, sed [illegible] cut in poteri[illegible] do su[illegible] diuersa u[illegible] habe[illegible] dine colora- [illegible] longe alia ciborum ra[illegible] enim edendo p[illegible] auctatus est, quod [illegible] facile contingit, farcitus cibo stomacho, uel uentre grauatur, infusus uino fit

ſimili [illegible] ſano. Opinor ideò quia craſsi[illegible]do cibi uno [illegible] loco permanens, [illegible]nſtrationem digeſtionis expe[illegible]t, & [illegible] demũ membris cõfect[illegible]s dilabitur. Potus u[illegible] natura leu[illegible], mox altum petit, & cerebrum quod in uertice locatum eſt, ferit f[illegible] a[illegible]s aſper[illegible]ne. [illegible] ideo uaria uina uitantu[illegible] ne res quæ ad poſsidendum caput repenti[illegible]a eſt, [illegible]alo[illegible] e[illegible]m diuerſo quàm ſubitò co[illegible] ſedem ſauciet. Quod æque [illegible] cibi uarietate me[illegible]uendu[illegible]m, n[illegible] militudo, ratio nu[illegible]la ſuadet. Ibi etiam a[illegible]entire non p[illegible]um, quod ſuccus uarios de ci[illegible] uarietate confectos, dicis contrarios eſſe corporibus, [illegible]um corpora ipſa de [illegible]ualitatibus [illegible] fabricata contrarijs, ex callido enim & fri[illegible]do, de ſicco & humido nos c[illegible]s. Cib[illegible]a uero ſimplex cui adeſt, ſuccum de ſe unius qualitatis emittit. Simi[illegible] a[illegible]em ſimilia nutiri probaſti. Dic ergo quæſo, unde tres aliæ corporis qualitates nutriri debebunt. Singula autem ad ſe ſimilitudinem ſui rapere, teſtis eſt [illegible]mpedocles, ergo ſi homo non unus nu[illegible]triendus eſt, nec ex uno, cui ſententiæ literarum ſacrar[illegible]m ueritas mult[illegible]m conue[illegible]t. Q[illegible]a non ex ſolo pane uiuit homo, ſed ex omni uerbo [illegible]od procedit de ore Dei. Vt panis ad corporeum referatur hominem, uerbum uero Dei complectitur hominem ſpiritualem. Deus etiam omnium fabricator, aërem quo cir[illegible]umfundimur, & cuius ſpiramus hau[illegible]u, non ſimplicem habere uoluit qualitatem, u[illegible] aut frigidus ſit ſemper, aut caleat, ſed nec continuè ſiccitati, nec perpetuò eum adduxerit humori, quia una nos minime qualitate nutrimur, de permixtis quatuor fabricati. Ver ergo calidum fecit Deus & humidum, ſicca eſt æſtas & calida, autum[illegible]s ſicc[illegible]s & frigidus, hyems humida pariter & frig[illegible]da eſt. Sic & elementa quæ ſunt noſtra principia. Cur ergo corpora noſtra ad un[illegible]formẽ cibum redigis, cum ſalus ſit hominis uigente appetitiua, qua deficiẽte langueſcit, & periculo ſit propior? Nam ſicut in mari gubernatores uento ſi minus ſit, ſua contrahendo in minorem modum uela præteruolant, & flatum cum eſt maior coërcent, ſopitum uerò excitare non poſſunt. Ita ut appetitiua uirtus cum titillatur & creſcit rationis gubernaculo temperatur, ſi autem ſemel ceciderit animal extinguitur. Cum ergo cibo uſuimus, & cibum appetentia ſola commendat, elaborandum nobis eſt, commento uarietatis, ut hæc ſemper prou[illegible]cetur, cum præ[illegible]ò ſit ratio, qua inter moderationis ſuæ terminos temperetur. Iam uerò ut finem diſputationi faciam, ſic de appetitiua ingenij noſtri ſiendum arbitror, ut perſæpè uarietatis lectionis recreetur. Vt enim terræ uarijs, mutatisq́ ſeminibus, ita noſtra ingenia, nunc hac nulla me[illegible]tatione recolatur, iuuat interdum ex h[illegible]oria locum appetere ſiue apprehendere. Volo e[illegible] ſtolam diligentiùs ſcribere, nam ſæpe [illegible]n orationes quoque non hiſtoria modò, ſed p[illegible] poëtica deſcriptionum neceſsitas incidit, & preſſus ſermo, priuſquam exemplis pe[illegible] interdum pro[illegible]rij officij uacare formis, quandoque inſiſtere iuri, & dare operam Comœdijs, libentiusq́ ſc[illegible]ibere inuenta delectat. Aiunt enim non multum eſſe [illegible]egendum, ſed multa.

Vale [illegible] C[illegible]RISTO.

NICOLAI

NICOLAI TRIBVNI ROMANI AD GVIDONEM [illegible] S. R. [illegible] Cardinalem Oratio.

[illegible] Pater & D[illegible] et placidum mare, ex tumido serenum, [illegible] u res[illegible], si in signū principalis clementiæ, [illegible] priuauit aculeo, [illegible] feritatem suam, in [illegible] prostra[illegible] humanitas præfert [illegible] trum [illegible] quippe [illegible] merimus, & repe[illegible] pore d[illegible] clementer [illegible] ipse format [illegible] t aculeum, ut d[illegible] nias curtaret [illegible] ro [illegible] meritis pere[illegible] n ut [illegible] cat, [illegible] erat & medetur. Qui et [illegible] super det[illegible] d[illegible] es sep ies remitti præ[illegible] lat pœnitenti, quāt[illegible], se [illegible] remit[illegible] Q[illegible] a, [illegible] un[illegible] a, a f[illegible] recipit [illegible] is [illegible] lixerint, ipse condolens, [illegible] ca [illegible] t mū [illegible] um, qualiter derelicta d[illegible] ertim [illegible] is u[illegible], & tortu[illegible] colu[illegible] a[illegible] é [illegible] satiatis, nunquam olco fotis, fuis [illegible] dolor, [illegible] nomine ciues Romanos, i[illegible] tyrann[illegible] & [illegible] funt illata, & qualiter ab infectione [illegible] m incurata marcescens, odium suippl[illegible] us inhciens. [illegible] forsitan nationum. Nec latet præsentes, nec [illegible] ter [illegible] lex, sub unico c[illegible] ium [illegible] erandæ prop[illegible] sito loricatum, montes [illegible] lucos [illegible] aquas intolerabiles in riuos tran[illegible] les [illegible] Qu[illegible] mitu[illegible] prauitate pote[illegible] facit ter acta pen[illegible] ntur, nemo nisi ca[illegible] crit, quam à Deo. Sed dum ex confidentia [illegible] na [illegible] tam supplicitèr quàm [illegible] arena cauernul[illegible] s uersatus imp[illegible] od [illegible] al[illegible] us d[illegible], nulla alia punitio [illegible] entis & corporis, per[illegible] næ pe[illegible] diutius [illegible] ad b[illegible] n lauda[illegible] iam open[illegible] ere pe[illegible] d[illegible] mnose [illegible] culo fu[illegible] ratus, com[illegible] quam [illegible] ea[illegible] us & [illegible] fortunæ non [illegible] re inueteras me[illegible] tur. Q[illegible] & mederi [illegible] uidem [illegible] grota[illegible] are a [illegible] nera, o[illegible] um rat[illegible] non prohi[illegible] & [illegible] dolorem [illegible] desolat[illegible] pe[illegible] ipsa iu[illegible] noecentem, una cum [illegible] r in u[illegible] quæ à se [illegible] tal[illegible] m [illegible] ter [illegible] ad [illegible]

 ximis

[illegible] meo [illegible] Albi [illegible] per [illegible]
[illegible] iam [illegible] Nicola [illegible] debilem [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] ere u dean [illegible]
[illegible] er, a [illegible] am [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] ment [illegible]
[illegible] etur [illegible] iam [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] d d [illegible] exa [illegible] quis [illegible]
[illegible] Romanæ [illegible] & [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] per co gnoscere [illegible] ouere [illegible] quippe non [illegible]
[illegible] quanquam ad [illegible] ouile tam debito quam nece [illegible]
[illegible] tamen [illegible] aliorũ imp [illegible] mult [illegible]
[illegible] e delusan [illegible], eam minus atte [illegible]
[illegible] illis pa [illegible] tantem [illegible] curare uulner [illegible] ad e [illegible]
[illegible] erexe [illegible] ar [illegible] res [illegible] tiùs ruinam eius ce [illegible] emedi [illegible]
[illegible] causam, exe [illegible] mei primo tentans in cu [illegible] n repro [illegible] tam [illegible]
[illegible] ed per summum Pon [illegible] em [illegible] elut proba [illegible] lem acceptam [illegible] dext [illegible]
[illegible] p [illegible] ude. [illegible] æ nisi [illegible] probabili causæ actualiter attula [illegible]
[illegible] dextera com [illegible] unitã. Sed no [illegible]
Italici [illegible], aliud quã iunior omniũ Daniel d [illegible]
meo tunc clama [illegible] e Su [illegible] nna te [illegible] moniũ protulerunt [illegible]
[illegible] proseq [illegible] eos æ [illegible] uitatẽ, qui & secund [illegible] as a [illegible]
strarum [illegible] exa [illegible] e [illegible], [illegible] in consil [illegible] o p [illegible]
eius, & [illegible] modo [illegible] icant [illegible] apit, & sang [illegible]
catum [illegible] ste [illegible] us in o [illegible] nubantis Ecclesiæ, quod [illegible] n [illegible] ta e [illegible]
[illegible] s rectoris consortiũ spreuerat p [illegible]
[illegible] ei [illegible] s, quam c [illegible] da oribus, de [illegible]
[illegible] e [illegible] nt [illegible] a [illegible] est, quo amaro corde plus luge [illegible]
q [illegible] populi, infectionũ uete [illegible] ec [illegible]
[illegible] morer, & de illorum f [illegible] rsan [illegible]
[illegible] a e [illegible] eritos cadere per [illegible] in [illegible]
[illegible] em [illegible] sancta mater Ecclesia, quæ n [illegible]
[illegible] e [illegible], ut cæcos filios illuminare [illegible]
[illegible] e [illegible] x [illegible] eat, [illegible] b [illegible] s eius, & [illegible] ntas ut re [illegible]
[illegible]. Nam [illegible] nostra gl [illegible] ueritatis ed [illegible], quis ill [illegible]
[illegible] s, [illegible] one [illegible] d quid [illegible] o [illegible] lo, si sedens & [illegible]
[illegible] e [illegible] bu [illegible] s ut pa [illegible] bus, charis ut [illegible] us, &
[illegible] pr [illegible] dis, om [illegible] dies m [illegible]
[illegible] e [illegible] e [illegible] ates a [illegible] p [illegible]
[illegible] a [illegible] an [illegible] p [illegible] funda [illegible]
[illegible] s q [illegible] eritatus [illegible]
[illegible] or [illegible] m [illegible]
[illegible] e turbari [illegible] or [illegible]
[illegible]. Cert [illegible] co [illegible] a e [illegible]
[illegible] De [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

PROPOSITVM QVODDAM FACTVM CORAM RE- [illegible]

[illegible] tibus, & pro[illegible] bus [illegible] non p[illegible] mente con- [illegible] Multa enim & tam magna sunt [illegible] ne[illegible] mirum etiam, cum d[illegible] auerit [illegible] en [illegible] em [illegible]

[illegible] Te[illegible] Philo[illegible] Principes [illegible] ciu[illegible] tates, [illegible] perpetua uolun[illegible] tate [illegible] quod apud nos nulla est [illegible] impotentem [illegible] [illegible] Vi[illegible] De[illegible] tatem & ma[illegible] gnitatem [illegible] scriptum est. [illegible] num. D[illegible] consecrata [illegible] Reg[illegible] [illegible] habeat [illegible] onet quis animam [illegible] De Te[illegible] me Princeps, no[illegible] fuisse rem [illegible] bens ill[illegible] animi mot[illegible] [illegible] antur [illegible] tentior, non [illegible] tamen [illegible] in sup[illegible] erbenign[illegible] ex[illegible] ripturam [illegible] ater, [illegible] Princeps [illegible] fac[illegible] suos-

[illegible] Romanam [illegible] personas [illegible]
[illegible] le [illegible]
[illegible] Dominum laudare uos [illegible]
[illegible] oratis, [illegible] e uos [illegible]
[illegible] esset, [illegible]
[illegible] ex [illegible] rerum a [illegible]
[illegible] iram & [illegible] e uestr [illegible]
[illegible], ad augmentum [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] quod [illegible]
[illegible] em [illegible]
[illegible] quod [illegible]
[illegible] quos [illegible]
[illegible] tiem [illegible], ad [illegible]
[illegible] te [illegible] gloria para [illegible]
[illegible] tum [illegible] rum, [illegible] mitem [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Dominus meus D[illegible] & comm[illegible]
[illegible] m Andrea [illegible] num [illegible]
[illegible] & [illegible]
quorum [illegible] en [illegible]
d[illegible] atem du[illegible] em, quan[illegible] ue casus [illegible]
in [illegible] o com[illegible] runt, qu[illegible] omni inclinatione & reuere[illegible]
portare mu[illegible] & de[illegible] recomme[illegible] atione salutes.
[illegible] quod Vos & regimen u[illegible]
dig[illegible] tur in sua [illegible] optatis. Præterea requisi[illegible] per [illegible]
[illegible] Patre[illegible] tum Petru[illegible] gratia Pactensem & Ly[illegible]
stolicæ se[illegible] le[illegible] ad [illegible] ent a[illegible] atore [illegible]
quædam [illegible] S [illegible] & Ma[illegible]
[illegible] ut [illegible] buerunt cum prædec[illegible]
[illegible] R [illegible] am [illegible] etustissimas parentel[illegible]
[illegible] e, [illegible] litigare, q[illegible]
[illegible] more [illegible] are, sed [illegible]
[illegible] ucem [illegible] uestram. Nam tanta est fiducia [illegible]
[illegible] quod factum d[illegible] arum hin[illegible]
[illegible] m, tun[illegible]
[illegible] inclyte Rex, [illegible] ate De[illegible]
[illegible] dent, in terra & ma[illegible] od per [illegible]
[illegible] d c[illegible] cta beneplacita, & honores [illegible]
[illegible] ret in manibus uestris. [illegible]
[illegible] uidere corda, [illegible] uoluntates no[illegible]
[illegible] ra nobis data, per æmulos nostros
[illegible] is, [illegible] haberetis, &
[illegible] & de facto
[illegible] us, quantumcunque
[illegible] n nunquam fieri p[illegible] erit,
[illegible] us, ita quod a[illegible]
[illegible] poterit, quod [illegible]
[illegible] orũ m[illegible]
[illegible] de[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] & [illegible]
[illegible] es [illegible] m [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] & q[illegible] es suos.

Domine,

Dom[illegible] dic[illegible]m est: Cor Regis in manu Dei [illegible] ubi uoluerit inclinabit illud. Cor ue[illegible]rum & c[illegible]ue Principis est in man[illegible] [illegible]ei, [illegible]ne quo nil sanctum, nil iust[illegible]m, uel [illegible]m. Iuxta sent[illegible]m beati Iacobi Ap[illegible] di[illegible] Omne datum optimum, & omne d[illegible]um perfectum [illegible]ur[illegible]um est, descendens à Patre luminum. Scio quod inclinabit Deus [illegible] uestrum ad pac[illegible] quam uobis pro [illegible]erede in terris reliquit, ascendens in cœlos enim [illegible] P[illegible]cem mea[illegible] [illegible]s, pac[illegible]m meam rel[illegible]quo u[illegible], idcirco supplico omnipotenti Deo, quatenus [illegible] in tali die, qualis fuit feria sexta nuper præterita, ipse ostendit stellam & lumen suum tribus regibus orientalibus uenientibus adorare filium suum, & sicut in eadem die, ipse [illegible] sp[illegible]ritum sanctum in spem columbæ, super [illegible]ium suum in baptismo dicens: Hic est filius meus dilectus, in quo mihi complac[illegible] ipsum audite. Ita hodie per suam sanctis[illegible]imam pietatem o[illegible]endat uobis lumen claritatis suæ, & infundat [illegible]uper uos gratiam spiritus [illegible]i sancti, quod istos u[illegible]ros ueros antiquos seruitores, & amicos, qui s[illegible]c [illegible]militer, sic reuerenter uenerunt ad [illegible]ndum pacem, gratiam & amicitiam ue[illegible]am, benignè [illegible]cipiatis, gratiosè exaudiatis, & [illegible]beraliter admittatis, & quod pax, & perpetua dilectio s[illegible] inter uos & eos, ad honorem Dei & Ecclesiæ Rom. propagationem, Christi[illegible]ni nominis bonum statum uestrum, & suam tranquillitatem, & commodum subdi[illegible]rum partium utri[illegible] [illegible]ta quod ex hoc Rex regum [illegible]per uos dicere possit: Hic est Rex meus dilectus, hic est Rex meus fidelis, in quo mihi complacui, ipsum audite, ipsum honorate, ipsum glori[illegible]cate. Quod ipse concedat qui est benedict[illegible]s in secula seculorum amen. Isti domini mei, & ego erimus parati, esse & [illegible]are super nobis commissis, ubi & quando Maiestati uestræ placuerit ordinare.

O P [illegible] R V M F R A N C I S C I P E T R A R [illegible] H Æ.

T O M I S E C V N D I F I N I [illegible].